

American Legion Auxiliary
National Committee Structure
Proposed Changes
Current as of February 13, 2019

Introduction

Please review the following information as it will be reviewed and discussed during the Strategic Planning Segment at the NEC meeting. The Implementation Team and Future Focus committee are seeking feedback during this meeting as this proposal will be considered by the 2019 Convention Delegates.

Background

The 2015 American Legion Auxiliary Organizational Effectiveness Assessment examined how members and non-members view the ALA's current capacity to deliver our mission. The majority of respondents felt the main purpose of the ALA should be to deliver its longstanding mission of serving veterans, the military, and their families. Some respondents felt Auxiliary programs currently are too varied and should be streamlined (Goal 5, page 23). Therefore, the company that conducted the assessment – Johnson, Grossnickle & Associates -- suggested the ALA conduct a program review of all current Auxiliary programs with a goal of focusing on key programs that most strongly support the ALA mission.

The Implementation Team added a strategy to the ALA 2014-2019/20 Centennial Strategic Plan in Goal 4 – Optimize Mission Delivery -- and charged the team with the following:

1. Interpretation of the recommendations of assessment
2. Assess programs
3. Evaluate effectiveness of current programs and report to the Implementation Team

After 12 months of research and investigation, along with the Future Focus Committee also doing their own evaluations, the team made several recommendations for changes to the national committee structure.

In addition, for the last several years, incoming leadership teams (national president and national vice president) found the number and quality of member applications they were receiving for national appointments to be in decline. Often, they did not have enough applications to fill almost 250 committee appointment positions.

These recommendations were discussed in October 2018 at a joint meeting of the Implementation Team, Future Focus Committee, Goal 4 teams, and all goal champions. During this session, the group discussed impacts of changing the national committee structure (positions that make up all of the national standing committees) and came to the recommendations listed below.

Timeline

Members of the Implementation Team, Future Focus Committee and upcoming leadership would present the structure and solicit feedback to the National Executive Committee in February 2019 and to those attending the Department Leadership National Conference in May 2019.

By July 2019, all feedback will be evaluated and finalized by the Implementation Team and Future Focus Committee for the changes to the National Constitution & Bylaws and National Standing Rules. The proposed changes will be distributed to all National Convention delegates.

August 2019: Proposed changes to be considered by the National Convention delegates.

September 1, 2020: Committee structure changes considered/voted/passed by the 2019 National Convention delegates would go into effect.

Reasoning for timing: The 2019-2020 appointment process begins in early January and is completed by early June to allow for the Programs Action Plan supplement to be published and for the NEC to approve the national president's appointments at the Post-Convention NEC meeting during National Convention. This proposal eliminates 31 committee positions, so this timeline allows for the least planning disruption to members and leadership for the 2019-2020 administrative year. This will allow the National Headquarters volunteer and staff teams time to update publications and workflow.

The following pages explain the information in two different ways.

Page 2-3: Narrative version of proposed changes.

Pages 4 -8: This is a draft of the information that will be distributed to all National Convention delegates for the consideration of these Standing Rules changes. This 3-column format makes it very easy to understand how the current Standing Rules read, what the changes would be, and how it would read if the proposed changes are adopted by National Convention delegates.

Standing committees that retain current structure (no changes):

Not every committee structure will change; the group assembled felt the following committees should remain the same:

National Audit Committee
National Children & Youth Committee
National Finance Committee
National ALA Girls Nation Committee
National Junior Activities Committee
National Membership Committee

Standing committees' functions that would be moved to another committee/position and cease to exist at the national level:

National History Committee

All functions of this committee would be moved under the National Historian.

Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

The functions of this role would move to the national Children & Youth Committee member position. The member appointment could be a Past National President.

National Past Presidents Parley Committee

The Unit Member of the Year Award would be moved to the National Leadership Committee. The Salute to Servicewomen Award would be moved to the National Security Committee.

For the Following Standing Committees:

National Americanism Committee
National Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee
National Community Service Committee
National Leadership Committee
National Legislative Committee
(National) National Security Committee
National Poppy Committee
National Public Relations Committee

The structure would be changed to the following seven positions:

National Committee Chairman
National Committee Vice Chairman
National Committee Central Division Chairman
National Committee Eastern Division Chairman
National Committee Northwestern Division Chairman
National Committee Southern Division Chairman
National Committee Western Division Chairman

National Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee structure would be changed to:

National Committee Chairman
National Committee Vice Chairman (serving 2 years)
National Committee Member (serving 2 years)
National Committee Central Division Chairman
National Committee Eastern Division Chairman
National Committee Northwestern Division Chairman
National Committee Southern Division Chairman
National Committee Western Division Chairman

