

SUBVETTES

LADIES OF US SUBVETS INC.

CONSTITUTION

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ARTICLE I - NAME

SECTION 1: The name of the organization shall be, "SubVettes - Ladies of US SubVets, Inc."

SECTION 2: The organization is officially recognized as the "Ladies Auxiliary of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated" as enabled by SECTION 1, Article X of the Bylaws of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated (Incorporated May 1964), as revised October 2000.

ARTICLE II - INSIGNIA

SECTION 1: The insignia of the organization shall be the foundation oval, upper and lower nameplates with Dolphins in the center of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. The upper name plate shall have the words SubVettes," and the lower plate shall have the words, "Ladies of US SubVets, Inc." The colors will be the opposite of the SubVets insignia, where gold in SubVets insignia, the SubVettes insignia will have blue, and where blue appears in the SubVets insignia, gold will appear in the SubVettes insignia. A black and white rendering of the SubVette insignia appears below.



US SubVets, Inc.



SubVettes

SECTION 2: The twin dolphins facing each other resting on the Bow Planes of a single submarine at sea, of the Dolphins of the United States Submarine Service, symbolize to SubVettes a team of two, the SubVet Shipmate in common bond with SubVette Helpmate, working together for a common cause.

SECTION 3: The Ladies of U.S. Subvets Inc. National Flag will replicate the US SubVets' National Flag except that the insignia will be as shown in SECTION 1, above.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

The Purpose of the organization shall be to aid and assist our husbands (father, son, brother) as helpmates in our mutual pursuit of the goals, objectives, projects and activities. In support of the Creed of the United State Submarine Veterans Inc. as stated in the U. S.Subvets constitution Article 111 section 1.

“SubVette Helpmates in a, common Bond With SubVet Shipmates... Working together to achieve A Common Goal”

ARTICLE IV - POLICY

The organization shall adopt no policy in conflict with the laws and practices of the United States Government or those of the Constitution and Bylaws of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

ARTICLE V - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the organization shall commence on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December in each year

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1 - Regular Membership

Regular Membership is open exclusively to the wives, daughters, sisters, and mothers of a Regular Member in good standing of the U.S. Submarine Veterans. Also widows of any Regular member now on eternal patrol. Any widow who remarries may retain her Regular Membership in SubVettes, if she so desires.

a. Primary Membership will be with the SubVette Base that is associated with the USSVI member's Primary Membership Base.

b. Secondary Membership will be with any SubVette Base the member chooses and as accepted by the membership and Base President of the SubVette Base. Membership in a Secondary SubVette Base will not include office-holding privileges.

SECTION 2- Charter (Plank Owner) Membership

All members in good standing upon ratification of their Constitution and Bylaws will be considered Charter and Plank Owner Members.

SECTION 3 - Honorary Memberships

a. Upon written justification and recommendation to, and the approval of the SubVettes National Executive Board, a Base may award President of the SubVettes, any person who renders a notable service to their organization on a National level, an Honorary Membership.

b. Such Honorary Members are not entitled to vote or hold office at any level in the SubVette organization.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

SECTION 1 - Rules of Order - All meetings of their organization shall be conducted and governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

SECTION 2 - A National Convention is to be held once each year, coinciding and concurrent with the US SubVets, Inc. National convention at the time and place prescribed by the National USSVI organization.

SECTION 3 - Special Meetings may be called and held at such times and places deemed advisable by the National President

ARTICLE VIII - ANNUAL DUES:

Each member of their organization shall pay annual dues as prescribed in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX - SUBVETTE BASES

SECTION 1 - SubVette Bases

A SubVette Base will consist of at least five (5) members in good standing, and which Base, (subject to the exceptions provided for in Article VI, Section 4, subparagraph 2) is exclusively affiliated with the US SubVet, Inc. Base to which their husbands or other qualifying members in good standing belong.

Each Base will be governed by a duly elected or appointed Base President as per Base Bylaws. All Base Bylaws and their amendments must not conflict with the National Constitution or National Bylaws and be approved by the District President or the next in the chain of command.

Bases may be formed and organized upon the receipt in writing of a request to form a Base from a wife, qualifying relative of a member in good standing, or widow of a member on eternal patrol, of the associated Base to which the new SubVette Base will belong, and approved by the President of that Base, and the SubVette District President If the latter does not exist, then request for authorization will be submitted to the Regional Director, or in the absence of the Regional Director, to National SubVette President

Upon approval as identified above, the new Base will begin its formation, which includes:

a. Election of a minimum of four officers to fill the following functions:

- 1) Base President
- 2) Base Vice President
- 3) Treasurer
- 4) Secretary

b. Gaining approval of the Base's Constitution and Bylaws submitted to the District President for review to verify compliance with the National Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE X - BASE CHARTER

SECTION 1. Approval of Base and Charter

Upon signed approval of their Bylaws each Base shall be issued a Charter from the National organization. The Charter shall be signed by the National President and National Secretary who shall affix the National Seal thereto.

