

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**  
**LT. GEORGE E. DIXON CAMP #1962, ILLINOIS DIVISION, SONS OF**  
**CONFEDERATE VETERANS, AS ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 8, 2001 AT**  
**Belleville, St. Clair Co., IL. (As amended August 11, 2008)**

The Constitution and By-Laws, Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans is based upon the SCV National Constitution and the Illinois Division Constitution, and shall conform to all elements of those documents. No section or provision of this document may be inferred or construed to contravene any provision presented in the aforesaid documents.

**PREAMBLE**

In the name of a reunited country, the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp declares the following purposes:

An unquestioned allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, largely written and expounded by Southern men, the very Magna Carta of our liberties; a strict construction of all sections conferring power upon the Federal Government and the implied and understood reservations to the States arising therefrom and a general attitude of opposition to further amendment thereof We adhere to the principles of the Great Charter of England granted at Runnymede, 1215 A.D., and the Anglo-Saxon rights and personal liberties transmitted to us thereunder; to associate in one united, compact body all men of Confederate ancestry and to cultivate, perpetuate and sanctify the ties of fraternity and friendship entailed thereby-, to aid and encourage the recording and teaching with impartiality of all Southern history and achievement from Jamestown to this present era, seeing to it especially that the events of the War Between the States are authentically and clearly written and that all documents, relics and mementos produced and handed down by the active participants therein are properly treasured and preserved for posterity; to comfort, succor and assist needy Sons of Confederate Veterans, their wives, widows and orphans-, to urge, aid and assist in the erection of suitable and enduring monuments and memorials to all Southern valor, military and civil, wherever done and wherever found, particularly stressing that of our heroic Confederate ancestors who, by their sacrifice, perpetuated unto us and our descendants that glorious heritage of valor, chivalry and honor which we now hold and venerate; and to instill in our descendants a devotion to and reverence for the principles represented by the Confederate States of America, to the honor, glory and memory of our fathers who fought in that Cause

Therefore, we, the representatives of the Camp, in meeting, do adopt, ordain and establish this Constitution on November 8, 2001 at Belleville, IL.

Section 1, This Camp shall be known as the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962, Sons of Confederate Veterans, and is a part of the Illinois Division, SCV.

Section 2. This Constitution shall be the bylaws of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962 for all purposes under State or Federal law.

## **ARTICLE II - NATURE**

Section 1 The Lt. George E. Dixon Camp #1962, Illinois Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, shall be historical, fraternal, educational, charitable, benevolent, patriotic, non-political and non-sectarian in nature, and its purposes shall include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Collecting and preserving manuscripts, books papers, documents, flags, relics and mementos relating to the War Between the States and the State of Illinois for the purpose of assisting in the preservation and perpetuation of the history of the same
- b. To illuminate and clarify the great constitutional, political, social and economic issues and events leading to the War, and the patriotic motives and heroism of our ancestors in the field, on the water, and the Confederate States of America.
- c. To perpetuate the memory of the unparalleled bravery, constancy and fortitude of the Confederate soldier, sailor, governmental official or civilian by the erection, care and/or repair of monuments and memorial tablets, by properly marking and caring for the graves of Confederate soldiers, sailors, governmental officials and civilians and by conducting periodic memorial services in their honor.

## **ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION**

Section 1.

- a. The Camp shall consist of at least seven (7) dues-paid Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) members. For purposes of this constitution, SCV members are qualified males, 16 years or older, with lineal or collateral lineage to a Confederate Veteran.

- b. In addition to the minimum number of required SCV members, the camp may have sympathizer members. Those shall be those

men and women who do not qualify as SCV members but who are interested in and support the Southern Cause. They shall not be allowed to be an officer in the camp and shall not be allowed to vote on any official business concerning SCV matters. They shall be encouraged to participate in all activities and functions where appropriate, but not as representatives of the SCV. Said members shall be assessed annual camp membership fees in accordance with Article IV, Section 2 e., and shall receive a membership card stating they are members of the Knights of the Golden Circle in support of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV. They can also subscribe to the SCV magazine. There shall be no more members of the Knights of the Golden Circle than there are regular members in good standing of the camp.

