

CONFEDERATE DIVISION INFANTRY BRANCH BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE

The purpose of the 1st Confederate Division Infantry Branch is to field a cohesive, large scale infantry structure for combined arms western theater events under the 1st Confederate Division. The events shall offer unique opportunities for the troops to experience the scale of military operations during the War Between the States; provide educational opportunities to the public to relive the history of this most turbulent period in American history (1861-1865), and contribute to the preservation of historical sites as well as the memory of the brave men that served during the conflict.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

A. To jointly commit to a series of large scale military events as part of the 1st Confederate Division; herein referred to as the 5 Year Plan, where this organization and its structure have military responsibility and command. These events are to offer unique experiences of large scale military operations for the benefit of the rank of file. Net income from these events is to benefit historical preservation.

B. To maintain a commitment to the alliance established by the 1st Confederate Division with a Federal counterpart organization, herein referred to as the North/South Alliance, as the Union command structure for events designated on the 5 Year Plan. That counterpart is herein recognized to be the 1st Federal Division.

ARTICLE III - 5 YEAR PLAN OF EVENTS

A. The goal is to participate in one large scale event a year either hosted by or designated as 1st Confederate Division events on the 5 Year Plan.

B. To the extent practical, these events shall be geographically spread around the region; and be designated in chronological order consistent with the War years.

C. Each event shall strive to offer a special kind of experience for the men; and not necessarily be spectator events. Net income from these events is to benefit historical preservation.

D. Affiliated units of the Division must be willing to sponsor or otherwise support these events in order to achieve the objectives and goals of the Division.

E. All changes to the 5 Year Plan of events must be approved by the Board of Directors, and endorsed by the 1st Federal Division.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

A. The 1st Confederate Division Infantry Branch shall be administered by a Brigade Commander, who shall represent the infantry branch within the 1st Confederate Division. The rank of the Brigade Commander shall be Brigadier General. The Brigade Commander shall appoint a military staff, structured to properly administer the normal staff functions as appropriate to support the military structure of the Infantry Branch.

B. The Infantry Branch Commander shall serve on the 1st Confederate Division's Executive Council; along with the Divisional Commander, Chief of Cavalry, and the Chief of Artillery. The Executive Council, as a practical matter, is empowered with the responsibility and authority for making decisions of a general nature which do not adversely impact the military commanders within this organization. Examples include decisions regarding site layouts for events, scenario planning, event registration guidelines, event schedules of activities, communications with the North/South Alliance, liaison with event sponsors. Under no circumstances may the Executive Council make any decision that affects the approved military structure or Purpose and Objectives as defined in Articles I and 11 of these Bylaws. The Executive Council shall manage and administer the affairs of the Division pursuant to, and within the limitations of Federal and State law. All members of the Executive Council must be present or be contacted (if decisions are reached by other means) to constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. A simple majority vote shall decide all matters of the Executive Council unless otherwise stipulated in these Bylaws. If a member of the Council is unable to attend a meeting, he may vote on any matter of Division business by

delivering his written proxy to another Council member, who will vote the proxy as directed by the absent member of the Council.

C. Board of Directors. The Division Commander, Infantry Branch Commander, Brigade Commanders, Battalion Commanders, Chief of Cavalry, Deputy Cavalry Commander, Cavalry Battalion Commanders, Chief of Artillery, Artillery Second in Command and Artillery Battalion Commanders shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Division. The Board of Directors is empowered with the responsibility and authority for making all decisions that affect the stability of the approved military structure or Purpose and Objectives as defined in Articles I and 11 of these Bylaws. All members of the Board of Directors must be present or be contacted (if decisions are reached by other means) to constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. A simple majority vote shall decide all matters of the Board unless otherwise stipulated in these Bylaws. If a member of the Board is unable to attend a meeting, he may vote on any matter of Division business by delivering his written proxy to another Board member, who will vote the proxy as directed by the absent member of the Board.

