

TO COMMITTEE ON CONVENTION RULES
This committee meets at 12:00 p.m., Sunday, July 28

APPROVED

Chairman: Larry W. Rivers, Past Commander-in-Chief, Post 1736, LA

CONVENTION RULES
125th National Convention
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Louisville, Kentucky

1. That, in accordance and conjunction with the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, and with any exception noted here, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall be recognized as parliamentary authority for this Convention.
2. That when a registered delegate desires to make a motion or address the Convention, the delegate shall rise, address the Chair as "Comrade Commander-in-Chief," and after being recognized, shall state their name, Post number and Department before proceeding.
3. A registered delegate shall be permitted to speak but twice on any one subject, or any pending resolution for a period not to exceed five minutes each except by consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention present and voting, provided that chairmen of Convention committees may speak as frequently as necessary in connection with reports of their committees. In the event of controversy, the presiding officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the maker of the motion or a member of the delegation presenting the resolution an opportunity for five minutes of final rebuttal.
4. All resolutions offered by individual registered delegates must bear the endorsement of the Department Commander or, if absent, the Department Adjutant. All resolutions must be submitted to the office of the Adjutant General for numbering and referral to committee no later than 12:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 31, 2024 and must be accompanied by a written explanation as to why the resolution was not presented to the Department Convention for consideration.
5. All resolutions offered on the floor at the Convention will initially be in writing, and shall automatically and without reading, be referred to the Adjutant General for assignment to the proper committee.
6. Committee chairmen, in reporting on resolutions referred to their committee, shall first read the number of those resolutions on which favorable action is recommended. Specific resolutions may be set aside for individual action at the request of any delegate, the others being voted upon collectively. After action has been taken on all such resolutions, the chairman shall read the number and title of those resolutions which the committee has disapproved. A resolution disapproved by the committee shall be automatically rejected unless a motion is made and seconded that it be approved, in which case it shall be brought up for debate and Convention action.
7. This Convention will not consider any resolution dealing with the expenditure or appropriation of organizational funds.
8. The Convention will not consider any resolution endorsing legislation sponsored by any other veterans' organization, or requesting us to join with any other organization in sponsoring legislation not expressly proposed by the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

9. Only delegates to this Convention may speak in debate, make motions and vote during Convention proceedings.
10. Delegates shall vote individually on any item of business coming before the Convention and cannot be required to vote as a block with others from their delegation.
11. Voting strength shall be determined by those delegates registered as of the close of the credential registration booth the previous day and as reported to the National Convention. The Department Commanders will receive, prior to the beginning of each business session, a list of posts that have properly registered delegates. Only delegates representing those Posts listed on the report will be accorded voting privileges.
12. If a roll call is required, the following is the order of voting precedence: National Officers, Past Commanders-in-Chief, National Council of Administration, Department Commanders followed by Unaffiliated Posts. Ascending alphabetical order by Department will be utilized for the National Council of Administration and Department Commanders. The Department Commander of each delegation shall poll their delegation's registered delegates on the floor and shall announce the vote of their delegation.
13. Registered delegates of a delegation may arrive at a vote in any manner, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote.
14. Reconsideration of a motion or resolution upon which final disposition has been made shall not be allowed after the meeting at which it was acted on has been recessed, unless the body is notified of such contemplated action prior to the close of that meeting.
15. When the report of the Department Commander of the delegation is not acceptable to all registered delegates of the delegation and a poll of the Department registered delegates is demanded by three registered delegates of said Department, the Adjutant General shall poll the registered delegates, without discussion of question.
16. In accordance with Section 621 of the National Bylaws, voting shall be by acclamation as defined within Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except a roll call may be demanded by ten registered delegates representing Posts in ten separate Departments, or by order of the Commander-in-Chief.
17. Nominating speeches for the National officers shall be limited to five minutes each. The time allocated to encompass all seconding speeches shall be limited to four minutes total. Nomination and election of National officers will be held according to the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, and Section 617 of the National Manual of Procedure.
18. Registered delegates and persons recognized by the Chair shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort from the floor any person or persons who may create any disturbance which interferes with the orderly procedure of the Convention.
19. The Commander-in-Chief may, as may be necessary and appropriate to informing the membership of the activities of this Convention, authorize that all or parts of the Convention be streamed through the website of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
20. Consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention present and voting is necessary for suspension of the rules of this Convention.