#### **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV shall be in accordance with National and Division rules for membership in the General Confederation of the SCV, located within the State of Illinois. There shall be three categories of membership, namely SCV members and sympathizer members (those persons 12 years or older without lineal or collateral heritage to a Confederate veteran but interest in Confederate history) and associate members (those SCV members who have primary membership in another camp).

a. SCV members are the primary members of the camp and shall be reportable to the Division and to National Headquarters. They shall be the only ones allowed to hold elected office and to be eligible to vote on SCV business.

b. Sympathizers shall be known as Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle. Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle shall be allowed full activity in the camp's activities and shall be allowed and encouraged to hold committee positions, but shall not be allowed to vote on SCV matters. These members are not reportable to the Division or National Headquarters. Sympathizers wishing to join the Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle in support of the camp must be sponsored in by a current SCV member of the camp in good standing who will introduce the candidate and propose him or her for membership. The Camp Adjutant will approve the application for membership.

c. Associate members shall not be allowed to hold an elected office, but shall be encouraged to participate fully in all camp activities. They shall be allowed to vote on SCV matters affecting the camp. These members are not reportable to the Division or National Headquarters.

Section 2. The annual assessment for camp members is due August 1<sup>st</sup> each year and shall be:

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- a. For current SCV members: fifty dollars (\$50),
- b. consisting of National dues -\$30, and Camp dues \$20.00, of which \$5.00 is payable to the Illinois Division..

- c. For new members: fifty-five dollars (\$55.00), consisting of New Registration fee - \$5, National dues - \$30, and Camp dues - \$20.00.
- d. For members who are SCV Life Members, the annual assessment shall be \$20.00 Camp Dues.
- e. For Associate members (members primary in another camp): \$20. For Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle members: camp dues - \$20.
- f. Camp membership fees will be assessed at the full rate for the first eight months of the membership year, namely August through March. Memberships received after April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year will be assessed at only ten (\$10.00) dollars for the remainder of the membership year. This provision applies only to the camp levied fees, and does not apply to the fees for the national organization over which we have no control.

## **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

Section 1. Camp meetings shall be held at least once monthly, if possible, and as agreed to by the members. The meetings shall be for conducting the business, education, and promoting the comradery of the camp members.

Section 2. A quorum shall exist at a meeting when a majority of the camps' members are present and qualified as herein provided.

Section 3. The rules of procedure at the meetings of the camp shall be those set forth in *Robert's Rules of Order*, latest edition, except as altered by the Division or the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 4. Each camp member in good standing shall be accorded one vote.

Section 5. In all questions submitted to the meeting, the chair shall put the question for a *Via Voice* vote. The chairman shall announce the votes for and against the motion.

Section 6. When there is but one candidate for an office, upon motion, and by unanimous consent, a formal ballot may be dispensed with, and the candidate be elected by acclamation. In an election for any office for which there is more than one candidate, voting shall be by secret ballot. In balloting for officers, a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect. In any election in which a majority is not received by a candidate, the two candidates who receive the most votes shall be voted on in accordance with the procedure described herein until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast.

Section 7. At all meetings of the camp, members shall address each other as "Compatriot."

Section 8. There shall be no drinking of alcoholic beverages and no use of tobacco products allowed during the camp meetings. Use of such products will be on a discretionary basis during other events, but shall never be to excess and shall always be in consideration of others present.

## **ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS**

Section 1. Elected officers shall be: Camp Commander, Camp Lieutenant Commander, Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander, and Camp Adjutant/Finance Officer.

Section 2. The Camp Commander and may appoint an Editor, a Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Sergeant-at-Arms, Historian, Inspector, Quartermaster, Surgeon, Genealogist, Director of Communications, Webmaster, Aide-de-Camp, Sergeants of Squads, and other such officers as he may deem appropriate.

Section 3. All officers shall serve until their successors are elected and sworn, appointed or otherwise qualified under the terms of this Constitution and by-laws.

