

BY-LAWS

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION, NORTH-SOUTH SKIRMISH ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I – NAME, OBJECTIVE & ARTICLES OF REGULATION

SECTION 1: The name of this organization shall be the MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION, NORTH-SOUTH SKIRMISH ASSOCIATION, INC., hereinafter referred to as the Region. It shall be a subdivision of the North-South Skirmish Association, and as such, shall be subject to all By-Laws and regulations of the Association.

SECTION 2: The objectives of this Region shall be the same as those defined in Article 1, Section 2, of the By-Laws of the North-South Skirmish Association, Inc. The Region shall have the further following objectives:

- (1) To provide a representative to the Board of Directors, either in person of the Regional Commander or whoever he may appoint to represent the Region at N-SSA Directors Meetings.
- (2) To work in cooperation with Association Officers in the fulfillment of their various duties.
- (3) To conduct regional skirmishes at the option of regional member teams so that organizations may participate in official skirmishes even though they may be unable to attend national skirmishes.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: Member organizations of the Association shall become members of this Region only upon assignment thereto by the Association Board of Directors. Regional member organizations in good standing shall have the right to one vote per unit in the election of Regional Officers, in amending, repealing, or adopting Regional By-Laws, and in such other matters as may be brought before a duly called Regional meeting, and they shall further be entitled to participate in all official Regional activities.

SECTION 2: A probationary organization of the Association shall become a probationary organization of the Region upon assignment of the Board of Directors of the Association. Such a team will have all the privileges of participation in Regional activities, but shall have no vote in Regional matters.

SECTION 3: All member organizations of the Region will maintain membership in good standing by prompt payment of yearly Regional dues by December 1 of each year, accompanying these payments with up-to-date roster lists, and by complying with these By-Laws and those of the Association.

SECTION 4: Any Regional member organization, whether or not in good standing in the Region, shall cease to be a member of the Region upon being suspended, expelled, or otherwise dropped from the rolls of the Association. Member organizations so suspended, expelled, or dropped from the rolls of the Association shall not be entitled to the return of any Regional dues, fees, or other assessments or any parts thereof, nor can they vote or participate in Regional activities.

SECTION 5: Any issue, concerning an individual or unit that requires controversial action, should be forwarded in writing to the Regional Commander.

ARTICLES III – OFFICERS

SECTION 1: Regional Officers shall be elected during odd-numbered years from among members in good standing of Regional member organizations for terms of two years, or until their successors are elected. Elections shall be held at the Fall meeting. If a Regional Officer leaves his original organization, he must, within six (6) months, become a member of that same unit or another member organization or probationary organization of this Region, or resign his post.

SECTION 2: Officers of the Region and their duties are as follows:

COMMANDER – presides at meetings of the Region; shall be a member ex officio of all regular and special committees of the Region; shall appoint committees as necessary or determined by will of the member organizations; shall act as Region’s representative to the Board of Directors of the Association; and shall perform all duties in that capacity as required and defined in the By-Laws of the Association and all duties usually pertaining to the office of any organizational president, plus such other duties as may be given him by these By-Laws.

DEPUTY COMMANDER - performs the duties of the Commander in his absence or at his request; and shall have a vote in all Regional matters except elections.

ADJUTANT/PAYMASTER – conducts all correspondence at the direction of the Commander; keeps all records of Regional business except as delegated to others; acts as secretary at meetings of the Region; maintains a roster of all Regional organizations, their officers and men; performs other duties as may be required. Normal duties of treasurer; collects all dues and other funds paid into the Region, and shall have charge of all funds except those used in the operation of a skirmish; shall keep an accurate record of all funds and shall submit a report of same to officially-designated Regional meetings; and will submit such records for auditing when so directed; and shall have a vote in all Regional matters except elections

INSPECTOR GENERAL – inspects weapons, uniforms, and accouterments with the Skirmish Director at official Regional skirmishes, covering all units at least once a year to determine that all participating organizations at Regional skirmishes fully comply with the Skirmish Rules of the Association; shall inspect all probationary organizations assigned to this Region prior to their participation at national skirmishes; reports and makes recommendations as to their qualifications for membership to the National Inspector General when so desired; and shall have the authority to make decisions at the Regional level to parallel the decision-making authority of the National Inspector General at the National level; and shall have a vote in all Regional matters except elections.

