



## *Bylaws of the Mississippi Society Order of the Confederate Rose*



### **Article I: Name, Nature, and Purpose**

**Section 1: Name** - The name of this organization shall be: The Mississippi Society, Order of the Confederate Rose.

**Section 2: Nature** - This organization shall always be an auxiliary to the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and to the local Camps thereof. If the local SCV Camp feels, any aid is unnecessary, an OCR chapter may exist in order to provide additional activities that do not interfere with the local SCV camp. This organization shall be non-profit, non-racial, non-political, and non-sectarian.

**Section 3: Purpose** - The purpose of this organization shall be to assist Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans in its historical, educational, benevolent, and social functions when needed. Our goal is to aid and further the cause of the Mississippi Division, SCV and support the Mississippi Division, SCV in all its endeavors including but not limited to the preservation of all Confederate symbols.

### **Article II: Membership**

**Section 1: Membership Qualifications** - Any woman or child of the age of twelve who is recommended by a current member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and referred by a current member of this organization is eligible to become an active member of this organization, with full voting and other privileges.

**Section 2: Voting** - Each active member shall be entitled to one vote in the affairs of the organization.

**Section 3: Duration of Membership** - Membership in this organization may be terminated by voluntary written withdrawal or by non-payment of annual dues. Both regular and life membership are transferable within the Society.

**Section 4: Life Membership** - Life membership of \$100.00 (\$15.00 kept by the local Chapter) paid to the Mississippi Society, OCR, cannot be transferred from state to state or Society to Society unless approved by the Mississippi Society and the state or Society the member wishes to be transferred. Local Chapters must still collect annual chapter dues from each Life Member in their Chapter.

**Section 5: Suspension and Expulsion** - Suspension and expulsion should be handled by local Chapters. But, if the need arises, a written grievance can be sent to the Executive Committee, which will consider the matter after giving the accused party fifteen days to reply to the charges. The Executive Committee will then decide on the matter, and a two-thirds majority is required for either suspension or expulsion. Suspension or expulsion will occur when the actions are not within the guidelines and objectives of the Mississippi Society, OCR.

**Section 6 – Transfers** - Any member in good standing requesting membership transfer from one Chapter to another may do so through request of their home Chapter's President, who will fill out a transfer form and submit said transfer form to the members new chapter. The members new Chapter's President will endorse said transfer form and send a copy to the previous Chapter and the State President.

### **Article III: Finances**

**Section 1: Dues and Fiscal Year** - The annual dues required for membership in the organization shall be determined by majority vote of the membership and may vary from year to year. The fiscal year will run from August 1 to July 31.

**Section 2: Delinquent Dues** – For a member, and a Chapter, to be in good standing with this organization, all dues must be paid by September 30 of each year to the State Secretary/Treasurer. Any dues sent after September 30 will incur a \$2.00 late fee for each member. All Chapters will submit with their payment of membership dues a roster indicating all members in good standing and lifetime members.

**Section 3: Convention Money** - This Society is required to contribute \$100.00 each year to the hosting Society for General Convention expenses (refers to Article IV in the Articles of Confederation of the Order of the Confederate Rose as established at 1997 SCV General Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.) The Society will also contribute funds; amount set by the Executive Committee, for State Convention expenses.

### **Article IV: Meetings**

**Section 1: Annual Meetings** - There shall be an annual meeting of the organization in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Mississippi Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans for the receiving of reports and the transacting of business. This meeting shall be open to all active members.

**Section 2: Quorum** - Five percent of the active members of the organization when present shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 3: Order of Business** - The order of business at the annual meeting shall be as follows; after the salute to the U.S. Flag, the Confederate Flag, and the State Flag.

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting
- 3) Receiving of communications
- 4) Reports of officers
- 5) Reports of committees
- 6) Unfinished business
- 7) New Business
- 8) Election of committees
- 9) Adjournment

The order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the members present. The usual parliamentary rules as laid down in the current version of ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER shall govern.

