



# PERMANENT MEMBERSHIP PLAN

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DETACHMENT OF COLORADO

ADOPTED 1984

REVISED 2006

REVISED 2009

REVISED 2021

REVISED JULY 2, 2022

1. Permanent Membership shall be issued by Detachment Headquarters only and supervised by a Permanent Membership Committee. The committee shall consist of at least five (5) voting members. The Detachment Adjutant, Detachment Finance Officer, and Detachment Membership Chairman are automatic appointments. Detachment Advisors to the Sons of The American Legion shall be ex-officio members of the committee without a vote. The Detachment Commander shall appoint the remaining two or more committee members. The committee shall elect amongst themselves a committee chairman.
2. Permanent Membership shall only be sold through permanently chartered Squadrons of the Detachment of Colorado. No memberships will be sold directly to individuals.
3. To qualify for Permanent Membership, a member must be in good standing with his Squadron, paid current Detachment and National dues, and possess a Sons of The American Legion membership number at the time his enrollment is issued.

4. Squadrons will remit to Detachment the entire amount for Permanent Membership, payable to the Detachment of Colorado Permanent Membership Plan, according to the following formula  $[(\text{Squadron dues} \times 18.5) + \$40.00 = \text{Total Amount Due}]$ . For calculation purposes, Squadron dues must include the current per capita National and Detachment dues. Squadron dues discounts shall not be credited. A receipt for the application and payment shall be mailed to both the member and Squadron.
5. All applications will be distributed in triplicate. Upon completion and signing, the original is filed at Detachment Headquarters, the duplicate returned to the Squadron, and the triplicate mailed to the Permanent Member.
6. Detachment Headquarters will issue the regulation membership card at the beginning of each year, or at a date established by the committee.
7. Annual Squadron dues exceeding Detachment and National per capita shall be credited to the Squadron at the beginning of each membership year, or on a date established by the committee. Squadrons must submit a written request to the Detachment Adjutant prior to October 1st for reimbursement for the upcoming calendar/membership year. This allows for the Detachment to budget for that membership year and account for the projected expenditure. This yearly credit shall remain unchanged for the life of the Permanent Member despite changes in dues at the National, Detachment or Squadron level.
8. No refunds shall be made upon members death, even when death occurs one day after the purchase of the Permanent Membership Plan.
9. Permanent Member transfer requests to another Squadron shall be made in writing through the Detachment Adjutant to the Permanent Membership Committee. A signed Member Data Form by the member and the gaining Squadron shall serve as written notice.

A. A transfer fee of \$5.00 shall be paid to the Detachment of Colorado Permanent Membership Plan.

B. Upon approval of transfer, only the amount of dues authorized under the original contract will be paid to the new Squadron and/or Detachment (when applicable). The gaining Squadron and/or Detachment will not be entitled to any reimbursement until the transferring member is reported on the National Membership Roster. Any difference shall be the Squadron's and/or Permanent Member's responsibility. No refunds will be made if the dues at time of transfer are lower. The losing Squadron may request reimbursement for the following membership years the transferring member appears on their National Membership Roster. Authorization for reimbursement of Permanent Membership funds to a

gaining Detachment will depend upon reaching a written agreement with the gaining Detachment that does not create an additional or unreasonable financial obligation to the Detachment of Colorado. The Detachment of Colorado's obligation shall not exceed the original contract or the new amount, whichever is less.

C. A signed Member Data Form by the gaining Squadron will serve as acceptance of the Permanent Member. Gaining Squadrons will attach to the Member Data Form a notice the transfer is for a Permanent Member. The Detachment Adjutant will attach to the losing Squadron's copy of the Member Data Form that the transfer is for a Permanent Member.

D. Copies of transfer conditions shall be distributed to all parties involved.

10. A Squadron can vote to bestow an "Honorary" Permanent Membership. A Squadron granting an "Honorary" Permanent Membership follows either the same procedure as regular Permanent Memberships or the Squadron may choose to pay Detachment and National dues on an annual basis for the life of their "Honorary" membership.

11. The Permanent Membership Fund shall pay Permanent Membership expenses and per capita National, Detachment and Squadron dues. All funds will be placed in a special account(s) generating income/interest. Expenditures for any purpose other than the Detachment Permanent Membership Plan are prohibited until the committee declares a surplus. At that time, the committee may recommend a surplus expenditure to the next Detachment Convention for approval or rejection.

12. A special card and certificate shall be issued to all Permanent Members. The administrative fee shall cover expenses in processing and granting Permanent Membership certificates and cards. Permanent Membership cards may be presented at the Detachment Awards Banquet or Detachment Convention provided the Permanent Membership application is received thirty (30) days prior.

13. On or before October 31st, the Permanent Membership Committee shall authorize a budgetary amount for Permanent Membership expenses for the next budget year. At a minimum, the committee shall authorize a budget amount equal to current National dues plus one (1) dollar per Permanent Member. Expenditures over the authorized amounts are paid from Detachment general funds. Any surplus funds authorized for Permanent Membership shall be refunded to the Permanent Membership Fund account(s).

14. The Permanent Membership Committee cannot suspend the plan, its rules or conditions. The committee may authorize a moratorium until the next Detachment Convention. The Detachment Convention shall vote on all changes to the Detachment of Colorado Permanent Membership Plan. A simple majority adopts all changes.

15. Any conditions or circumstances not covered by these rules and plan or recommendations for changes to the plan shall be submitted to the Permanent Membership Committee in writing. The committee shall consider and recommend actions to the Detachment Convention. A simple majority vote adopts or rejects the committee recommendations.

16. If any section herein shall be determined, by proper authority, to be invalid, such determination shall not invalidate the remainder of the effected sections of this plan.