



July 7, 2026

Jim F. Taylor, Commander
Osmond K. Ingram Ship No. 1774, VFW
8118 University Ave
La Mesa, CA 91942

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws:

Dear Comrade Taylor:

Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed Bylaws for Post No. 1774, submitted through channels for the review of the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with Section 202 of the Manual of Procedure.

A review of the proposed Bylaws disclosed substantial compliance with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, and laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; however, needed modification for compliance. To preclude any misunderstanding of the additions and/or deletions, an informal document has been attached.

A copy of the reviewed Bylaws, with the corrections noted thereon, has been retained for our files, another forwarded to your Department Headquarters, and two sets herewith returned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Q. S. Carroll", is positioned above the typed name.

Quentin S. Carroll, Director
Administrative Operations

QSC:sb
Enc: Bylaws (2)
cc: Department Adjutant (1)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Office 816.756.3390
Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

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NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

POST 1774 CALIFORNIA

Title, Article I Section 1, Closing

Replace “Osmond Kelly Ingram Ship” with “Osmond K. Ingram Ship”

Reason: To correctly state the Charter name of the Post.

BYLAWS
OSMOND KELLY INGRAM SHIP POST NO. 1774
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES



Bylaws adopted 14 Jan 1930 First

(1st) Revision 12 April 2016

Second (2nd) Revision 12 May 2026

8118 University Ave
La Mesa, California 91942-5568

BYLAWS

OSMOND K. INGRAM SHIP POST NO. 1774

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

ARTICLE I NAME AND LOCATION

- Sec. 1. By virtue of charter granted, this Post shall be known as Osmond K. Ingram Ship Post No. 1774 Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; hereafter referred to as Ship.
- Sec. 2. The location of this Ship shall be in the City of La Mesa, County of San Diego, State of California.

ARTICLE II SUBORDINATION

- Sec. 1. The supreme power of this association is vested in the National Convention and this Ship shall be at all times governed by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Bylaws of the Department, orders issued by authority of the National Convention, National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration, and the Department Commander. Resolutions adopted by the National Convention are held to be lawful orders.

ARTICLE III MEETINGS

- Sec. 1. Place: The regular meeting place of this Ship shall be at 8118 University Ave, La Mesa, CA 91942.
- Sec. 2. Time: The regular meetings of the Ship shall be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, to be called to order at 1800 (6:00 p.m.).
- Sec. 3. A Ship may, after at least thirty (30) days written notice to the Department Commander and members of the Ship, change its chartered location upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and vote at a regular or special meeting. Upon recommendation of the Department Commander, an amended Charter will be issued by the Commander-in-Chief. No change may be effected until an amended Charter is issued in accordance with Article II section 205 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 4. The Ship may, after at least fourteen (14) days written notice to the Department Commander and the members of the Ship, change its meeting place, appointed day, or time upon a majority vote of the members present and voting at a regular or special meeting called for such purpose in accordance with Article II section 205 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 5. Special meetings may be called in accordance with the provisions of Article II section 203 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 6. Quorum: Five members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business as required in Article II section 205 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

**ARTICLE IV
MEMBERSHIP**

- Sec. 1. Membership in this Ship, eligibility to, application for, acquiring and maintenance of, loss of and discipline shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 2. The admission fee of this Ship shall be payable in accordance with the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 3. The dues of this Ship shall never be less than the amount required to cover District, Department and National annual dues.

**ARTICLE V
OFFICERS**

- Sec. 1. Eligibility to, nomination, election or appointment, installation and term of office shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.
- Sec. 2. By virtue of the charter granted, Officer titles shall be Ship's:
- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Captain (Commander) | Trustee's (3) (3-year, 2-year, 1-year) |
| Executive Officer (Sr. Vice) | Adjutant |
| Navigator (Jr. Vice) | Judge Advocate |
| Chaplain | Surgeon |
| Paymaster (Quartermaster) | Benefits Advisor |
- Sec. 3. The Ship shall elect the Captain (Commander), Executive Officer (Senior Vice Commander), Navigator (Junior Vice Commander), Paymaster (Quartermaster), and three Trustees. The Captain (Commander) shall appoint an Adjutant, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, and Benefits Advisor.
- Sec. 4. The duties of all officers shall be those prescribed by Department and National Bylaws, lawful orders as the Ship Membership may direct and as these Bylaws may provide.

