

# CONSTITUTION OF TIGARD POST 158 THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF OREGON

## PREAMBLE

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of The United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

## ARTICLE I NAME

**Section 1** The name of the organization shall be Tigard Post No. 158, The American Legion, Department of Oregon; hereinafter referred to as the Post.

## ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

**Section 1** The purpose and objectives of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies as set forth in the foregoing Preamble, the National Constitution and the Department Constitution of The American Legion.

## ARTICLE III NATURE

**Section 1** This Post is a civilian veteran's service organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police service.

**Section 2** This organization shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

**Section 3** Rank does not exist at the American Legion. No member shall be addressed by their military title in any meeting of this post.

## ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1** Eligibility to membership in this Post shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of the American Legion.

**Section 2** Application for membership shall be made in writing under such regulation as may from time to time be prescribed by the Post Executive Committee.

**Section 3** All applications for membership shall be acted upon at the next Post meeting following the making of such application, and shall at such meeting, be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation and consideration. If a majority of the members present at the meeting cast their vote against the acceptance of said application, then such application shall be recorded as rejected.

**Section 4** Members may be suspended or expelled from the America Legion only upon a proper showing of cause, and upon proceedings as provided for in the Officer's Guide, "Practice and Procedure in the Expulsion or Suspension of a Member of the American Legion." Any appeal shall be taken to the Department Executive Committee, and the case shall be tried anew. The decision of the Department Executive Committee in such cases shall be final.

**Section 5.** A member who has been expelled or suspended from this Post for any cause may be reinstated to membership by a majority vote of the membership present in a Post meeting and the payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs.

**Section 6** No person who has been expelled by a Post shall be admitted to membership in this Post, without the consent of the expelling Post, except that where that consent has been asked for and denied by such Post, they may then appeal to the Department Executive Committee of the expelling Post for permission to apply for membership in this Post and shall be ineligible for membership until such permission is granted.

## **ARTICLE V OFFICERS**

**Section 1** The administrative affairs of this Post of the American Legion shall, except as may be otherwise provided by the By-Laws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee (also known as the E-Board) which shall consist of two (2) members in addition to the officers of the Post. The officers of this Post shall be a commander, a First and Second vice commander, an adjutant, a finance officer, a Post historian, a Post chaplain, a Post service officer, a sergeant-at-arms, a judge advocate and other officers as may be deemed necessary by this organization. These additional officers shall be nominated from the floor at the meeting preceding the annual election. The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be for one year. This Post, by its By-Laws, may provide for such other standing committees as the business of the organization may require.

**Section 2** The Post shall select its officers for the ensuing year not less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Department Convention of that year or not later than the first meeting in September or September 20<sup>th</sup> of such year, whichever is earliest. All installations of officers of this Post shall be subject to the approval of the District Commander of District 1.

**Section 3** All officers and executive committee members shall be elected annually, and they shall hold office until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Any officer or executive committee member may be removed for inefficiency by the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote of said committee being necessary to affect such a removal.

**Section 4** Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in the Post.

## **ARTICLE VI FINANCE**

**Section 1** The revenue of this Post shall be derived from annual membership dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Post Executive Committee.

**Section 2** The amount of annual Post dues shall be fixed and determined by the Post Executive Board (E-Board).

**Section 3** The Post shall pay to department headquarters the National and Departmental annual membership dues for every member of the Post.

## **ARTICLE VII AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY AND OTHER GROUPS**

**Section 1** This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization to be known as the Tigard American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 158.

**Section 2** This Post also recognizes the Sons of the American Legion to be known as Tigard Squadron 158.

**Section 3** Membership in the above organizations shall be prescribed by the National Constitution of their respective groups.

## **ARTICLE VIII AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1** This Constitution is adopted subject to the provisions of the National Constitution of the American Legion and of the Constitution of the Department of Oregon, The American Legion. Any amendment to said National Constitution or Department Constitution which is in conflict with any provisions hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of the Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 2** This Constitution may be amended at any regular Post meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting, providing the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the next preceding meeting of said Post, and providing further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least thirty (30) days in advance of the date when such amendment is to be voted on, notifying said members that at such meeting, a proposal to amend the Constitution is to be voted on.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Commander, Gary Baldwin

\_\_\_\_\_ Adjutant, Marc Cowling

Date: \_\_\_\_\_