Section 4. Officers of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV, will be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. Terms will begin in even numbered years following the conclusion of the meeting for the election of officers, normally in the month January.

Section 5. Any elected officer shall be allowed to continue to serve in their office as long as it is the will of the majority of the SCV camp members in good standing. If the elected office is assumed due to a vacancy or by appointment then this period of time will constitute the first term of office.

## **ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1. Commander - The Camp Commander shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans, with full power to enforce the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws. He shall be empowered to act for the Camp as circumstances in his judgment may require, subject to the policies or directives established by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Camp. His actions are subject to appeal to the Division Executive Council. He shall fill vacancies occurring among elected officers by appointing the same.

Section 2. Lieutenant Commander - In the absence, death or resignation of the Camp Commander, the Lieutenant Commander shall

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become the Camp Commander for the unexpired term. The Lieutenant Commander shall assist the Camp Commander in the performance of the Commander's duties

Section 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander - In the absence of the Camp Lt. Commander, the Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander shall assume the duties of the Camp Lieutenant Commander. In the event that both the Camp Commander and Camp Lieutenant Commander are both absent, the Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander shall assume the duties of the Camp Commander until such time as the Camp Commander or Camp Lieutenant Commander is again available.

Section 4. Adjutant/Finance Officer - As the Adjutant, he shall be charged with the administration of the policies of the Camp Constitution and Bylaws and as directed by the Camp Commander. He shall keep records of the proceedings of the camp meetings and events, maintain an up-to-date roster of camp members and the status of their membership, record and keep minutes of the camp meetings, conduct correspondence of the camp. As the Finance Officer, he shall maintain an accurate ledger of all camp finances and financial transactions. He shall maintain a bank account in the name of the camp with himself and two other persons as signatories on the account. He shall be prepared to present the records for examination and audit as required by the Camp Commander, the Division Commander, or Division Executive Council. Further, in the event that the Camp Commander, Camp Lieutenant Commander, and Camp 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Commander are absent, the Adjutant shall assume the duties of the Camp Commander until such time as one of the above officers shall be available again to serve.

Section 5. Judge Advocate -

- a. If a qualified individual is a member of the camp and is willing to serve in this capacity, the Commander will appoint such as the Camp Judge Advocate. If such a qualified individual is not available, the position will remain vacant.
- b. The Judge Advocate shall advise the Camp Commander on all legal matters and the construction and interpretation of the Camp Constitutions and By-Laws. He shall act as Parliamentarian at all meetings, and see that the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV files such reports with the Internal Revenue Service or the Illinois Department of Revenue as may be required by law or regulation.

Section 6. Chaplain - The Chaplain shall open and close with prayer all camp meetings and events and shall perform such other spiritual duties as directed by the Camp Commander. He shall in coordination with the Camp Commander send proper condolences to the families of deceased members as he is notified.

Section 7. Newsletter Editor - The Newsletter Editor shall be

responsible for the regular publication and distribution of the camp newsletter and such other publications as may be authorized by the Camp Commander. The camp newsletter shall be financed by

the camp and shall be sent to all members of the camp and others as deemed appropriate. Generally speaking, newsletters sent to other than members of the camp will be by email to help conserve camp resources.

Section 8. Historian - The historian shall be responsible for the keeping of a scrapbook or books to reflect the history of the activities of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp and for such other duties as may be directed by the Division Commander. He shall contribute appropriate articles and information of camp historical significance to the Illinois Division Historian.

Section 9. Sergeant-at Arms - The Sergeant-at-Arms is selected by the Camp Commander and serves at his pleasure. He is responsible for setting up the meeting room, calling the meetings to order, and for heading up the color guard. He is the point of contact for the Camp Commander in notifying the Squad Sergeants as needed for notification of the men in their squads. He will also perform other duties as directed by the Camp Commander.

Section 10. Squad Sergeants. The Squad Sergeants are selected and appointed by the Camp Commander. They are the head of their designated squads and serve as the point of notification for all the men in their squads. They will also perform other duties as determined by the Camp Commander.

