

## **By-Laws**

### **Ben Harrison Camp No. 356**

#### **Department of Indiana**

#### **Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

### **Preamble**

We, the descendants of soldiers, sailors, or marines who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865, have formed this Camp, for the purpose and objects set forth in the Constitution and Regulations of our National Organization and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our fathers' deeds; to render loyal service to our Country, and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

### **Article I**

#### **Name and Location**

The name of the Camp shall be the Ben Harrison Camp No. 356, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. The Camp shall be located in Indianapolis, Marion and contiguous Counties, Indiana.

### **Article II**

#### **Camp Organization**

The Camp shall be constituted and remain constituted as provided by the Constitution and Regulations (C&R) governing the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and shall be known as the BEN HARRISON CAMP No. 356, SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR. The camp is organized as an unincorporated association under the laws of the State of Indiana. The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code.

## **Article III**

### **Activities**

Activities not in furtherance of exempt purposes: No part of the net earnings, if any, of this unincorporated association, shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the unincorporated association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in section 501(c)(3). No substantial part of the activities of the unincorporated association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the unincorporated association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, the unincorporated association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an unincorporated association exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an unincorporated association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

## **Article IV**

### **Meetings**

#### Section 1

The Camp shall meet at a time and place as determined by the Commander. It shall be the responsibility of the Commander to provide timely notification to all members of scheduled meetings.

#### Section 2

A quorum of **five** members shall be necessary to conduct any Camp business.

### Section 3

The use of ritualistic ceremonies in the conduct of meetings and initiation of candidates is optional.

## **Article V**

### **Eligibility to Membership**

All male descendants, whether through lineal or collateral line, of ages specified in Article VII of the Constitution of our National Organization who are blood relatives of soldiers, sailors, marines or members of the Revenue Cutter Service, who were regularly mustered and served honorably in, were honorably discharged from, or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or such State regiments as were called into active service and were subject to orders of United States general officers, during the War of the Rebellion between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865; who have never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; and who have, or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed have, never voluntarily borne arms against the Government of the United States of America shall have eligibility to membership.

## **Article VI**

### **Dues and Fees**

#### Section 1

The Annual Dues shall be not less than Twenty Dollars (\$20.00). Annual Dues are due and payable at the first meeting of each calendar year. Annual Dues and all other fees shall be determined by vote of the Camp. Voting shall be subject to the conditions set forth in Article IV, Section 2 and Article X, Sections 2 & 3.

#### Section 2

The Camp shall have the power, with the membership's approval, to levy any special assessments deemed necessary for the operation of the Camp.

### Section 3

Annual Dues shall be paid by a new candidate on or before the time of initiation. All new members shall be entitled to purchase the Membership Badge of the National Organization.

## **Article VII**

### **Membership**

Membership shall be in accordance with Article III of the By-Laws, Indiana Department currently in effect.

## **Article VIII**

### **Officers**

#### Section 1

The officers of the Camp shall be: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, three members of the Camp Council, Patriotic Instructor, Chaplain, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), Historian, Guide, Color Bearer, Counselor, Newsletter Editor, Graves Registration, Eagle Scout Coordinator, Signals Officer, G.A.R. Records Officer, and Guard. The Commander, Secretary and Treasurer shall not serve on the Camp Council.

#### Section 2

The Camp Commander, Senior and Junior Vice Commander, Camp Council, Secretary, Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer) shall be elected at the regular meeting of the Camp in November. A majority vote shall be required to elect all elective officers, except members of the Camp Council, who shall be elected by a plurality vote.

On assuming office, the Commander shall appoint all other Camp officers.

#### Section 3

The officers of the Camp shall be installed at the regular meeting of the Camp in December by a person designated by the Indiana Department Commander.

#### Section 4

The term of all Camp officers shall be one (1) year.

#### Section 5

Any vacancy which may occur in an elective office of the Camp shall be filled temporarily by the officer next in rank. Such vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Camp Council.

#### Section 6

The duties of the officers shall be in accordance with Article VI of the Regulations of our National Organization.

### **Article IX**

#### **Committees**

The Camp Commander shall appoint any special Committees, including a Nominating Committee, as may be required during his term in office.

### **Article X**

#### **By-Laws**

#### Section 1

The Camp shall adopt By-Laws, subject to the approval of the Indiana Department Commander.

#### Section 2

These By-Laws may be repealed, modified or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present and eligible to vote at a regularly scheduled meeting.

#### Section 3

Changes in the By-Laws may be proposed at any meeting. These proposed changes shall be printed and mailed to all members of the Camp at least ten (10) days prior to the next regular meeting.

Upon compliance with these regulations, said proposals may be voted on at the next regular meeting.

#### Section 4

These By-Laws and any Amendments thereto shall be in effect upon approval of the Indiana Department Commander.

#### Section 5

All laws, By-Laws or resolutions in conflict herewith for the government of the Ben Harrison Camp No. 356, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, are hereby repealed. The laws and By-Laws herein contained in this instrument shall be effective and in full force upon their adoption by the Camp and approval by the Indiana Department Commander.

### **Article XI**

#### **Rules of Order**

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the meetings of the Camp and its elements; except as in the Ritual and herein otherwise provided.

### **Article XII**

#### **Separation, Dissolution and Disposition of Assets**

##### Section 1

In the case of surrender or forfeiture of the Camp Charter, all Camp property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander of the affected Camp acting as his duly authorized representative to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

##### Section 2

All property of the Camp shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six months of disbandment or surrender of the Camp Charter

without the written consent of the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. The property and funds of the Camp shall not be divided among its members.

Section 3

In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the State archives of Indiana.

Section 4

Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

Submitted for approval this 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018.

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<signed>  
James M. Floyd, Jr.  
Camp Commander

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<signed>  
Jerry Thompson  
Camp Secretary – Treasurer

Approved:

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<signed>  
Timothy J. Beckman  
Department of Indiana Commander  
Date: October 13, 2018