SECTION 3: Vacancies created by the resignation, expulsion, or incapacitation of any officer shall be filled for the balance of his unexpired term by regular procedures of nominations and voting as set forth in Article IV below. This may be done either at a regular Regional meeting or a special meeting called for the purpose.

ARTICLE IV – ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: Election of officers shall be held at the Fall meeting, on odd numbered years. The Adjutant/Paymaster shall hold said meeting not less than 30 days following notification to all Regional member units. Until otherwise designated by the Association Board of Directors, election of officers for this Region shall alternate by year with election of National officers. The incumbent Adjutant/Paymaster shall notify the National Adjutant of the results of the election within two weeks following said election.

SECTION 2: Nomination of officer candidates shall be made from the floor during the meeting in which elections are to be held.

SECTION 3: Newly elected officers shall take office as of midnight, December 31, following the election.

SECTION 4: Officers shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the Regional member units in good standing in attendance at the meeting, in accordance with rules of Meetings, Quorum and Voting set forth in Article VIII below.

ARTICLE V – DUES

SECTION 1: Each member organization of the Region shall pay dues of \$10.00 per year for each man entered on its membership rolls during the year. Full rosters shall be submitted with annual dues payments by December 1 of each year for the following year. Member organizations shall make payments of \$10.00 per man acquired during the year following the December 1 deadline. Units failing to meet the December 1 deadline shall pay a service charge of \$10.00.

SECTION 2: Probationary organizations shall be required to pay dues while in probationary status at the rate of \$10.00 per man per year, payable by December 1, or as soon thereafter as the organizations have officially organized and made application for N-SSA probationary status.

SECTION 3: No organizations shall remain in good standing if it remains in default of payment of its yearly dues for a period exceeding 30 days from the date on which they fall due. Organizations not in good standing shall not be qualified to exercise or receive privileges or benefits of Regional membership, as described in these By-Laws, nor can they participate in skirmishes or other Regional activities, vote on Regional questions, or hold Regional offices. If an organization remains delinquent in Regional dues for a year, it shall be dropped from the rolls of the Region, and may be readmitted only at the discretion of its fellow organizations following payment of all back dues. Any organization which loses its National membership status shall automatically lose its Regional membership status, and may be readmitted after following prescribed procedures for recovery of its National membership status as set forth in Section 3 of Article X of the N-SSA By-Laws, or by re-entering through probationary status nationally.

SECTION 4: Because National Board meetings may be held at more remote locations in the future, the Region shall be empowered to make special assessments to cover additional costs of the Regional Commander's travel expenses. The assessment per team shall be based on the number of members on the team's muster roll.

ARTICLE VI – SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

SECTION 1: A regional officer may be removed from office at a meeting called expressly for that purpose, by such vote as would suffice for his election. No vote of removal may be taken unless at least 30 days notice, in writing, has been given to the officer of the charges against him, and of the

time, date and place of the special meeting for that purpose. At that meeting, the officer shall be given a full hearing. Charges may be made by any member organization of the Region in good standing.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Amendments to these By-Laws may be initiated by any member organization in good standing at any regular meeting by proposal from the floor, but no action shall be taken on such proposals for a period of not less than 30 days following notification of all member organizations of the Region in good standing by the Adjutant/Paymaster. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of Regional member organizations in good standing in the Region shall be required to pass an amendment to these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS, QUORUM AND VOTING

SECTION 1: A minimum of two regular meetings of this Region shall be held each year. One shall be held in the spring and one shall be held in the fall; the exact date and location being determined by the regional officers that, in their judgment, would be most convenient for the majority of the member organizations. Special meetings may be called by the Commander of the Region at any time when emergency conditions so warrant, but in practice every effort will be made to see that Regional member teams are given at least 30 days advance notice of all meetings. The Adjutant/Paymaster will be required to remind all Regional member teams when elections are being held, and shall also advise them of any questions which he/she knows in advance will be voted on at a given meeting. The Fall meeting shall not be held later than November.

