

BYLAWS OF  
THE NATIONAL MARINE CORPS COUNCIL

ARTICLE I  
NAME AND OFFICERS

**Section 1:** The name of this organization is the National Marine Corps Council (NMCC). It is an affiliation of the U.S. Marine Corps.

**Section 2:** The Council shall convene in the Commonwealth of Virginia or at such other location as the Executive Committee may determine necessary for purposes of the Council from time to time.

ARTICLE II  
PURPOSES

The purpose of the National Marine Corps Council is to provide a non-political association consisting of representatives from each of the member Marine Corps Veteran Service Organizations to exchange information of interest to its members and to serve as a forum for the Commandant of the Marine Corps to share information.

**Section 1:** The Council shall exist for the following purposes:

- a. To support the preservation and resiliency of the United States Marine Corps and support the Commandant's goals of the Marine Corps.
- b. To serve as a forum for the Commandant of the Marine Corps to disseminate information to the member organizations of the Council to further Marine Corps objectives and interests.
- c. To exchange information of common interest to its members.

ARTICLE III  
AFFILIATION

**Section 1:** The Council is a national-level association whose members are Marine Corps affiliated organizations and associations whose principles are consistent with the purposes of the Council. Associations wishing to join the Council must petition the Executive Committee and review and vote on membership at the next meeting. Affiliation criteria shall include:

- a. Established as a Marine Corps-affiliated organization or Marine Corps association for at least three years.
- b. Organizations may be IRS tax-exempt organizations.
- c. State or Regional Marine Corps Coordinating Councils will also be eligible for affiliation.
- d. Organizations petitioning for affiliation must send their request to the Chairman on organization letterhead. The Executive Committee will review applications, and recommendations will be presented to the Council for a vote at the next regular meeting. Petitioning organizations will be notified that their application has been received to include the date that the Council will vote. After the Council has voted, the petitioning organization will be notified of acceptance or reason for rejection.
- e. Each member organization shall have one vote. Voting via telecommunication presence is authorized.

**Section 2:** Membership of an organization may be terminated by the Council for failure to comply with affiliation criteria or other regulations outlined in the Bylaws, violation of Corps values, public law, or failure to attend regular meetings can be grounds for termination.

**Section 3:** Each member organization shall designate one primary representative and one alternate representative. The National President, or equivalent officer, or each member organization appoints these representatives. They report to and speak for that national officer. Each member organization shall have one vote.

**Section 4:** There shall also be an ex-officio class of membership for liaison representatives of the Council officially designated by the Commandant of the Marine Corps or a Headquarters, United States Marine Corps staff agency. The class of membership shall be known as Liaison Representatives. It is without a vote and does not include eligibility to hold office (e.g., Marine for Life, Wounded Warrior Regiment).

#### ARTICLE IV COUNCIL OFFICERS

**Section 1:** Officers to be elected from the Council Representatives of Member Organizations are Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary, who also serves as Historian and custodian of records. The Chairman shall serve for two years and may not succeed him/herself, except that a Chairman who has succeeded to that office to fill out an unexpired term may be reelected or appointed for the remainder of a term. In further recognition of a Chairman's leadership and contributions, the Chairman shall be allowed the honorary title of "Chairman Emeritus" and be a non-Board and a non-officer position. The Vice-Chairman serves for two years and then, subject to consent by the Council, succeeds to the office of Chairman.

**Section 2:** The Chairman shall call for and arrange coordination for all Council and Executive Committee meetings as appropriate and shall preside at all meetings of the same when present. The Chairman shall report the conditions of the Council. The Chairman shall appoint such committees as deemed necessary or advisable, except Executive Committee, which is elected. The Vice-Chairman is an elected position and shall preside in the absence of the Chairman when designated to act as Chairman at any meeting. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Council and Executive Committee meetings and shall be the custodian of records. Duties of officers shall be those usually ascribed to such officeholders, except as otherwise outlined in the Bylaws. Nomination and election procedures shall be as follows:

- a. All Officers shall be elected by the member organizations at the annual meeting, except as expressly provided.
- b. The nominees for office receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected.
- c. All Officers shall be from member organizations in the Council in good standing.
- d. The Secretary may be reappointed for successive terms by census vote of the Council.

**Section 3:** Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting to serve such terms as designated in the Bylaws and until their successors are elected. Their term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the annual meeting. Nominations will be solicited in the respective meeting announcement.

**Section 4:** The Chairman may establish standing and ad hoc committees. With the concurrence of the Executive Committee, the Chairman may appoint a Legal Counsel, Parliamentarian, Chief Information Officer (CIO), and Historian.

ARTICLE V  
MEETINGS

**Section 1:** A regular meeting of the Council shall be held at least twice each calendar year, or more frequently at the call of the Chairman, with a minimum of 30 days advance notice provided to the council representatives.

**Section 2:** The last scheduled regular meeting for the calendar year shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be to elect officers, receive annual reports, and conduct any other business that may arise.

**Section 3:** A special meeting may be held upon the call of the Chairman or on the written request of one-third of the member organizations. The purpose of the meeting shall be outlined in the notice with minimum advance notice of at least 30 days.

**Section 4:** Fifty-one percent of the member organizations, physically or electronically, shall constitute a quorum capable of transacting any business that comes before it.

**Section 5:** The Council shall not take any action that might jeopardize its member organizations, including lobbying or any other action.

ARTICLE VI  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers and three representatives elected by the Council from its member organizations. The representatives shall serve staggered 3-year terms and may be reelected. Nomination and election procedures shall be held at the end of their 3-year term.

ARTICLE VII  
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Modern Edition, in all matters not otherwise provided for in the Bylaws, shall govern proceedings of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII  
DISSOLUTION

**Section 1:** In the event of dissolution of this Council, any net assets shall be applied and distributed as follows:

- a. All documents are to be turned over to Headquarters Marine Corps for historic preservation.
- b. All liabilities and obligations shall be paid, or adequate provisions shall be made.
- c. Any remaining assets shall be transferred to an organization that qualifies for tax exemption under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code and which organization provides direct support to the United States Marine Corps. The Council shall select this organization.

ARTICLE IX  
AMENDMENT

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meetings of the Council by a simple majority vote, provided that a quorum is present and that previous notice of amendment was given to all members at least 30 days in advance. Proposed amendments may be submitted to the Chairman and Executive Committee at any time and voted on at any regular meeting.

CERTIFICATION

I, Dr. John H. Bridges III, Chairman of the National Marine Corps Council, certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the Bylaws of the Council named above, duly adopted by the Executive Committee and Council Representatives during August 2020.



Chairman, NMCC