**Section 4: Special Meetings** - Special meetings of the organization may be called at anytime by the President or in her absence by the Vice-President or by written request of not less than five percent of the active members. Ten days' notice of any special meeting must be given to members, when possible, no less than two days' at any given time.

### **Article V: Officers**

**Section 1: Appointments** - The President and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected officers by the Mississippi Society. The exiting President shall step down and be the Vice President.

**Section 2: Terms - The officers shall serve two year two year terms, and they are eligible to serve consecutive two-year terms. Vacancies may be filled for the balance of the term by appointment with the approval of the Executive Committee.**

**Section 3: Description and Duties of Mississippi Society Officers**

- 1. President – shall be the chief officer of this organization and shall conduct the meetings of this organization. The President shall be a member EX OFFICIO (by nature of office) of all committees. The President shall perform all duties necessary and those duties given by the bylaws, as chief officer of the organization.**
- 2. Vice-President – shall perform all the duties of the President during her absence. The Vice-President shall be responsible for issuing and maintaining a complete record of all new Chapters chartered and any other duties requested or assigned by the President.**
- 3. Secretary/Treasurer –shall keep/give a report at the annual meeting, Executive Committee meetings, special meetings, or when called for by the President. The Secretary/Treasurer will keep an accurate account of the number of chapters and a list of members and their status in the Society. The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and expended for the use of the organization and shall give an up to date report at the annual meetings or when called upon by the President.**
- 4. Other offices that include Editor of the Society newsletter, Chaplain, Color Bearer and Webmaster are appointed by the President to carry out specific duties when needed**

**Article VI: Committees**

**Section 1: Executive Committee**

- A. Membership - The Executive Committee shall be a standing committee made up of the Society Executive officers and two appointees of the President. The Committee shall be chaired by the President, or in her absence, the Vice-President.**
- B. Duties - The Executive Committee shall execute the policies and decisions of the organization, direct the disbursements of funds, and formulate the goals and objectives of the organization.**
- C. Mail Votes - The Executive Committee may submit any matter to the membership, in writing, by U.S. mail, for vote and decision, and the question shall be determined by a majority of the votes received by mail within four weeks after such submission.**
- D. Meetings - The Executive Committee shall have a regular meeting at the time and place of the annual meeting (convention) and shall report to the membership on its activities. The Committee shall meet on the demand of the President or, in her absence, the Vice-President or on the demand of the majority of the committee members.**

**Section 2: Ad Hoc Committee - Ad Hoc Committees (specific purpose committee) shall be comprised of one representative from each active Chapter. The Society President shall appoint representatives.**

**Section 3: Standing Committees - The Executive Committee shall form any standing committees that are necessary to execute the policies and decisions of the organization.**

**Article VII: Liabilities**

Nothing herein shall constitute members of the organization as partners of any other organization, for any purpose. No member, officer, or employee shall be liable for the act of any member, officer, agent, or employee of this organization. No member, officer, agent, or employee shall be liable for her acts or failure to act under these by-laws, except acts of omission arising out of the willful misfeasance of a stated duty.

### **Article VIII: Insignia and Publications**

**Section 1: Insignia** - The Executive Committee may adopt an insignia, badges, and flags for the organization as deemed desirable by the Committee.

**Section 2: Publications** - the Executive Committee shall vote on the title of the Society bulletin:

- A. The editor shall be appointed by the Society President and to serve at the pleasure of the Society President.
- B. All matters concerning the timeliness of publication and editorial content shall be at the discretion of the Society President and the Editor.
- C. Contents may be edited without notice.
- D. All printing, mailing, and electronic mailing shall be at the expense of the Society. One issue shall be mailed/emailed out to each Chapter whereas it is the duty of each Chapter President to make copies and issue out the publication to all Chapter members that are in good standing
- E. The Executive Committee may authorize additional publications as may be deemed beneficial to the Society.
- F. The Society mailing list shall not, under any circumstances, be provided to anyone without written approval from the Executive Committee.
- G. The Society will create a website to enhance communication amongst the Chapters. Said web site will be at the expense of the Society. Each Chapter will have access to said web site to create their own individual web page.

