



Marine Corps League

Department of North Carolina



William E. "Bill" Brown

Judge Advocate

05-April-2023

From: William E. Brown,
To: Judge Advocate, Department of North Carolina
Bylaws Committee Chairperson, Department of North Carolina

Subject: Proposed DoNC Bylaws Change Article Six Section 610

In accordance with Article Eight, Section 800, of Department Bylaws (DBL) Amendments, I am submitting the following change for consideration at the 2023 Department of North Carolina Convention.

CURRENT LANGUAGE

SECTION 610 - MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES - The payment of annual National membership dues entitles all members in good standing an automatic subscription to the Marine Corps League publication and enrollment privileges in any National Group Insurance that may be in effect.

- A. The National annual per capita dues and fees shall be recommended by the National Budget and Finance Committee at the Mid-Winter National Staff Conference and require approval by the delegates at the National Convention, provided that the general membership has been advised, in writing, of the proposed dues amount not less than sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the Convention. An announcement in the Marine Corps League Magazine, Summer issue, will suffice as written notification.
- B. An initiation fee shall be recommended by the National Budget Finance Committee. The initiation fee shall be as is approved by the delegates at the National Convention.
- C. All of the National membership dues and fees which are due National Headquarters are in addition to the dues of the Detachment and a Department which are authorized and under the provisions of the National Administrative Procedures Chapter Five, Section 5010 and Chapter Six Section 6010. **(CH 5-22 NRev)**
- D. The Membership year and the annual dues expire on the last day of the anniversary month of such member's dues having been received at National Headquarters.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (New or Revised text in RED)

SECTION 610 - MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES

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A. **National Dues:** The National annual per capita dues and fees shall be recommended and published by the Budget and Finance Committee at the Mid-Winter National Staff Meeting and will require approval by the delegates at the National Conventions, provided that the general membership has been advised, in writing, of the proposed dues amount not less than **one hundred (100) days** prior to the convening of the convention. An announcement in the Marine Corps League Magazine, Spring Issue, will suffice as written notification. (Rev 2022) **The current National dues are \$20.00.**



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B. **Initiation Fee:** An initiation fee shall be recommended by the National Budget and Finance Committee. The initiation fee shall be as is approved by the delegates at the National Convention. The fee shall be collected for each new member in addition to the annual National dues. Each new member shall be provided an official membership lapel button which shall be provided by National Headquarters. **The current initiation fee is Five \$5.00 dollars.**

C. All of the National membership dues and fees which are due National Headquarters are in addition to the dues of a Detachment and a Department.

1. **Department Dues:** The amount of the Department per capita dues shall be determined at the annual Department Convention per NAP Chapter Five Section 5010. All per capita dues and monies which are due to the National Headquarters from a Department shall be forwarded immediately. The current annual Department dues are: Five (\$5.00) dollars.
2. **Detachment Dues:** Each Detachment shall fix the amount of its annual membership dues. This varies from Detachment to Detachment based on local economic factors but should occur in concert with the election and installation of new Detachment officers and the annual budget. The amount fixed annually combined with the Department and National dues shall be reported on the Report of Officer Installation – Detachment form per NAP Chapter Six Section 6015. This information is thereby reflected upon input at National Headquarters on the last page of the next published Detachment Membership listing under “Dues Information”.

E. Annual dues shall be forwarded with a standard transmittal form immediately to the Department Paymaster for processing per NAP Article Six Section 6010.

F. The Department Paymaster shall immediately remit to the National Executive Director/COO those transmittal forms and such funds which are due to the National Headquarters

G. The membership year and the annual dues shall expire on the 31st day of August of each year.

1. New members joining the MCL between 1 July and the last day of February will pay the full amount of the current National Dues + \$5.00 Initiation fee and will have a membership expiration date of the following year (13 or 14 months).
2. New members joining between 1 March and 30 June, will pay ½ half the current National Dues + \$5.00 Initiation fee.
3. The Current Annual renewal rate will be due on the 31st day of August of each year.

RATIONALE: There has been concern that the current bylaws do not adequately prescribe the total cost of annual membership dues and made reference to the member’s expiration date on their membership card. As the date of expiration was fixed at 31 August annually at National Convention, several years ago, reference to the membership cards, which are often lost or returned to National for non-receipt should be removed from any reference. The revision also includes the



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change from 60 to 100 days notice to the membership of proposed National dues and fees prior to convening of the National Convention. The revised text gives a better understanding of the dues, its breakdown, and how it is transmitted and also the annual amount is reported on the Detachment ROI, updated at Department and National then shown on the Detachment membership listing. The National and Department dues/fees will be a “clerical update” annually if changed at National and Department Conventions, respectively, to the Department Bylaws.

Respectfully Submitted,

William E. Brown

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Past Commandant

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Department of North Carolina

Mideast Division

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