

June 28-30, 2024
OPERATING RULES FOR THE 105th CONVENTION
The American Legion – Department of California

1. Robert's Rules of Order (12th ed.) shall govern the proceedings of this convention, except as herein modified, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Department of California Bylaws.
2. Delegates should be seated on the floor of the convention in the seats assigned to their district. To facilitate identification and seating, delegates, alternates and guests shall be required to wear the appropriate badge issued by Department Headquarters upon registration.
3. A delegate desiring to address the convention and/or make a motion, shall approach the nearest microphone to be recognized by the chair. Upon recognition the delegate shall address the chair as "Comrade Commander", state their name, their post name and number, their district number, and whether they are a delegate or alternate delegate of the convention.
4. Only two (2) delegates from any one district delegation are permitted the floor to speak on any one subject. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the convention delegates in attendance is needed for additional district delegates to speak.
5. Only the maker of a debatable motion shall speak more than once on the same question on the same day and no longer than three (3) minutes, without a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates then in attendance, without debate. Each speaker will receive a one-minute warning of the expiration of their time.
6. Debate on any one subject is limited to twenty (20) minutes, plus closing argument by the maker of the motion and the chairperson of the convention committee under whose jurisdiction the subject properly comes. Time may be extended up to five (5) minutes, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the convention delegates then in attendance.
7. The chairperson of a convention committee, or the acting chairperson thereof, has the right to open, participate in, and close debate on any subject within the jurisdiction of their convention committee.
8. Voting shall be by voice vote, except as indicated by follow-on rules or when a roll call is called by the presiding officer when they are in doubt of the result of a voice vote or requested on behalf of five (5) districts by the district delegation commanders (or district vice commander acting in their absence). Voting for

department officers or any changes in the bylaws of the Department of California shall be by roll call however the chair reserves the right to declare any uncontested election by acclamation.

9. Registration at this convention shall be by posts, however, delegates or alternate delegates are not prevented from registering individually. Any delegate, alternate delegate, or delegation chairperson from any post can register their post at the convention and such registration constitutes registration of all certified delegates and alternates from their post. At least one (1) delegate or alternate acting as a delegate must be present on the floor of the convention or any authorized caucus to validate the post vote count. Posts may not vote by proxy.
10. Only duly accredited delegates (or alternates taking the place of an absent duly accredited delegate) can participate, directly or indirectly, in any vote on any subject before the convention, or shall serve an official function on any convention committee.
11. An alternate may not cast a ballot for their delegate when said delegate is present. This rule always applies where a vote on the business of the convention is required (convention floor, caucus, special meetings, etc.)
12. The votes of each person qualified and entitled to vote pursuant to Article IX - Section 3 of the Department of California Bylaws, shall be cast with the vote of their delegation. The votes of each person qualified and entitled to vote pursuant to Article IX - Section 6 (delegates in their own right) are entitled to cast their vote individually as qualified under said section, or as a member of their post delegation, provided they are a duly accredited delegate of the post. No one is entitled to cast their vote twice.
13. Such persons shall not be empowered to qualify their post delegation for attendance, as per Section 9 above, unless they are a duly accredited delegate of their post.
14. On roll calls, districts will cast their votes in numerical order. District commanders shall poll their district delegations and cast the vote of their district. In their absence, the district vice commander (or in their absence such delegate of the district as properly chosen by the district delegation) stands in to fulfill the duty.

15. When the district commander casts the votes for the district delegation on the floor of the convention, the presiding officer will declare the voting of the district closed.
16. The challenge by a delegate of the vote of a district must be made before the vote of the district is declared closed. After a challenge of the vote has been made and recognized, the voting of the next numerical districts will be cast, until all district delegations have cast their votes. All delegations with challenges, will then, in numerical order, cast their votes by roll call of post delegations of the district.
17. The poll shall be conducted without discussion of reason behind the request.
18. If a post delegation is not represented by a full delegation of delegates or alternate delegates at the time of roll call, and the delegates and alternate delegates present and entitled to vote cannot agree how the votes of the post should be cast, the non-represented votes will not be counted. No fractional votes will be counted.
19. No resolution appropriating funds of the Department can be considered on the floor without consideration by the Convention Finance Committee.
20. Nominating speeches for Department Officers shall be limited to five minutes each, seconding speech to two minutes each. There shall be but one nominating speech and not more than two seconding speeches in favor of any nominee.
21. All reports of the committees and commissions are printed in their entirety in the Book of Reports of the convention. Therefore, the verbal reports of said committees or commissions should be as brief as possible in recognition of the immense amount of business to be conducted at this convention.
22. Reports of the convention committees are submitted for acceptance only, and the receiving or accepting of such reports does not signify the adoption or approval of any committee recommendations, but each specific recommendation as to future policy must be embodied in a separate motion or resolution for the consideration, action, and vote of the convention itself. Such resolutions must be reviewed by the Resolutions Committee for advice and approval as to form and procedure.
23. The Department Commander has the authority to clear the gallery or floor, suspend the credentials, and/or have the Sergeant-at- Arms escort from the convention any person or persons creating a disturbance and/or who exhibits

offensive or threatening manners or language, or intimidates or interferes with the orderly proceeding of the Convention.