ARTICLE V - ELECTIONS

A. The Infantry Branch Commander shall be elected by the affiliated Infantry Brigade and Battalion Commanders for a term of one year. The Branch Commander may be reelected to subsequent terms of office. In the event of a vacancy in the position of the Branch Commander during the one year term, the Brigade and Battalion Commanders shall appoint a replacement to serve the unexpired term.

B. Other Guidelines. Selection of Infantry Brigade and Battalion Commanders is left to the respective battalions in accordance with their prescribed practices.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS

A. An annual meeting of the Division shall be held at a time and place designated by the Executive Council, and shall serve as the forum for Divisional elections. The annual meeting shall be held at a time and place mutually agreed upon by the Executive Council.

B. The annual Divisional meeting is open to any member of an affiliated unit of the Infantry Branch. The goal is to have representation by the North/South Alliance at all Divisional meetings.

C. Special meetings of the Executive Council, Board of Directors, or Infantry Branch shall be called whenever circumstances dictate.

ARTICLE VII - INFANTRY ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES

A. The Infantry of the 1st Confederate Division is organized administratively as a Branch, with a Branch Commander who serves as a liaison and representative of the affiliated brigades and battalions on the Executive Council.

B. The Branch is comprised of member battalions; who may choose to form permanent fixed brigades together or remain as autonomous battalions. If two or more battalions choose to form a fixed brigade, each will submit a letter to the Branch Commander stating so; naming their choice for Brigade Commander, as well as the name of the new brigade. Receipt of these letters constitutes establishment of a fixed brigade. The Branch Commander, affiliated past and current battalion commanders and/or members of their staff comprise the pool of senior officers that are candidates for command of fixed brigades.

C. Member battalions not affiliated with a fixed brigade are organized into tactical brigades for Divisional events, based on the best fit of the historical model for the scenario(s) and/or the needs of the event. The Branch Commander, past and current battalion commanders of affiliated battalions comprise the pool of senior officers that are candidates for command of tactical brigades in the field. The Branch Commander will propose a brigade structure for each event based on need and the best fit of available forces. The staff, couriers, wagons, and other assets of the Branch Commander shall be assigned to support the tactical brigades. This approach is herein referred to as the Flexible Brigade Concept.

D. Affiliation with the Division denotes the commitment to adhere to the Purpose, Objectives, and Guidelines on which this Division and the Infantry Branch is founded, and to do so in a historically accurate role. Affiliated organizations are expected to demonstrate a spirit of cooperation with others for the good of the Division and the events on the 5 Year Plan. The Guidelines affiliated organizations are expected to honor are as follows:

1. Minimum Brigade Standards. Affiliated fixed brigades must field at least two full battalions to operate as a brigade at Division events. If an affiliated fixed brigade is unable to field the requisite numbers for two battalions, the brigade will collapse into one battalion and be assigned to another brigade for that event.

2. Minimum Company/Battalion Standards. Affiliated infantry battalions must demonstrate the ability to field a minimum of 100 rank and file. The definition of 100 rank and file means there are at least 100 armed "shooters" in the front and rear ranks of the battalion, not counting battalion/company officers, staff, color guard, musicians, general guides, file closers and 1st Sergeants, The target size of companies within each battalion shall be an aggregate of 35 troops. When an existing battalion fields less than 100 rank and file for an event on the 5 Year Plan, the battalion must collapse, to fall in with and serve under another affiliated battalion for that event,

3. Galvanizing. All affiliated battalions shall be able and willing to galvanize on a fair and equitable basis when necessary to achieve a Federal force for scenarios of realistic and historically correct proportions.

4. Officer's Schools/Camps of Instruction. The Infantry Branch shall implement an officer's development program for the improvement of senior and junior officers as well as camps of instruction for improvement of the rank and file. Battalion camps of instructions shall be offered throughout the region for the overall improvement of the infantry branch. To facilitate an acceptable level of consistency and quality in the conduct of these schools, guidebooks shall be written and made available to affiliated members. All affiliated battalions shall participate in or otherwise host schools to improve the military skills of their officers and men.