SECTION 2: A quorum for transaction of Regional business shall be two-thirds of all Regional member organizations in good standing. Proxy votes will be acceptable in establishing a quorum if presented according to Section 3 of this Article.

SECTION 3: Voting by proxy shall be allowed if the Commander of the Regional member organization in good standing cannot be present or delegate any member of his team to attend the meeting; but proxy votes shall be acceptable only if the Adjutant/Paymaster has written authorization from that Commander, giving the name of the organization whose representative is to vote its proxy. A proxy will be good for one meeting only, and must be given only to a member organization in good standing in the Region eligible to vote at that meeting. A member organization may hold the proxy for only one other organization at any given meeting. Failure of the Adjutant/Paymaster to receive the proxy shall be the responsibility of the member organization. Except for proxies, units must be present to vote; mail ballots will not be recognized or accepted. A blank, sample PROXY FORM is attached and may be copied.

SECTION 4: Qualification to cast ballots on behalf of any eligible member organization shall be determined by descending order of rank of representatives present, and shall require advance verification by telephone (subsequently confirmed by letter) or by letter to the Regional Commander of Adjutant/Paymaster for any non-ranking team member who has been authorized to carry the team's voting responsibility.

SECTION 5: There will be no smoking at Regional Meetings.

SECTION 6: The rules or procedure contained in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, latest edition, shall govern all meetings of the Region in cases where they are applicable and do not conflict with these By-Laws or those of the Association.

ARTICLE IX - CAMPING BIVOUAC AND CAMPING

SECTION 1: Purpose: To provide a consistent and reasonable set of rules to govern and control bivouacking during Regional Skirmishes.

SECTION 2: Members and Guests: All registered members of member organizations of the N-SSA are privileged to attend M-A Regional Skirmishes. Guests are permitted for all members so long as the member is present. Member/Parents are responsible for the behavior and conduct of their families and guests.

SECTION 3: Camping Areas: All attendees must camp in the area assigned them or their organization, unless otherwise directed by the Skirmish Director or Skirmish Bivouac Officer.

SECTION 4: Sanitation:

- (a) Except for trailers provided with adequate toilet facilities, the toilets provided by the Skirmish Staff shall be used.
- (b) Campers using trailers with toilet facilities may not empty toilet containers in Skirmish facilities except with Skirmish Director's approval.
- (c) Garbage, cans, containers, waste paper, etc. will be put in plastic bags and placed next to the containers provided. Combustible trash may be burned in the campfires, or placed in bags and stacked next to the filled containers in such a way that the trash will not be scattered and can be removed by the trash and garbage collectors.

SECTION 5: Vehicles:

- (a) Except for emergency vehicles, the speed limit at M-A Regional Skirmishes is 10 miles per hour.
- (b) No motor vehicle of any kind will be permitted forward of the designated safety line except Staff Vehicles or others with permission of the Skirmish Director or Skirmish Safety Officer.
- (c) No motor vehicles are permitted off the laid out road other than to gain access to camp sites and designated parking areas.
- (d) No unlicensed motor vehicles other than Skirmish Staff motorized equipment may be operated at M-A Regional Skirmishes.
- (e) At M-A Regional Skirmishes, no motor vehicles may be operated other than by persons having a valid license to operate such vehicles.

SECTION 6: Fireworks: No fireworks of ANY kind may be used at M-A Regional Skirmishes.

SECTION 7: Firearms and Weapons:

- (a) The range flag shall be hoisted at all times when firing or discharging any weapon on the firing line and no firing will take place unless the range flag is up.

- (b) No weapon of any type shall be loaded, primed, or discharged at any place at M-A Regional Skirmishes except on the firing line, and, in the case of specifically designed weapons, only in the areas on the firing line set aside for that particular specified weapon involved.