National Education Committee structure would be changed to:

National Committee Chairman
National Committee Vice Chairman (serving 2 years)
National Committee Member (serving 2 years)
National Committee Central Division Chairman
National Committee Eastern Division Chairman
National Committee Northwestern Division Chairman
National Committee Southern Division Chairman
National Committee Western Division Chairman

National Constitution & Bylaws Committee structure would be changed to:

National Committee Chairman
National Committee Vice Chairman

**Proposal to remove the following national standing committees from Standing Rule VI, #1 and Standing Rule VI, #6:
 History, Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Past Presidents Parley**

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Standing Rule VI, #1 As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees - Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Audit – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, History, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each standing committee is as specified in this section; the purpose of each national committee is as described in the American Legion Auxiliary National Program Action Plan.</p>	<p>Standing Rule VI, #1 As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Audit – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, History, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative, Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Past Presidents Parley, Poppy, and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each standing committee is as specified in this section; the purpose of each national committee is as described in the American Legion Auxiliary National Program Action Plan.</p>	<p>Standing Rule VI, #1 As provided in the National Bylaws, in addition to the core National Standing Committees – Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Children & Youth, Americanism, National Security, Membership, Constitution & Bylaws, Finance, and Audit – there shall be the following national committees: Auxiliary Emergency Fund, Community Service, Education, American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, Junior Activities, Leadership, Legislative and Public Relations. The overall purpose of each standing committee is as specified in this section; the purpose of each national committee is as described in the American Legion Auxiliary National Program Action Plan.</p>
<p>Standing Rule VI, #6 History Committee: The History Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The National Historian shall serve as an ex-officio member of the committee.</p> <p>Past Presidents Parley: Past Presidents Parley shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, all of whom shall be Past National Presidents and all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Liaison to Child Welfare Foundation: The Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Committee shall be comprised of three (3) members, two (2) of whom shall be Past National Presidents and one (1) of whom shall be the Chairman of the Children & Youth Committee. The appointed Past National Presidents shall serve staggered two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a two-year term. One (1) Past National President shall be appointed each year to serve as the chairman, the Auxiliary’s primary liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.</p>	<p>Standing Rule VI, #6 History Committee: The History Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The National Historian shall serve as an ex-officio member of the committee.</p> <p>Past Presidents Parley: Past Presidents Parley shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, all of whom shall be Past National Presidents and all of whom shall serve a one-year term</p> <p>Liaison to Child Welfare Foundation: The Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation Committee shall be comprised of three (3) members, two (2) of whom shall be Past National Presidents and one (1) of whom shall be the Chairman of the Children & Youth Committee. The appointed Past National Presidents shall serve staggered two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a two-year term. One (1) Past National President shall be appointed each year to serve as the chairman, the Auxiliary’s primary liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation</p>	<p>Standing Rule VI, #6 All deleted</p>

**Proposal to amend SR IV, Duties of Officers, National Historian #2:
 to reflect new duties of the Historian**

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>SR IV, Duties of Officers, National Historian #2</p> <p>The National Historian shall be responsible for compiling and sending to the Departments an Outline and Rules for Department Histories that are to be submitted in contest for National Award. Judging of the Department Histories shall be done by the five (5) National Division Vice Presidents under the supervision of the National Historian.</p>	<p>SR IV, Duties of Officers, National Historian #2</p> <p>The National Historian shall be responsible for compiling and sending to the Departments an Outline and Rules for Department Histories that are to be submitted in contest for National Award. Judging of the Department Histories shall be done by the five (5) National Division Vice Presidents under the supervision of the National Historian. She shall also be responsible for communicating to Departments the importance of keeping a written record and of collecting and categorizing American Legion Auxiliary memorabilia.</p>	<p>SR IV, Duties of Officers, National Historian #2</p> <p>The National Historian shall be responsible for compiling and sending to the Departments an Outline and Rules for Department Histories that are to be submitted in contest for National Award. Judging of the Department Histories shall be done by the five (5) National Division Vice Presidents under the supervision of the National Historian. She shall also be responsible for communicating to Departments the importance of keeping a written record and of collecting and categorizing American Legion Auxiliary memorabilia.</p>

Proposal to amend SR VI, Committees, Core National Standing Committees by changing the composition to a Chairman, Vice Chairman and 5 Divisional Committee Members for the following committees:

