



Constitution

Sons of The American Legion (SAL) Squadron 209 Detachment of Colorado

Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209, attached to Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, Department of Colorado, The American Legion.

Preamble

**Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of the Veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as the “Sons of The American Legion” for the following purposes:
To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America, to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the association of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.**

Article I

Name

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be The Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 209, attached to The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, the Detachment of Colorado, the Department of Colorado.

Article II

Nature

Section 1: The Squadron exists with the permission, authorization and under the sponsorship of The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, Department of Colorado. The purpose of the organization is to support the programs, goals, objectives and principles of The American Legion. Of first priority will be supporting the programs, events, goals and objectives of our sponsoring Post. High consideration will also be given to supporting Auxiliary Unit 209 associated with our sponsoring Post,



and programs in the community that fall within framework of the programs, objectives and principles of The American Legion.

Section 2: The Sons of The American Legion is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military, police or civil service.

Section 3: The Squadron shall be absolutely apolitical and shall neither be used for the dissemination of partisan principles, nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking political office or preferment.

Section 4: The Squadron shall be absolutely nonsectarian.

Article III

Organization

Section 1: The Squadron is organized as a subordinate body of the Sons of The American Legion, the Detachment of Colorado, and under sponsorship and jurisdiction of The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, the Department of Colorado.

Section 2: The Squadron shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Organization of The American Legion, the National Organization of the Sons of The American Legion, the Detachment of Colorado, the Department of Colorado, and such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Executive Committee of The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, the Department of Colorado, that are not inconsistent with those prescribed by the Detachment, the Department, or the National Organization.

Article IV

Eligibility

Section 1: All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion and such male descendants of deceased Veterans meeting membership criteria for The American Legion as prescribed in Article IV, Section 1 of The American Legion National Constitution, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

Article V

Officers and Executive Committee

Section 1: The elected officers of the Squadron shall consist of a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Sergeant-at-Arms, Adjutant, Chaplain, Historian and Finance Officer. These officers will comprise the voting members of the Squadron Executive Committee.



Section 2: The Executive Committee will be the trustees of the Squadron and may act on behalf of the Squadron to conduct the business affairs of the Squadron, to include authority to allocate funds within established guidelines, during periods of the year when the Squadron does not convene for organizational meetings and when unforeseen, time critical events dictate immediate response, or if a quorum at a scheduled membership meeting is not achieved.

Section 3: Any member of Squadron 209, in good standing who has paid dues to Squadron 209 for the calendar year in which elections are conducted is eligible to seek an elected or appointed office.

Section 4: All past Squadron Commanders shall be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. Only those past Commanders currently holding an officer position shall have a vote on Executive Committee matters. The Squadron advisor as appointed by the Post Commander shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. The Squadron Advisor will not hold any elected or appointed Squadron office.

Article VI

Dues

Section 1: Dues for membership shall be as prescribed in the Squadron By-Laws or as amended by 2/3rds vote of the membership at any regular Squadron meeting.

Section 2: Dues shall be payable no later than January 1st of each calendar year. Members who have not paid their dues by this date shall be classified delinquent and forfeit all privileges of membership. Members who have not renewed their dues by June 30th are deemed to have forfeited their membership and must reapply for membership and remit any applicable application fees.

Article VII

Amendments

Section 1: This Constitution may be changed or amended at any regular or special meeting of the Squadron by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members present at said meeting after the following procedures have been followed:

- A.** Any member requesting a change or amendment to this Constitution must submit his suggested change or amendment in writing to the Adjutant.
- B.** The Executive Committee will review the suggested change or amendment and will present the amendment and recommendation at the next scheduled Squadron meeting. Regardless of the Executive Committee's recommendation, the matter must still be presented before the membership for discussion and/or modifications and be presented a second time for a vote.
- C.** The suggested change and any modifications approved by the membership will be presented to the membership and voted on at the next scheduled meeting. This requires the proposed



change or amendment to come before the membership on two occasions prior to a final vote taken.

Article VIII

Safety Clause

Section 1: If any Section herein is found to be in contradiction to the Constitution and/or By-Laws of American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, the Detachment of Colorado, the Department of Colorado or the National Organization or any local, state or federal law, that Section shall be ruled null and void. Such determination shall not be deemed to affect the validity of the remainder of the affected Article, Section or this Constitution.

Section 2: Any subject item regarding procedures, conduct of business, and responsibilities not addressed in this Constitution will be conducted in accordance with guidelines and procedures established by our sponsoring Post, other higher level organizations, Roberts Rules of Order (newly revised) and current laws in the order stated.

Article IX

Repeal and Saving Clause

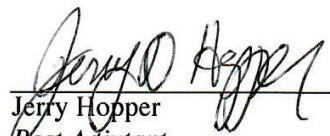
Section 1: This Constitution is adopted as the legal and governing document for the organization and general administration of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 209, attached to The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, Department of Colorado, as voted on and ratified by two-thirds (2/3) of members present at a regular meeting of Squadron 209 held in Colorado Springs, CO on August 27th, 2019, and approved by majority vote of the Executive Committee, The American Legion Neal Thomas, Jr. Centennial Post 209, Department of Colorado, convened in Colorado Springs, CO on October 3rd, 2019.

Attested and certified witness thereto:


Eric Testorff
Squadron Commander


Lino Calica
Post Commander


Kenneth Taylor
Squadron Adjutant


Jerry Hopper
Post Adjutant



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norm Moyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Norm Moyer
Squadron Advisor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marvin Weaver Sr.", is written over a horizontal line.

Marvin Weaver Sr.
Post Judge Advocate