SECTION 2. Issuance of the Charter signifies authorization to carry out the purpose of the organization under the name of SubVettes - Ladies of U S SubVets, Inc, as the recognized Ladies Auxiliary of United States Submarine Veterans, and authorizes the use of the National Emblem in carrying out that purpose. The new Base will also be variously known as SubVettes of the (name of the Parent Base) as in, "SubVettes of the Drum Base."

SECTION 3. Any Base which fails to comply with the National Constitution and Bylaws will have thirty days (30), after notification in writing by an officer of the organization, to correct the deficiency or cause their Charter to be either temporarily suspended until corrected or revoked in its entirety.

ARTICLE XI - OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1 - National Officers

The Officers of their organization shall be the

- a. National President (Initially may be combined with Jr. Vice President for one year).
- b. Senior Vice President
- c. Junior Vice President (See Above)
- d. Treasurer (Initially may be combined with Secretary for one year)
- e. Secretary (See Above)

The above officers currently in office, and the past National President shall constitute the Executive Board

SECTION 2 - Regional Director - Each Region shall have a Regional Director to be selected in a manner as prescribed in the Bylaws. The Regional Director's Region will be the same Regional territory, with similar duties and responsibilities as that of the Regional Director of the US Submarine Veterans. Such Territories and Responsibilities will be found in the Bylaws of this organization. (May be Waived Initially for one year or until needed)

SECTION 3 - District President - Each District shall have a District President to be selected in a manner as prescribed in the Bylaws. The District President 's Region will be the territory, with similar duties and responsibilities as that of the District Commander of the US Submarine Veterans Inc. Such Territories and Responsibilities will be found in the Bylaws of this organization. (May be Waived Initially for one year, or until needed)

SECTION 4 - Prerequisites

The prerequisite for National Office is that a Nominee must be a Regular or Life Member in good standing.

SECTION 5 - Restrictions

- a. The Term of Office for all National officers will be two years or until a successor is elected.
- b. No individual shall serve more than two (two-year) consecutive terms as National President
- c. Other than the position of National President, there are no restrictions on the number of terms an individual may be elected to any office.
- d. The term of office for nationally elected officers will begin immediately after the annual business meeting.
- e. Nationally appointed officers will be when needed by the National Organization: Chaplain, Parliamentarian, and Editor of the National Publication and the Committee Chairmanships appointed by the National President and confirmed by the Board of Directors.
- f. The term of office for appointed officers will begin immediately after confirmation and notification by the Board of Directors.
- g. Nationally elected and appointed officers will carry out their duties as prescribed by the National Bylaws.
- h. No officer shall be paid any salary for services rendered on behalf of the organization.

SECTION 6. Board of Directors

a. The Board of Directors shall have the control and general management of the affairs and business of the organization.

b. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the five nationally elected officers, and the immediate Past National President, all of who shall have voting privileges.

c. Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed from office for cause by 2/3rds-majority vote of the Board of Directors. The National President or the sitting officer may appoint a replacement from the general membership next in seniority, or the vacated duties may be absorbed or distributed between the remaining members as the Board of Directors approves.

ARTICLE XII - QUORUM

The membership present at the opening of a meeting will be considered a quorum. Any member who removes herself prior to adjournment of the meeting will not be considered to remove the quorum.

ARTICLE XIII - VOTING

SECTION 1. Each regular member shall be entitled to vote, provided that the member is in good standing, both at the time her ballot is counted and on the date of the Annual Business Meeting.

Attendees at the Annual Business Meeting may vote on issues from the agenda and/or those presented on the floor.

Voting for National Officers and proposed amendments will be done by mail in ballot as prescribed in the National Bylaws, coinciding with the USSVI time frame for such matters.

SECTION 2. There shall be no voting by proxy; any member in good standing not voting will be considered to be abstaining.

ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Any member in good standing may submit proposed amendments to amend their Constitution by forwarding the proposed amendments to the Chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee on or before April 1st of the year in which they are to be considered.

SECTION 2. The Constitution shall be amended by a two thirds majority of the votes cast at the Annual Business Meeting of the organization; provided that the proposed changes have been placed on the National Ballot and provided to all members in good standing, at their last known address, at least sixty days prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

SECTION 3. Amendments submitted by the membership and passed shall remain in place for a period of two years from acceptance and may be changed by ballot in their third year. Should at any time in that period the amendment be deemed by the Board of Directors as not in the best interest of the organization, they, and only they, may submit an amendment at the next balloting opportunity to change it without waiting the three-year period. The result of that ballot will start a new three-year period.

SECTION 4. Amendments, which are passed, will become effective at the close of the annual business meeting. The approved amendments will be effective for, and cover all amendment-affected business actions and other voted-upon issues, including official election of officers and appointments, of the entire business meeting, the results of which were effected and made known during that business meeting, unless otherwise directed in the body of the Amendment passed.

ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION

SECTION 1. In the event of Base dissolution, all assets and moneys of the same shall be turned over to the Board of Directors of the Ladies of United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.