SECTION 8: Camping and Evening Bivouac Fires:

- (a) Campfires are permitted in all camping areas except when prohibited by local or state authority in dry seasons or as directed by Skirmish Director. At such times, such restrictions will be posted.
- (b) Skirmishers will provide their own firewood or may obtain from the supply areas, if provided by the Skirmish Staff. In no case will live trees on Skirmish site be cut for this or any other purpose.
- (c) Open fires must be attended at all times and must be extinguished before vacating the Skirmish site.

SECTION 9: Pets, Animals – Large or Small: Pets are permitted. Dogs must be contained in a camper or on a leash not longer than six feet at all times. Owners are responsible for proper disposal of all animal waste. Animals may not be permitted in spectator area during company matches at the discretion of the Skirmish Director.

SECTION 10: Portable Gasoline Driven Generators: In order to reduce the distracting, non-contemporary noise and noxious fumes attended thereto, any gasoline, et al, driven generators, whether hand, mobile, or permanently emplaced in the bivouac area or vehicle, shall not be run between 9:00 p.m. and dawn local time. Care shall be exercised that exhaust from generators does not impact adjacent campers.

SECTION 11: Penalties: All violations of any of these provisions will result in disciplinary action against the member and/or member organization concerned.

SECTION 12: Regional Provost Marshall – Enforcement: It shall be the duty of the Regional Provost Marshall and all Regional Officers and Organization Commanders who are present to enforce these rules during all M-A Regional Skirmishes. If the Provost Marshall is not present, the Director of the activity shall appoint one Commander to act as Acting Provost Marshall for the duration of the activity.

ARTICLE X – SKIRMISHES

SECTION 1: The minimum number of regional skirmishes will be set at five (5) per year.

SECTION 2: The system will consist of both voluntary and assigned hosted skirmishes.

SECTION 3: All organizations who wish to host a skirmish should make their intentions known at the Fall Regional Meeting. If there are not five organizations that wish to run a skirmish during the next year, it will be necessary to assign the remaining number of units to fill the required five skirmishes.

SECTION 4: The organizations assigned to host a skirmish will be chosen from a list of member units as follows:

- a) The list will be perpetual, and will be initiated by random drawing.
- b) As an organization's name is picked, it will be given the option of sharing its hosting duties with another unit who feels they are too small to host a skirmish alone. If the organization picked does not have a "partner" who has agreed to share the duties, they will be assigned as partners with the next unit picked who needs help in hosting a skirmish.
- c) After hosting a skirmish, the organization's name will be placed at the bottom of the list. Additional assignments will be taken, in order, from the top of the list.
- d) An organization assigned to run a National Skirmish will be placed on the bottom of the list

SECTION 5: All profits from running a skirmish will belong to the hosting organization.

If a loss is incurred, the host organization may petition the Region to make up all or part of the loss. The organization with a loss must show ample cause and justification that the loss was beyond their control.

SECTION 6: If Regional funds are available, a host may request a loan to help finance the skirmish.

SECTION 7: The date and location of the skirmish is determined by the hosting organization with the approval of the Regional Commander. No regional skirmish will be scheduled on the same dates as National Board Meetings. Starting time for company matches at regional skirmishes is determined by the host unit with approval of the Regional Commander.

SECTION 8: Host assignments and tentative dates for the following year will be made at the Fall regional meeting.

SECTION 9: Any discrepancies in these rules will be settled by judgment of the Regional Commander, subject to appeal to the regional organizations at the next regional meeting.

SECTION 10: Skirmish applications must be sent out at least three months prior to the skirmish date and openings must be held for Mid-Atlantic teams for up to two months prior to the skirmish date.

SECTION 11: A reply card must be sent to all teams responding to an application.

SECTION 12: For regional individual competition, host individuals will have the average of his score, compiled from his official scores from each shoot, inserted into his slot for the shoot he is hosting.

SECTION 13: National results will be included in Mid-Atlantic team standings.

SECTION 14: If a support wire for a stake is cut, continue to shoot at the stake until broken or time expires.

SECTION 15: The roster of Mid-Atlantic organizations, for hosting skirmishes, is attached.

SECTION 16: A "SKIRMISH HANDBOOK" detailing how to run a Skirmish is provided to each Mid-Atlantic Team.

Written Policy: