

STANDING RULES OF DIVISION 14, FIRST SOUTHERN DISTRICT,
U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

ARTICLE I – NAME

1.1 The name of this organization shall be DIVISION 14, FIRST SOUTHERN DISTRICT UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY, hereinafter referred to as the “DIVISION”.

ARTICLE II -- LIMITATIONS OF STANDING RULES

2.1 Any provision in these Standing Rules which is in conflict with the current edition of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (Series), and all amendments and additions thereto, hereinafter referred to as the “Manual”, Commandant or District Instructions and Notices, the National Board Standing Rules, and/or the District Standing Rules, shall be null and void.

2.2 These standing rules are supplementary to the policies and procedures established for the formation, operation, membership, election or appointment of officers and disestablishment of the Division by the Manual or other appropriate Auxiliary requirements.

2.3 Nothing in these rules shall authorize the Division to take any action inconsistent with or not authorized by the Manual or other policies of the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard.

ARTICLE III -- ORGANIZATION

3.1 The composition and purpose of the Division shall be as set forth in the Manual.

3.2 The duties of the elected and appointed staff officers shall be as designated in the Manual and in any District Instruction.

ARTICLE IV -- MEETINGS

4.1 The frequency, day, time and location of meeting shall be established by a majority vote of the Division Board, provided a quorum is present and shall remain fixed as such in ensuing years until duly changed by a majority vote of the Division Board. Meetings may be a combined Board and Staff or the Board and Staff may each meet separately at the discretion of the Division Captain.

4.2 Special meetings may be called by the Division Captain by notifying all members at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting; specifying the date, time, location, and purpose.

4.3 Unless otherwise provided in the Manual or these Standing Rules, all business shall be conducted at meetings in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, as last revised.

ARTICLE V -- VOTING

5.1 A majority of the Division Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Division.

5.2 Unless a greater number than a majority for specific action is required by these Standing Rules or by the Manual, a majority of the votes actually cast by members present and voting, can carry a motion, provided a quorum is present. Blank votes or abstentions do not count in the total for determining the number of votes cast. One of the voting members must be the Division Captain or Division Vice Captain.

5.3 Each member of the Division Board shall have one vote.

5.4 Proxy and absentee voting shall not be permitted.

5.5 Voting on routine matters shall normally be by voice unless otherwise requested by any member of the Division Board or as provided in these Standing Rules or by the Manual.

5.6 A closed ballot may be requested by any member of the Division Board and the request shall be honored without discussion.

5.7 In the absence of a Flotilla Commander from a Division Board meeting, the Vice Flotilla Commander may vote and act for the flotilla. In the absence of the Flotilla Commander and Vice Flotilla Commander, the Immediate Past Flotilla Commander may vote and act for the flotilla. If the Flotilla Commander, Vice Flotilla Commander and Immediate Past Flotilla Commander are unable to attend, any other member of the Flotilla Staff designated by the Flotilla Commander in writing, may represent but not vote on matters coming before the Division Board. This designation must be made known to the Division Board at the beginning of such meeting and shall be recorded in the formal record or minutes of the meeting.

5.8 When no meeting of the Division Board is scheduled, emergency matters requiring the vote of the Board may be submitted by mail or telephone, and the voting thereon may be made by mail or telephone at the discretion of the Division Captain and District Commodore.

5.9 No mail or telephone votes are permitted at any regular meeting of the Division Board. Elections may not be held by mail or telephone.

ARTICLE VI – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6.1 The Division shall hold an annual election of officers for the ensuing year, usually at the October meeting, but prior to the 20th of November and after the District elections.

6.2 The Division Captain shall appoint a Nominating Committee at the regular meeting of the Division in the month of August of each year. The Nominating Committee shall select a nominee for each elective Division office to be filled for the ensuing year and determine that their selectees are willing to serve if elected. The Committee shall meet no later than August 25th and report its nominations to the Division Captain within five (5) days thereafter. The Committee shall also report its nominations at the next regular Division meeting. The nominations of this Committee shall also be reported to the Division board in any written notice sent to the members prior to the regular meeting in October. The Committee nominations shall not preclude other nominations from the floor at the meeting at which the election is held. Such additional nominations shall be encouraged by the Division Captain.

6.3 Additional nominations of those eligible for the offices of Division Captain or Division Vice Captain may be made upon petition signed by two (2) incumbent members of the Division Board other than the petitioner. Such petition shall be mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested or hand delivered to the Division Captain at least fourteen (14) days prior to the election meeting. The petition shall be accompanied by a written statement signed by the nominee to the effect that, if elected, the candidate will serve in the office to which nominated. The Division Captain shall promptly notify all members of the Division Board and all shall be in person, telephone or by mail provided such telephone notification is followed by written notification to all members of the Division Board.