5. Divisional Support and Commitment to the 5 Year Plan of Events. All affiliated battalions will help establish, host, and provide maximum attendance troop strengths to the designated Divisional events. Specifically, there must be a willingness to support the large scale events so designated in the 5 Year Plan. Additionally, affiliated battalions shall respect and support the Federal affiliations established by the 1st Confederate Division.

E. Infantry Participation at Division Events. The Infantry Branch at Divisional events shall consist only of affiliated brigades/battalions of the 1st Confederate Division; and tactical brigades shall be commanded only by affiliated senior officers of the 1st Confederate Division. The following guidelines shall govern the participation of non affiliated infantry units at 1st Confederate Division events:

1. Individual Reenactment Groups. Non affiliated units, herein referred to as UOs, shall be recruited by or otherwise assigned to infantry battalions, and may attend 1st Confederate Division events; however, they must be willing to comply all guidelines as do affiliated units of the Infantry Branch. The Division Commander will coordinate the assignment of UO units not otherwise arranged by the brigade/battalion commanders.

2. Infantry Battalions. Unaffiliated battalions organizations shall not participate as separate brigades/battalions at Divisional events until they demonstrate a willingness to comply with the Infantry Branch guidelines and have joined the 1st Confederate Division. The process for acceptance into the Division and participation at Divisional events is as follows:

(a) Submit a request to the Division/Infantry Branch Commander, in writing, which states a commitment to comply with the Bylaws and guidelines of this Division and the Infantry Branch. The request will include a complete roster of the battalion staff and all affiliated units, with full mailing addresses, area codes and phone numbers of unit commanders; and the troop strength of each unit.

(b) The candidate battalion organization must demonstrate the ability to field a minimum of 100 rank and file by attending a North/South Alliance event; and, their willingness to cooperate shall be demonstrated by attending that event as part of, and under the command of, an existing affiliated battalion. The definition of 100 rank and file means that there are at least 100 armed "shooters" in the front and rear ranks of the candidate organization, not counting battalion/company officers, staff, color guard, musicians, general guides, file closers and lot Sergeants, Experience has proven that a pre-registration of 175 aggregate is necessary to produce the minimum 100 rank and file. Notwithstanding the satisfactory registration of 175 or more aggregate, membership can only be achieved by producing the minimum 100 rank and file on the field.

(c) Candidate battalion organizations shall demonstrate their commitment to galvanize at the event where their qualifications for membership are being evaluated. If scenarios do not provide the opportunity to do so, the Infantry Branch brigade/battalion commanders must be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that the organization in question has the ability to do so.

(d) Having successfully demonstrated compliance with 1st Confederate Division guidelines at a Divisional event where their qualifications for membership were evaluated, the prospective battalion shall be voted upon by the affiliated brigade/battalion commanders of the Infantry Branch. This normally takes place at the North/South Alliance annual meeting.

3. Infantry Brigades. There shall be no unaffiliated brigade organizations admitted into the Division nor permitted to participate as a separate brigade at 1st Confederate Division events. Infantry brigades are formed exclusively by affiliated battalions from within the Division.

ARTICLE VIII - CHANGES TO EX1STING AFFILIATIONS

A. It is recognized that established military affiliations may change over time due to political issues, the collapse of an organizational structure, or other factors that no longer facilitate the ex1sting structure. Changes must be managed only to the extent that the Integrity of the Infantry Branch structure to meet the Purpose, Objectives and goals are preserved. The following standards shall be applied to all realignments within the Infantry Branch,

1. Infantry Companies. Units are free to change their battalion affiliation when caused to do so by their own initiative. As a courtesy these units shall notify their original battalion commander of their decision to do so. Actions by any commander, his staff, or any member of his affiliated units to directly or indirectly coerce, solicit, invite, or otherwise cause affiliated units of other military organizations within the Divisional structure to leave their current affiliation and join another are strictly prohibited.

