**Mississippi Society, Order of Confederate Rose By-Laws proposed amendments (June 9, 2018)**

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

Section1: 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 **female** 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**. A female child under 12 may join and be called a Rosebud, pay the ten dollar ($10.00) Chapter dues and have no voting rights.**

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 from to the member’s new chapter. The member’s new Chapter President will endorse said transfer form and send a copy to the previous Chapter and the State President and the State Secretary/Treasurer.

**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 January 1 to December 31.

Section 2: Delinquent Dues – For a member, and a Chapter, to be in good standing with this organization, **allowed to vote, attend any state wide meeting or meetings**, **or hold office** all dues must be paid by January 1 of each year to the State Secretary/Treasurer. Any dues sent after February 1 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 $150.00 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; in the amount of $150.00 for State Convention expenses. The State President must attend the General Convention. If State President cannot attend then the Vice-President must attend in her place or if Vice-President cannot attend then Secretary/Treasurer must attend. If for some reason none of the officers can attend then the Executive Committee will elect someone to represent the Society. The Society will contribute funds in the amount of $ 100.00 to the General Convention representative for 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. **There will be Quarterly Division Meetings during the year. One located in the Southern part of State and one in Northern part of the State, the other to be decided, three Chapters will volunteer at the State Annual Meeting to host these events and set the date, time and place.**

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) Elections (if during election year) and election of committees if necessary.**

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 any time 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, **Vice-President** and Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected officers by the Mississippi Society.

Section 2: Terms – **The President and Vice-President** shall serve **a two year term**, and they are eligible to serve **two consecutive two-year terms only. However if unopposed they can continue to serve.**  Vacancies may be filled for the balance of the term by appointment with the approval of the Executive Committee. **The Secretary/ Treasurer may serve up to a ten year term. (because of the moving or changing of bank accounts. )The members can vote to extend or hold an election for a new Secretary/Treasurer after this period of time. At the time a new Secretery/Treasurer is elected there will be an audit. After the President’s term is up and a new President is elected the Past President will hold the office of President Pro Tem.**

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, **Divisions meetings,** or when called upon by the President **or Executive Committee**.

**4. President Pro Tem. Honorary position for past President - Adviser to newly elected President as needed, serves on all committees, as a non voting member of committee unless in case of a tie then they will vote, and acts as a Liaison between Chapters.**

5. Other offices that include Editor of the Society newsletter, Chaplain, Color Bearer**, Parliamentarian** 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 **one member from each Chapter (elected by the chapter.)** The Committee shall be chaired by the President, or in her absence, the Vice-President, **or in her absence the Secretary/Treasurer.**

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, or email 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 at the Quarterly Division meetings** 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 **Chapters** shall **elect** 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.

**Section 4: Awards Committee: Shall consist of one representative from each Chapter. The Chairman will be elected by the Committee. The committee will accept nominations from each Chapter for the yearly awards presented at the Annual Convention. The Committee will be responsible for Naming, obtaining and presenting the awards.**

**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: 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. **All changes become effective immediately.**

Article XII: 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.

**Order of Confederate Rose Articles of Confederation**

Article I: Purpose - The main purpose of the Order of Confederate Rose is to support the Sons of Confederate Veterans. This will always be the main purpose. Additional activities are developed only when needed or when the SCV Camp does desire the aid of the OCR.

Article II: Insignia - A Confederation Insignia will have the name Order of Confederate Rose and the founding year. Each state can make a state insignia if desired.

Article III: Corporation - Order of Confederate Rose is an incorporated name used only by OCR members.

Article IV: Convention - The State Society must host the National Convention when the Convention is in its state. At this time the state society has complete charge of OCR activities. Each State Society must give a report at this Convention.

Article V: Officers - There will never be a national executive board or national officers.

Article VI: By-Laws and Constitution - State (Society) by-laws and constitution cannot contradict the Articles of Confederation.

Article VII: Rules of Organization - Each Chapter and Society formed must go by the Rules of the Organization set up by the founding Chapter of the OCR.

Article VIII: Signatures - Any Society that fails to sign the Articles of Confederation cannot use the name of Order of Confederate Rose.

Article IX: Life Membership - Life memberships cannot be transferred from state to state or society to society unless approved by both societies.

Article X: Separation - Each Society forms and rules a separate society and has a separate tax number but must abide by the above Articles of Confederation.

Article XI: 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. **All Changes voted on in any meeting are to be added to or changed in the bylaws immediately.**

All changes become effective immediately.