

# **BY-LAWS**

OF

## **THE STARFORT CHAPTER**

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

(MOAA)

**BY-LAWS OF THE STAR FORT CHAPTER  
OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

**Article I – Name**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be **The STAR FORT Chapter, MOAA**, hereinafter referred to as the chapter.

**Article II – Purposes**

**Section 1.** To the extent feasible, the purposes of the chapter shall be:

To promote the purposes and objectives of The Military Officers Association of America.

To foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services.

To protect the rights and interests of personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors.

To serve the community and the nation.

**Article III – Status**

**Section 1.** The chapter shall be a nonprofit organization operated exclusively for the purposes specified in Article 1(5-24), above.

**Section 2.** Officers, directors, and appointive officials shall not receive any stated compensation for their services, but the board of directors may authorize reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

**Section 3.** Nothing herein shall constitute members of the chapter as partners for any purpose. No member, officer, or agent of the chapter shall be liable for the acts or failures to act on the part of any other member, officer, or agent. Nor shall any member, officer, or agent be liable for his acts or failures to act under these by-laws, excepting only acts or failures to act arising out of his willful misfeasance.

**Section 4.** The chapter shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified in Article II, above, and no part of said funds shall inure, or be distributed, to members.

**Section 5.** In the event of dissolution of the chapter, and after the discharge of all of its liabilities, the remaining assets shall be given to a nonprofit organization whose purpose and objectives are similar to those of the chapter, such organization to be designated by a majority vote of the board of directors.

## Article IV – Membership

**Section 1.** The membership of the chapter shall be composed of:

- (a) Men and women who are or have been commissioned or warrant officers of the eight U.S. uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service and Space Force and of the reserve/guard or other components of these services. (03/23)
  - If any current member, in good standing, is called to active duty, normally greater than 30 days, any membership dues will be waived for the duration of this active-duty tour or the remainder of the calendar year, whichever is longer. During this active-duty tour, the member will retain active membership status and will be entitled to all benefits of this organization including but not limited to bimonthly newsletters. Upon completion of an active duty assignment, members will be contacted by the Membership Director to ascertain their desire to continue their membership in the organization.
- (b) Widows and widowers of any deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership.

**Section 2.** Subject to the provisions of Section 1, above, membership shall be of two classes:

- Regular members: Those eligible for membership, as prescribed in Section 1(a) of this Article, who apply for the membership and pay the prescribed annual dues.
- Surviving Spouse (5-24) members: Widows and widowers of deceased members or of any deceased individual who would have been eligible for membership. Surviving Spouse (5-24) members are not required to pay annual dues.

**Section 3.** The Star Fort Chapter (MOAA) can, at its discretion and with a concordance of a majority of the Board of Directors, confer honorary status on any individual or organization which they so deem as appropriate. Honorary membership status will normally be reserved for individuals or organizations which support the ideals and objectives of all military services. This support should be exemplary and “above and beyond” which is normally expected. Honorary members may, at their discretion, attend all meetings and receive the official newsletter of the Star Fort Chapter. Honorary membership shall not convey any voting rights and shall not entail any requirements for payment of dues. [Nov 21, 2013]

**Section 4.** Applications for Regular or Surviving Spouse (5-24) membership shall be submitted in writing to the board of directors. Recommendations for honorary membership shall be submitted in writing to the board of directors by regular and/or Surviving Spouse (5-24) members. The board of directors shall be empowered to accept or reject any application or recommendation for membership.

**Section 5.** The board of directors may drop any member for good and sufficient cause, after he/she has been given an opportunity to be heard.

**Section 6.** Regular and Surviving Spouse (5-24) members are encouraged, but not required, to hold and maintain membership in the Military Officers Association of America.

## Article V - Voting

**Section 1.** Except as otherwise provided in these by-laws, all questions coming before the membership shall be decided by a majority vote.

**Section 2.** Only regular members and Surviving Spouses (5-24) in good standing, actually present at the meeting of the chapter, shall be entitled to vote.

**Section 3.** Proxy voting shall not be permitted at any meeting of the chapter.

## Article VI - Dues

**Section 1.** The annual dues for each member, for the next calendar year, shall be determined by the regular membership at the annual meeting, after receiving the board of directors' recommendation on the matter.

**Section 2.** The annual dues for a calendar year shall become due on 1 January of that year.

**Section 3.** Any member who fails to pay his/her dues within 60 days from the time they become due shall be notified by the secretary of his/her delinquency. If the member fails to make payment within the next 60 days, the board of directors, without further notice and without hearing, place him/her in an inactive status defined as ineligible to receive the chapter newsletter or be notified of chapter events.  
{11/18}

**Section 4.** Any member who has been dropped for nonpayment of dues may be reinstated upon reapplication for membership and payment of annual dues for the current year.

## Article VII - Meetings

**Section 1.** There shall be an annual meeting of the chapter during the month of November for the receipt of annual reports, the determination of annual dues for the next calendar year, the election of officers and directors, and the transaction of other business. Notice of the meeting shall be mailed/mailed to each member at his/her last recorded, address at least 15 days in advance. {11/18}

**Section 2.** Regular meetings of the chapter shall be held during the months of January, March, July, May, September, and November unless otherwise decided by the board of directors. Notice of each such meeting shall be mailed to each member at his/her last recorded address at least 15 days in advance.

