

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**OF THE COLONEL RICHARD BENNETT HUBBARD CHAPTER #261**  
**OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS:**  
**A SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS**  
**OF CONFEDERATE OFFICERS**

**AS ADOPTED IN a special meeting At Tyler, Texas, July 22, 2001**  
**and as amended by Amendment #1 at Meeting held**  
**at Tyler, Texas, January 29, 2011.**


  
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# CONSTITUTION

## PREAMBLE

*The War Between the States produced some of the most outstanding civil and military leaders in the history of mankind. To perpetuate the idealism that animated the Confederate Cause and to honor the courage, devotion and endurance of those who dedicated their lives and services during four years of devastating war, and who, throughout the dreadful decade of reconstruction, labored heroically for the restoration of self-government as the most precious heritage of the American Revolution, male descendants of the officers who honorably served in the Army, Navy and other commands of the Confederate States of America and male descendants of the elected and appointed officials of the Confederate Executive and Legislative branches of government unite to establish The Military Order of the Stars and Bars, a patriotic Society. This Preamble shall not be subject to amendment or change.*

## ARTICLE I - Name

**Section 1.** The name of this organization is the Colonel Richard Bennett Hubbard Chapter # 261 of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars (MOSB), hereafter referred to as "chapter."

**Section 2.** Headquarters will be in Tyler, Texas.

## ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

**Section 1.** In addition to upholding the principles set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the General Society of the MOSB, the functions of the Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter will be strictly historical and benevolent, non-political and non-sectarian. Each member will perform his full duty as a citizen according to his conscience and understanding.

**Section 2.** This chapter will operate within the General Society of the MOSB. This constitution and these bylaws will be an extension of those of the national and Texas societies, conflicting with neither.

**Section 3.** The freedom to express and exchange ideas is recognized as a privilege for which our forefathers gave their lives. However, the Hubbard Chapter shall be nonpartisan in general, not adopting any official political position. Nonetheless, the chapter may from time to time adopt an official position on an issue that affects the MOSB on any level--local, state, or national. Nothing in this constitution should be construed as to abridge the national constitution or prohibit the adoption or advocacy of positions relating to the general welfare and security of Texas or the United States. Neither does this constitution abridge or prohibit the right of the MOSB to adopt resolutions or petition the Executive and Legislative branches of the government, provided that there is no identification, specific or implied, with any political party.

## ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY

**Section 1.** Membership in the MOSB is offered to male descendants, lineal or collateral, of officers of the Confederate Army or Navy who served to the end of the war, who died either in prison or actual service, who were killed in battle, who were honorably retired or discharged, or who disbanded their units rather than surrender. Also eligible for membership are descendants of elected or appointed officials of the Confederate Executive or Legislative branches of the civil government. All members must be of good character and at least sixteen years of age.

**Section 2.** The term "collateral" is defined as a blood-relative whose relationship to an ancestor of the same generation in the applicant's direct line can be proved.

**Section 3.** Applications for membership shall be reviewed and approved by a majority vote of the elected officers before being processed and presented to the chapter at the next meeting.

**Section 4.** Upon approval by the General Society, the election of new members will be by an actual vote count either at a chapter meeting or by written or electronic ballot. Election requires an affirmative vote by three-fourths of the members responding.

## ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

**Section 1.** Amendments to this constitution may be offered at any chapter meeting; however, no action can be taken until the next regular meeting. A copy of a proposed amendment will be sent to each member at least thirty days prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be acted on. A vote of two-thirds of those present will be necessary for adoption.

## ARTICLE XI - MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

**Section 1.** The Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter of the MOSB is sole owner of all property rights relating to its membership roster.

**Section 2.** Maintaining the membership roster is the responsibility of the adjutant generally, though the commander can assign the responsibility to any other member.

**Section 3.** No use of the chapter roster will be allowed except for the following:

Distribution of the chapter newsletter  
Membership reports to the state and national organizations  
Any purpose authorized by the Executive Committee

### Amendment #1 - January 29, 2011

#### 1. ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND ELIGIBILITY

##### Section 3.

**Delete Section 3 in its entirety.** ~~Applicants must be members in good standing in the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV). Members of the MOSB must also be members of the SCV.~~

**Section 4. Renumber to Section 3.**

**Section 5. Renumber to Section 4.**

#### 2. ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS

##### Section 1. Eligibility:

To be eligible to serve as an officer of the Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter, either elected or appointed, a member must be a chapter member and be current with his dues ~~to both the MOSB and the SCV.~~ **Amended to read to the MOSB.**

##### *As Amended:*

To be eligible to serve as an officer of the Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter, either elected or appointed, a member must be a chapter member and be current with his dues to the MOSB.

**Rationale:** To conform to National Military Order of Stars and Bars Constitution.

Bylaws of  
the Colonel Richard Bennett Hubbard Chapter #261,  
of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars  
Tyler, Texas

## ARTICLE I - MEETINGS

**Section 1.** Meetings of the Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter will be held quarterly or more often as necessary. Time and location are to be determined by the commander and/or the Executive Committee. The members in attendance at a called meeting will constitute a quorum at any meeting in which business is transacted provided all members are notified of the meeting.

**Section 2.** Special meetings may be held in accordance with the provisions of Article VI, Section 3, of the chapter constitution.

**Section 3.** The following order of business will be observed in chapter meetings, as applicable:

- Call to order
- Invocation by Chaplain
- Salute to the Flags
- Reading of minutes of the last meeting; or having copies on the table for members to read and amend
- Induction of new members
- Election of officers
- Installation of officers
- Reports of officers
- Report of the Executive Committee
- Committee reports
- Readings of communications
- Motions and resolutions
- Unfinished business
- New business
- Program
- Benediction by chaplain
- Adjournment

## ARTICLE II - VOTE

**Section 1.** No member who is not in good standing as set forth in Article VIII of the constitution of this chapter shall be allowed to vote, to hold office, or have the privilege of the floor.