### **Article IX: Chapter Organization**

The organizing of any Order of the Confederate Rose Chapter of the Mississippi Society must go by the following rules to be officially a part of the Society:

- A. To form a local chapter 7 members are required and sponsored by a local SCV Camp
- B. Applications are required to have a signature from an OCR member and an SCV member on the application to be accepted
- C. All Chapters must abide by the Mississippi Society Bylaws
- D. Chapter Officers must be elected and a Chapter name chosen before applying for a charter
- E. Dues must be paid to the State Society
- F. Copies of all applications of new members are to accompany all dues and sent to the State Society Secretary/Treasurer.

### **Article X: Dissolution**

**Section 1.** A Chapter may be dissolved by a vote of two-thirds of the active membership. In case of dissolution, the property and funds of the Chapter shall be surrendered to State Society Secretary/Treasurer.

**Section 2.** The Society may be dissolved by a vote of two-thirds of the active membership. In case of dissolution, the property of the Society shall be distributed to Beauvoir, The Jefferson Davis Shrine.

## **Article XI: The Lucille Latimer Memorial Scholarship Fund**

### **Section 1: Requirements:**

- 1. Applicant must be a member (or descendent of a member, male or female) of the Mississippi Society Order of the Confederate Rose.**
- 2. The applicant must be a High School graduate with a 3.0 Grade Point Average, or a GED Certificate and enrolled in an accredited college or university, pursuing a course of studies leading to receiving an Academic Degree. The applicant must have scored at least 18 on ACT Examination.**
- 3. The applicant must have a letter of recommendation by a member (other than a relative) of the Mississippi Society Order of the Confederate Rose.**
- 4. The applicant must provide a transcript of high school records verifying their graduation and G.P.A. or a copy of the GED Certificate and Scoring papers and a letter verifying their enrollment to an accredited College or University.**
- 5. The applicant must provide one letter of recommendation from any of the following: Counselor, Teachers, or an individual in an administrative level of their School.**
- 6. The applicant must attach to the application a typewritten essay of at least 250 words outlining why the scholarship is desired, what they expect to accomplish with their course of studies, and what their goal in life is.**
- 7. The applicant must attach a recent photo of themselves to the application for the records of the Society.**
- 8. The amount of the scholarship fund will be determined by the Executive Committee and based upon available funds at hand and paid for two (2) consecutive semesters if grade point average remains above a C. The scholarship will be awarded only once to any individual.**
- 9. All applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee of the Mississippi Society Order of the Confederate Rose. The decision of the Executive Committee will be final.**
- 10. The awarded recipient must send a thank you note to the Latimer Family and a copy of the note sent to the President of the Society before the Second Semester's funds will be awarded.**

**Section 2: Financing the Scholarship – Said scholarship fund will be financed through the commitment of each Chapter donating \$50.00 a year. If a Chapter is unable to send \$50.00, a donation of \$25.00 will be excepted if a letter is sent to the executive committee explaining why the Chapter is unable to send the full amount. Scholarship donations need to be received no later than May 15<sup>th</sup> of the fiscal year. Said funds will be kept in a savings account to draw interest.**

## **Article XII: Amendments**

**These bylaws may be amended, repealed, altered, in whole or part by a majority vote at any duly organized meeting of the State Society.**

## **Article XIII: Articles of Confederation**

**The Articles of Confederation are hereby made an attachment to this document and being understood that this is not the original Articles of Confederation. These Articles were approved and signed by all current Societies at the SCV General Convention held at Nashville, Tennessee in 1996. The original document with signatures is maintained by the Alabama Headquarters Society.**