#### **ARTICLE VIII - FINANCE AND BUDGET**

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Lt. George E. Dixon, Illinois Division, SCV, shall coincide with the fiscal year of the National Organization of the SCV as specified by its constitution and By-Laws, namely August 1 to July 31.

Section 2. The revenue of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV, shall be derived from annual membership dues set by the camp membership and from such other sources as may be approved by the camp members.

Section 3. Each camp member shall pay the annual membership dues to the camp Adjutant/Finance Officer, and in turn to the Illinois Division Adjutant/Treasurer. A roster of the names and addresses of members in good standing shall be submitted along with the annual divisional membership dues, to the Division Adjutant/Treasurer on or before the delinquent date specified in the National Constitution. A member becomes delinquent if dues are not paid within three months of the date due.

Section 4. Camp members shall not be allowed representation at the meetings unless their annual membership dues have been paid.

Section 5. The Camp Adjutant/Finance Officer shall report to the membership at each meeting regarding the camp's current financial status, including income and expenditures since the last report.

Section 6. Camp members shall, subject to approval by a voice vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting, be reimbursed from camp funds where they have used their own funds to for miscellaneous supplies necessary to perform their office in an efficient and competent manner. Receipts shall be submitted to the Camp Adjutant/Finance Officer for approval and reimbursement. Any expenditure of camp funds must be approved by a majority of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting.

#### **ARTICLE IX - PROHIBITIONS**

Section 1 - There shall be no discussion of sectarian religious or political subjects identifiable with any political party or candidate permitted at any function, or meeting of the camp. The camp shall not endorse any candidate, party or proposition identifiable with any party at any of its meetings, in accordance with the Illinois Division and National Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 2. The Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans shall contract no debts, except by a two-thirds vote of the members in assembly.

Section 3. The use of the insignia, badges or name of this Confederation for business, commercial, political or unauthorized use is strictly prohibited; nor shall such badges or insignia be given or bestowed upon anyone not eligible to wear them under the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Organization of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 4. No person shall be elected, appointed or serve as an officer or committee member of the camp unless he is a member in good standing of the Camp.

#### **ARTICLE X- DISCIPLINE OF CAMP MEMBERS AND OFFICERS**

Section 1. Censure, suspension, expulsion or other discipline of members shall be in accordance with the provisions of the national Constitution and By-Laws of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Section 2. Any member recommended for removal under Article XV of the National Constitution may appeal this action to the Division Executive Council.

Section 3. Any actions resulting in removal from office or membership of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp shall be reported to

the Commander of the Illinois Division who will in turn notify the National Headquarters of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as soon as practicable for concurrence.

Section 4. Discipline of non-primary SCV camp members shall be in accordance with paragraphs a. and b. of this section.

a.- Discipline of associate members shall be upon the basis of the National and Illinois Division Constitutions. Should any associate member require discipline that would result in his expulsion from the camp, the matter shall be referred to his primary camp for their consideration of any further actions. There shall be no appeal of associate status beyond the camp level.

b.- Discipline of members of the Knights and Ladies of the Golden Circle will be conducted under the same basis as for SCV members, except that there shall be no appeal beyond the camp level.

#### **ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any camp meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members present in assembly, provided that the proposed amendment is sent by United States mail or email to each camp member in good standing at least fifteen days (15) days prior to convening of such meeting.

#### **ARTICLE XII - ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

Section 1. The Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV, officially recognizes only three organizations with similar interests.

- a. The Military Order of the Stars and Bars
- b. The United Daughters of the Confederacy, and
- c. The Order of the Confederate Rose

Section 2. No other organization shall be granted official recognition by the camp as being directly associated with the camp.

#### **ARTICLE XIII - DISSOLUTION CLAUSE**

In the event of the dissolution of the Lt. George E. Dixon Camp, Illinois Division, SCV, after paying any outstanding debts outstanding, any monies in the treasury or other assets of the camp will be divided equally among the SCV members still in good standing. The charter and all records of the camp will be turned over to the Adjutant of the Illinois Division.