6.4 The Division Board may direct the Division Captain to dispense with the appointment of a Nominating committee in that specific year. This is possible by motion duly enacted with an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present, with a quorum existing. In this event, the Division Captain shall not appoint a Nominating Committee in that specific year, and all nominations to fill elective Division offices for the ensuing year shall be made by petition as set forth above or by nominations from the floor.

6.5 The election of officers shall be by written ballot unless only one member is nominated to each elective office, in which event the Secretary may be directed by a voice vote to cast a ballot in behalf of the members.

6.6 To be elected, a candidate must receive a majority vote of the voting board members in attendance. If after two (2) successive ballots there are more than two candidates for an office and no candidate receives a sufficient number of votes for election, the candidate receiving the least number of votes shall be dropped from the next succeeding ballots until only two candidates remain. In the event of three (3) succeeding tie votes, the moderator shall place all ballots cast on the third vote into a container, blindly select one ballot from the container, have the ballots minus the withdrawn ballot counted and announce the winner.

6.7 All notices of any election meeting shall be given to the District Commodore at least fifteen (15) days prior to the election meeting.

6.8 Election of officers shall be so organized that if the Division Captain is a candidate for office or is unavailable to so act, then the member of the District Board or the Immediate Past Division Captain shall act as moderator.

6.9 Upon completion of the election, all ballots shall be destroyed by the moderator without revealing the count of any closed ballot.

ARTICLE VII – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

7.1 Any elected Division Officer may be recommended for removal from office to which elected by an affirmative vote or three-quarters (3/4) of the Division Board present at a meeting in which a quorum is present. A full and fair hearing shall be first conducted by the Division Board with the accused and the accuser present, provided written notice of the meeting and the charges is sent ten (10) days in advance to all those entitled to vote including the District Commodore. Recommendation for removal may only be for cause which brings discredit upon the Coast Guard or the Coast Guard Auxiliary and is addressed to the District Commander through the District Commodore and Director of Auxiliary.

ARTICLE VIII – FINANCES

8.1 The annual Division dues shall be such sum of money as may be fixed by a majority vote of the board at a regular or special meeting of the Division Board, at which seven (7) days prior written notice of the meeting and intent were given, and shall remain fixed at such sum in ensuing years until otherwise duly changed by the Division Board.

8.2 The annual dues, including Division, District, and National shall be levied on each member on a calendar-year basis and shall be payable during the month of March for the current calendar year. First year dues for new members may be prorated as determined by District policy.

8.3 No member who is separated from the Auxiliary, by reason of resignation or otherwise, shall be entitled to refund of dues paid.

8.4 The Division Finance Officer shall be the custodian of all Division funds. With the consent of the Division Captain, the Finance Officer shall establish an account with a federally insured banking institution in a location convenient to the Finance Officer.

8.5 All Division funds, other than small cash sums in the process of collection, shall be deposited in this account which shall be known as "U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Division 14", or "USCGAUX, Division 14." All withdrawals therefrom shall be by check only.

8.6 The Division Captain or the Division Vice Captain, when acting in the absence of the Division Captain, is authorized to approve payment of all routine obligations as set forth in a budget approved by the Division Board. Routine obligations include those incurred by the Division in connection with carrying out officially adopted policy of the Division and payments within the limits of the budget. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Purchase and engraving of authorized awards;
- Publishing costs of Division newsletter and/or notices;
- Purchase of public education and training materials;
- Purchase of flags, pennants and Auxiliary uniform accessories;
- Bills for Division functions;
- District and National dues;
- An annual expense fund provided to reimburse the Division Captain and Vice Captain for expenses incurred in the course of Division business;
- Any other expenditures authorized by the Division Board.

8.7 The Division Captain or if the Division Captain is unavailable, the Division Vice Captain, may authorize emergency expenditures not exceeding a total of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in any one calendar month and direct the Finance Officer to pay for such. A full report of such emergency expenditures is made to the Division at its next regular or special meeting.

8.8 All other obligations, regardless of amount, will be considered as special obligations and requests for the appropriation of Division funds must be submitted to the Division Board for approval by duly filed and considered motions, except as otherwise provided in these rules.

8.9 The Division Board may, upon motion duly made and carried, set aside funds from the general funds to enable committee chairpersons of Division functions to carry out the committee's responsibilities. The Division Captain may authorize payment of bills from these funds. When the fund is depleted, no further bills may be authorized for payment without prior approval of the Division Board.