National Americanism Committee
 (National) National Security Committee

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Americanism: The Americanism Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.</p>	<p>Americanism: The Americanism Committee shall be comprised of chairman and four (4) one member vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.</p>	<p>Americanism: The Americanism Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and one vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Americanism program is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship.</p>
<p>National Security: The National Security Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense</p>	<p>National Security: The National Security Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members, a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense</p>	<p>National Security: The National Security Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the National Security Committee is to promote a strong national defense</p>

Proposed to amend SR VI, Committees, National Committees – Mission Outreach by changing the composition to a Chairman, Vice Chairman and 5 Divisional Committee Members for the following committees:

- National Legislative Committee
- National Poppy Committee
- National Community Service Committee

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Legislative: The Legislative Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Poppy: The Poppy Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Community Service: The Community Service Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Legislative: The Legislative Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Poppy: The Poppy Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Community Service: The Community Service Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Legislative: The Legislative Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Poppy: The Poppy Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and, and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Community Service: The Community Service Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>

Proposal to amend SR VI, Committees, Member/Organizational Support by changing the composition to a Chairman, Vice Chairman and 5 Divisional Committee Members for the following committees.

- National Auxiliary Emergency Fund Committee
- National Leadership Committee
- National Public Relations Committee

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Auxiliary Emergency Fund: The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund provides grants to American Legion Auxiliary members who qualify for specific types of emergency assistance. A three (3) member review and processing committee shall consist of the National</p> <p>Leadership: The Leadership Committee shall be comprised of a chairman plus three (3) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Public Relations: The Public Relations Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Auxiliary Emergency Fund: The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and two (2) members, a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund provides grants to American Legion Auxiliary members who qualify for specific types of emergency assistance. A three (3) member review and processing committee shall consist of the National</p> <p>Leadership: The Leadership Committee shall be comprised of a chairman plus three (3) members, and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Public Relations: The Public Relations Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and three (3) members, and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Auxiliary Emergency Fund: The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The Auxiliary Emergency Fund provides grants to American Legion Auxiliary members who qualify for specific types of emergency assistance. A three (3) member review and processing committee shall consist of the National</p> <p>Leadership: The Leadership Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p> <p>Public Relations: The Public Relations Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and, and a vice-chairman, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>

Proposal to change the composition of the VA&R Committee by amending SR VI, Committees, Core National Standing Committees

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee shall be comprised of a chairman who shall serve a one-year term; three (3) members serving staggered three-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a three-year term, and a representative from each National Division who shall serve a one-year term. Of the three (3) members serving three-year terms, one (1) shall serve as the National Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Representative, and two (2) shall serve as National VAVS Deputy Representatives.</p>	<p>Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee shall be comprised of a chairman who shall serve a one-year term; three (3) and a vice-chairman and one (1) member serving staggered three-year two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a three-year two-year term, and a representative from each National Division who shall serve a one-year term. Of the three (3) members serving three-year terms, one (1) The vice-chairman shall serve as the National Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Representative, and two (2) the member shall serve as National VAVS Deputy Representatives.</p>	<p>Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation: The Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Committee shall be comprised of a chairman who shall serve a one-year term and a vice-chairman and one (1) member serving staggered two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a two-year term, and a representative from each National Division who shall serve a one-year term. The vice-chairman shall serve as the National Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Representative, and the member shall serve as National VAVS Deputy Representative.</p>

Proposal to change the composition of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee by amending SR VI, Committees, Core National Standing Committees

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Constitution & Bylaws: The Constitution & Bylaws Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and four (4) members, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Constitution & Bylaws is to inform members about having proper governing documents at all levels.</p>	<p>Constitution & Bylaws: The Constitution & Bylaws Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and vice chairman four (4) members, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Constitution & Bylaws is to inform members about having proper governing documents at all levels.</p>	<p>Constitution & Bylaws: The Constitution & Bylaws Committee shall be comprised of a chairman and vice chairman, all of whom shall serve a one-year term. The purpose of the Constitution & Bylaws is to inform members about having proper governing documents at all levels.</p>

Proposal to change the composition of the Education Committee by amending SR VI, Committees, Mission Outreach National Standing Committees

CURRENT WORDING	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	IF ADOPTED, WILL READ
<p>Education: The Education Committee shall be comprised of a chairman serving a one-year term, three (3) members serving staggered three-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to serve a three-year term; plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Education: The Education Committees shall be comprised of a chairman who shall serve a one-year term; three (3) and a vice-chairman and one (1) member serving staggered three-year two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a three-year two-year term, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>	<p>Education: The Education Committee shall be comprised of a chairman who shall serve a one-year term and a vice-chairman and one (1) member serving staggered two-year terms, one of whom shall be appointed each year to a two-year term, plus a representative from each National Division, all of whom shall serve a one-year term.</p>