**Section 3.** Special meetings of the chapter may be called by the president. Notice of any special meetings shall be mailed to each member at his/her last recorded address at least 15 days in advance, with information as to the subject or subjects to be considered.

**Section 4.** Ten percent of the entire membership possessing voting rights shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the chapter.

**Section 5.** The rules contained in the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws or any special rules of order the chapter may adopt.

## Article VIII - Board of Directors

**Section 1.** The board of directors shall be composed of the elective officers (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer), the immediate past president and five elective directors, to include Surviving Spouse liaison. {5-24}

**Section 2.** The elective directors shall be elected by the membership at the annual meeting. Each elective director shall take office at the first regular or special meeting in the calendar year following his/her election and shall be elected for a term of two years, which can be extended by the elective officers for an additional two years.

**Section 3.** The board of directors shall have supervision, control, and direction of the affairs of the chapter, shall determine its policies or changes therein within the limits of the by-laws, shall actively prosecute the purposes and shall have discretion in the disbursement of its funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as may be deemed advisable and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents as it may consider necessary.

**Section 4.** The board of directors shall not be authorized to adopt resolutions or to establish positions in the name of the chapter.

**Section 5.** The board shall meet upon call of the president at such times and places as he/she may designate and shall be called to meet upon demand of a majority of its members. Notice of each meeting of the board of directors will be mailed to each member of the board at his/her last recorded address at least 10 days in advance.

**Section 6.** A majority of the entire board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board.

**Section 7.** All questions coming before the board shall be decided by majority vote, with each member of the board actually present being entitled to one vote. Proxy voting shall not be permitted.

## Article IX - Officers

**Section 1.** The elective officers shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer, each of whom shall be a regular member or by an Surviving Spouse(5-24)\_member of the chapter. At the discretion of the President and with the approval of the Board, up to two of these positions maybe filled by the spouse of a regular member.

**Section 2.** The elective officers shall be elected by the membership at the annual meeting. Each elective officer shall take office at the first regular meeting or special meeting in the calendar year following his/her election and shall serve for a term of two years and until his/her successor is duly elected and installed. [11/10]

**Section 3.** No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive two-year terms as president.

**Section 4.** A vacancy in the office of the president shall be filled automatically by the vice president. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled as the board of directors may decide.

**Section 5.** The president shall be the chief executive officer of the chapter, shall preside at all meetings of the chapter and of the board of directors, and shall be a member ex officio, with right to vote, of all committees except the nomination committee. He/she shall also, at the annual meeting and at such other times as he/she may deem proper, communicate to the chapter or to the board of directors information or proposals which in his/her opinion would help in achieving the purposes of the chapter. Further, he/she shall perform such other duties as are necessarily incident to the office of the president.

**Section 6.** In the event of the president's temporary disability or absence, the vicepresident shall perform the duties of the president. The vice president shall perform such other duties as the president may assign.

**Section 7.** The secretary shall provide timely written notification of all meetings of the chapter and of the board of directors and shall maintain a record of the proceedings. He/she shall maintain the membership records. He/she shall prepare such correspondence as may be required and shall maintain the chapter's correspondence files. He/she shall safeguard all important records and documents and valuable equipment belonging to the chapter. Further, he/she shall perform such other duties as are commensurate with his/her office or as may be assigned to him/her by the board of directors or the president.

**Section 8.** The treasurer shall maintain a record of all sums received and expended by the chapter and shall make such disbursements as are authorized by the chapter or the board of directors. He/she shall deposit all sums received in a financial institution approved by the board of directors, and funds may be drawn therefrom only upon the signature of the treasurer. He/she shall make a financial report at the annual meeting or when called upon by the president. The funds, books, and vouchers in his/her hands shall at all times be subject to inspection and verification by the board of directors.

### **Article X - Committees**

**Section 1.** The president, subject to the approval of the board of directors, shall annually appoint such standing and special committees as may be required by the bylaws or as he/she may find advisable.

**Section 2.** The standing committees of the chapter shall include a membership committee, a program committee, a legislative committee, a chapter service committee, a public relations committee and a personal affairs committee.

**Section 3.** At least 60 days before the annual meeting, the board of directors shall appoint a nominating committee of regular members, not currently holding elective office, to nominate candidates for the elective offices. The committee shall notify the secretary, in writing, at least 30 days before the annual meeting, of its proposed slate of elective officers and directors for the next calendar year, and the secretary shall mail a copy thereof to each regular and auxiliary member at his/her last recorded address at least twenty days before the annual meeting.

### **Article XI - Amendments**

**Section 1.** These bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds vote at any duly organized meeting of the chapter, provided that a copy of any, amendment proposed for consideration has been mailed to each regular and auxiliary member at his/her last recorded address at least 15 days before the meeting.

### **Article XII– The Flag**

**Section 1.** The American flag shall be displayed and honored at all meetings of the chapter.

Effective date of the by-laws: May 2024