2. Infantry Battalions. An initiative by units within an affiliated battalion to form a separate battalion shall be conducted above board and with full disclosure between all parties. Actions by any commander, his staff, or any member of his affiliated units to directly or indirectly coerce, solicit, invite, or otherwise cause affiliated units of other affiliated battalions to leave their current affiliation and join another are strictly prohibited. Affiliated units shall make every effort to maintain their allegiance to their respective battalion and resolve differences, If resolution is not possible, the applicable units shall jointly forward a request to the Infantry Branch Commander, in writing, clearly stating the circumstances and reasons for the desired realignment. This must include the identification of their desired choice of battalion affiliation in order that the impact of such a change can be fully evaluated. Upon review and evaluation, the infantry brigade/battalion commanders may authorize the realignment by a simple majority vote.

B. The processes herein described do not preclude realignments and are not intended to restrict the will of affiliated units to make changes when changes are necessary. However, there must be an informed decision made through a disciplined process to manage change; and one that serves the best interests of the Division. These are sensitive matters; and as such require the utmost spirit of cooperation and camaraderie by all affiliated units. Compromise is a necessity to preserve the integrity of the Division.

ARTICLE IX - RULES OF CONDUCT

A. Cause for a commander or affiliated unit's dismissal from the 1st Confederate Division Infantry Branch shall include, but not be limited to the following actions:

1. Failure to fully support and comply with the provisions of these Bylaws or General Orders.
2. Failure to fully support and field their organization at the designated annual event on the North/South Alliance 5 Year Plan of Events.
3. Actions by any commander, his staff, or any member of his affiliated units to directly or indirectly coerce, solicit, invite, or otherwise cause affiliated units of other military organizations within the Divisional infantry structure to leave their current affiliation and join another.
4. Actions that tend to embarrass or discredit the Division or any affiliated unit thereof.

B. The following procedures shall govern the action to dismiss a commander or affiliated unit from the Divisional infantry Branch:

1. Any commander or affiliated unit charged with a violation of the Rules of Conduct shall be ordered by the Branch Commander to appear before the brigade/battalion commanders to hear the charges and offer a defense.

2. The Infantry brigade/battalion commanders shall vote on dismissal. A simple majority vote for dismissal will be sufficient to expel the commander or affiliated unit from the Divisional Infantry Branch. The Branch Commander shall vote only in the event of a tie vote.

C. If by circumstances the fielded troop strength of existing battalions diminishes, a process for the assessment of the continued recognition of the battalion is necessary. When an existing battalion fields less than 100 rank and file for an event on the 5 Year Plan, the Division or Infantry Branch Commander shall notify the battalion commander, in writing, of the circumstances and call for a "Show Cause" response as to why the battalion in question should not be dismissed from the rolls of affiliated battalions in the Division. The battalion in question shall provide a written response explaining the circumstances which caused its numbers to fall below the standard and its case for remaining on the rolls. If by circumstances the fielded troop strength of an affiliated fixed brigade is less than two full battalions, the "Show Cause" process applies except the brigade commander in question shall provide a written response explaining the circumstances which caused its number to fall below the brigade standard and its case for remaining recognized as a fixed brigade. Presented with these facts, the Infantry brigade/battalion commanders shall vote on the question of retaining or rescinding the affiliation of the battalion or recognition of a fixed brigade. A simple majority vote shall decide the matter.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

A. These Bylaws may be revised or amended by a two thirds vote at any meeting of the Brigade and Battalion Commanders. Proposed revisions shall be submitted to the Branch Commander at least 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting at which they are intended to be voted upon.

B. Any policies affecting the Infantry Branch not otherwise addressed in these Bylaws which are approved by vote of the Executive Council, Board of Directors, or Brigade/Battalion Commanders shall be attached to these Bylaws as General Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS

General Order No. 1, August 10, 1996, Memphis, TN. Whereas the availability of wagon assets is deemed an essential element in fielding the Infantry Branch at Divisional events, the cost associated with procuring wagons, when not otherwise provided for as a reimbursable expense in the event budget, shall be shared equally between the affiliated battalions.