8.10 All disbursements of Division funds shall be by check signed by the Finance Officer and/or the Division Captain.

8.11 The Finance Officer shall render a financial report at each regular meeting of the Division. The financial report shall include all receipts and expenditures since the last rendering of a financial report and the balance in funds remaining as of the day preceding the day of the meeting. Any emergency expenditures authorized by the Division Captain, included in the reported expenditures, shall be so designated in the report.

8.12 The chairperson of any duly appointed committee where Division funds are involved, will furnish the Division Finance Officer with a monthly statement of financial transactions of the committee. The chairperson will transfer to the Division Finance Officer within thirty (30) days after the completion of the committee's activities, the balance of all monies received along with a completed committee financial statement.

8.13 The Division may provide by a duly enacted motion that the Finance Officer post a bond in favor of the Division in such amount as the Division may determine. All costs for such bond shall be paid by the Division.

8.14 Upon the appointment of succeeding Finance Officer, the retiring Finance Officer shall promptly deliver all Division funds, books, and records to the new Finance Officer.

8.15 The funds, books, and records of the Division shall be examined by the Audit Committee yearly and upon the appointment of a new Finance Officer.

ARTICLE IX -- CONTRACTS

9.1 All licenses and agreements for the use of real property as well as contracts for the expenditure of Division funds as may be authorized by a vote of the Division Board, shall be approved by the District Staff Officer-Legal (DSO-LP) or an attorney appointed from the Nation Legal Affairs staff, before signing and shall be signed by the Division Captain or the District Commodore in the absence of the Division Captain.

ARTICLE X -- COMMITTEES

10.1 Standing committees and special committees consisting of any number of members may be appointed by the Division Captain. The Division Captain shall designate the chairperson of each such committee appointed and outline the objectives to be accomplished unless such are otherwise prescribed. Individuals may be appointed as one-person committees if desired.

10.2 The Division Captain shall appoint an Audit Committee at or before the regular meeting of the Division in the month of October of each year. This committee shall examine and audit the financial books and records of the Division Financial Officer and Materials Officer within three (3) months of the new year and shall report their findings at the next regular meeting of the Division.

10.3 The Division Captain shall appoint a Budget committee at or before the regular meeting of the Division Board in the month of January of each year. This committee shall prepare a budget with the assistance of the Division Finance Officer and the Division Materials Officer and submit said budget to the Division Board for approval within the first three (3) months of the new year.

10.4 The Division Captain is empowered to appoint an Awards Committee to review and make recommendations to the Division Board for the recognition of individuals and groups for special recognition by the Division, District or the United States Coast Guard.

10.5 The Division Captain is empowered to appoint a Past Captain Committee composed of all Past Division Captains and Past Division Vice Captains who are currently active. The chairperson shall be the Immediate Past Division Captain. If unable or unwilling to serve, the Division Captain shall appoint any Past Division Captain as the chairperson. The primary duty of this committee shall be to consider all Auxiliary matters that are referred to it by the Division Captain and all matters that are of interest to the Division. The committee shall make written recommendations concerning such matters directly to the Division Captain.

10.6 The Division Captain shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE XI – PROCEDURES FOR RELIEF OF OFFICERS

11.1 It will be the duty of each elected and appointed officer, at the end of the term of office, to deliver to the successor, all current materials, supplies and records pertaining to the office. The officer being relieved shall assist in effectuating an orderly transfer of the administrative function of the office, including but not limited to the briefing of the successor on the procedures to be followed and the forms to be completed and submitted.

ARTICLE XII -- AMENDMENTS

12.1 These Standing Rules may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Division Board, at which fourteen (14) days prior written notice of the meeting and proposed amendment were given, by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members, provided a quorum is present.

12.2 Amendments shall become effective upon approval of the ~~Director of Auxiliary~~ ^{DCO} unless the amendment provides for a later effective date, in which event the amendment shall become effective upon the date provided or upon the approval of the ~~Director of Auxiliary~~ ^{DCO}, whichever shall later occur.

ARTICLE XIII -- APPROVAL

These Standing Rules were adopted on the 7th day of JUNE, 2000 by a majority vote of the Division Board and become effective upon approval by the Director of Auxiliary.

Division Captain

Benjamin D. Pride

Secretary

Stephen D. Oberman

Attest:

Approved: 8/10/00

[Signature]

**APPROVED
DSO-LP (ISR)**

District Staff Officer-Legal

Approved: 8/12/00

[Signature]

District Commodore

~~Approved:~~

~~Director of Auxiliary~~