## ARTICLE III - APPEAL

**Section 1.** Any member may appeal a decision from the chair. The member may give the reasons for his appeal and the commander the reasons for his decision. After a vote by the members, the question is considered settled.

## ARTICLE IV - AD HOC AND STANDING COMMITTEES

**Section 1.** As directed by the commander, ad hoc and standing committees will make written reports and recommendations to the chapter.

## ARTICLE V - RULES

**Section 1.** The rules at meetings of the Chapter will be those set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

**Section 1.** Amendments to or suspension of these bylaws may be made at any chapter meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice of the proposed amendments has been given in the call of the meeting. No amendment will conflict with rules or regulations of the national society.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

### Section 1. Officers of the Hubbard Chapter shall be as follows:

Elected positions  
Commander  
Lieutenant Commander  
Adjutant  
Chaplain  
Appointed positions  
Color Sergeant  
Chancellor  
Genealogist

### Section 2. Duties of the Officers

- a. Commander: The commander will preside at all chapter meetings and preserve this constitution according to the rules established by parliamentary usage. He will appoint all committees except the Executive Committee, sign all official letters and documents, command the chapter in all functions, and serve ex-officio on all committees but the Nominating Committee.
- b. Lieutenant Commander: The lieutenant commander will act as the executive officer, preside at meetings in the absence of the commander, and assist the commander as directed. If the commander is absent or incapacitated, the lieutenant commander will assume the commander's responsibilities. In fulfilling the duties of the two offices, the lieutenant commander may seek help from chapter members.
- c. Adjutant: The adjutant will perform all secretarial duties, keeping a written record of the proceedings of each chapter meeting. At each meeting the adjutant will report on the actions of the previous meeting and, in addition, give a financial report explaining the collection and disbursement of funds. Too, he will prepare the annual report. Checks drawn on the chapter will be signed either by the commander or the adjutant.
- d. Chaplain: The chaplain will attend to the spiritual needs of the chapter and give the invocation and benediction at chapter meetings and functions.
- e. Chancellor: The chancellor, who must be an attorney licensed to practice law in Texas, will have charge of all legal matters. If requested to do so by the commander or any other chapter member, he will interpret this constitution. Subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, his legal opinion will be binding.
- f. Color Sergeant: The color sergeant will present all flags at all meetings, parades, and assemblies involving the chapter.
- g. Genealogist: The genealogist, who should be well versed in the location and accessibility of historical records, will assist prospective members in establishing their eligibility for membership.

## ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:

Commander, who will serve as chairman  
Lieutenant Commander  
Adjutant  
Chancellor  
All past commanders

### Section 2. The adjutant will record all actions of the committee and provide each member with a written account.

### Section 3. Should a vacancy occur among the chapter officers, the committee is authorized to appoint a replacement.

### Section 4. A majority of the committee will constitute a quorum.

### Section 5. Committee meetings will be held quarterly unless deferred by the commander. The time and place of the meetings will be as directed in the bylaws. Special meetings may be held upon call of the commander or on request of a majority of committee members. Ample notification will be given for any special meeting.

## **ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** Chapter meetings will be held quarterly or more often as necessary.

**Section 2.** Prior notice of quarterly meetings will be given by means of the chapter newsletter or by any other form of communication.

**Section 3.** Special meetings of the chapter may be held at any time at the call of the commander or the Executive Committee. Special meetings must be held upon written request of one-third of the chapter members. Notice must be given all members before scheduling any special meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS**

**Section 1.** Eligibility: To be eligible to serve as an officer of the Colonel Richard B. Hubbard Chapter, either elected or appointed, a member must be a chapter member and be current with his dues to the MOSB.

**Section 2.** Nominating Committee: The commander will appoint a Nominating Committee in the month of January, the committee consisting of not fewer than three immediate past commanders, if available. If past commanders are not available, the committee will comprise at least one past commander, the other two members being appointed by the Executive Committee. The committee shall nominate a slate of officers (Commander, Lieutenant Commander and Adjutant) with advance notification to the membership prior to the next chapter meeting, at which time the members will vote. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.

**Section 3.** Elections: All elections of officers will be by ballot unless dispensed with by unanimous consent of those present. Then elections may be decided by voice vote. The candidate gaining a majority of votes in a contested election will be the winner. When no candidate receives a majority, the candidate receiving the least number of votes will drop from the contest and voting will continue until an election is made.

**Section 4.** Officers elected shall be installed at the first meeting following their election. An elected officer not present will be installed at the next regular chapter meeting.

**Section 5.** In case of a tie, the commander will cast the deciding vote.

**Section 6.** Officers will be elected for a term of one year.

## **ARTICLE VIII - FEES AND DUES**

**Section 1.** Fees and dues will be paid as set out in the constitutions of the national and state societies. Chapter dues shall be twenty dollars per annum. Reinstatement fees will be as set by the national society.

**Section 2.** Dues for Real Sons will be remitted. The chapter will pay any dues to the state and national societies.

## **ARTICLE IX - PENALTIES**

**Section 1.** Any member committing an act considered detrimental to the national constitution or to the chapter constitution and bylaws can be dropped from membership by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. Two weeks' notice of the pending action will be sent by certified mail to the member in question. The member facing expulsion will be given the opportunity to speak to the chapter membership.

**Section 2.** The penalty for an act considered detrimental to the MOSB will consist of forfeiture of right of suffrage, suspension, or expulsion from the organization.