**ARTICLE VI
COMMITTEES AND DUTIES**

- Sec. 1. All Committees and their Chairmen, unless otherwise provided shall be appointed by the Captain as promptly as possible after election to office, and as such shall serve at his/her will and pleasure. The Paymaster, by virtue of office shall be treasurer of all committees handling funds.
- Sec. 2. The Standing Committees of the Ship shall be as follows:
- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| (a) House Committee | (d) Citizenship/Community Service Committee |
| (b) Membership Committee | (e) Youth Activities Committee |
| (c) Poppy | |
- Sec. 3. House Committee:
- (a) The House Committee shall be elected by the Ship's members, and it shall consist of not less than three members. Trustees shall not serve on the House Committee. In addition, the Captain and Paymaster by virtue of their offices shall be members of the House Committee.
 - (b) The House Committee shall meet monthly and be concerned with all matters related to the facility and its operations.

- (c) The House Committee is responsible and concerned for the security, maintenance, funding, and cleanliness of the facility and personal property. The Committee reviews, recommends, and approves contracts and facility matters that may arise, especially those that have financial impact on the Ship. Though the Ship does not own the facility but is an occupant, it has an active role since decisions made impact the VFWs membership to include its Auxiliary.
- (c) Committee decisions impacting the Ship's resources are not binding but such decisions shall be presented to the Ship's membership for vote, as required, at a regularly scheduled or special meeting as required per the issue itself.
- (d) Policies, procedures, etc., for the House Committee, a Committee that represents and consists of members from the organizations resident in the facility to which the Ship resides, are separately defined in the Standing Rules of American Legion La Mesa Post 282; the organization and facility where the O.K. Ingram Ship Post 1774 resides.

Sec. 4. Membership Committee:

- (a) The Membership Committee shall be Appointed by the Captain, and it shall consist of not less than three members. Trustees shall not serve on the Membership Committee. In addition, the Captain and Paymaster by virtue of their offices shall be members of the Membership Committee. The Paymaster shall act as the committee Chairman.
- (b) The Membership Committee must review and verify eligibility of all applications to the Ship and present them to the Ship's membership for approval by majority vote at the next regular business meeting.
- (c) Three members of the Membership Committee must sign the application upon verification of eligibility of the applicant and voted on by the Ship's membership.

Sec. 5. Poppy Committee:

- (a) The Buddy Poppy Chairperson shall be Appointed by the Captain; all members may be members of the Buddy Poppy Committee to assist with the distribution of Poppies. Trustees shall not serve on the Buddy Poppy Committee. In addition, the Captain and Paymaster by virtue of their offices shall be members of the Buddy Poppy Committee.
- (b) Proceeds from Buddy Poppies shall be deposited into the Ship's Relief Fund.
- (c) Buddy Poppies shall be distributed on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day weekends and any other occasion the Ship sees fit to distribute Buddy Poppies.
- (d) The Committee Chairperson shall give a report to the Membership at Ship Meetings.

Sec. 6. Citizenship/Community Service Committee:

- (a) The Citizenship/Community Service Chairman shall be Appointed by the Captain, and it shall consist of not less than three Ship members. In addition, the Captain and Paymaster by virtue of their offices shall be members of the Citizenship/Community Service Committee.
- (b) The Committee shall coordinate with the local community government and with organizations & businesses in the community for participation in as many community events as the Membership approves the participation in.
- (c) The Committee shall promote the VFW and the services and benefits available.
- (d) The Committee shall coordinate with local community entities regarding the VFW Public Servant and Smart/Maher VFW Teacher of the Year Programs.

- (e) The Committee Chairperson shall give a report to the Membership at Ship Meetings.

Sec. 7. Youth Activities Committee:

- (a) The Youth Activities Chairman shall be Appointed by the Captain, and it shall consist of not less than three members. In addition, the Captain and Paymaster by virtue of their offices shall be members of the Youth Activities Committee.
- (b) The Committee shall coordinate with Local schools regarding the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Programs.
- (c) The Committee shall coordinate and support the local scout troop.

**ARTICLE VII
CONTROL OF SUBSIDIARY UNITS**

- Sec. 1. Any activity, unit or clubrooms sponsored, conducted or operated by the Ship, incorporated separately from the Ship or unincorporated, shall be at all times under the direct control of the Ship.
- Sec. 2. All funds derived from any of the above shall be in the custody of the Ship's Paymaster.
- Sec. 3. All money, property and assets of every kind as well as all records in connection therewith used, held and owned by any of the above activities is the property of the Ship and must be placed in the care and custody of the Ship's Paymaster.
- Sec. 4. The Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and Military Order of the Cootie are governed by Articles XI and XII respectively of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and their respective Bylaws, rules, and regulations.

**ARTICLE VIII
EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

- Sec. 1. Expenditure of funds shall be made only after prior authorization by the Ship's membership and on proper voucher drawn by the Paymaster and approved by the Captain. All checks for the expenditure of Ship's funds shall be numbered in sequence, the number of each check to correspond with the voucher authorizing the same, other expenditures may be made using acceptable banking practices. All disbursements of Ship's funds shall bear the signature of the Paymaster or other person(s) authorized by the Paymaster. Such other authorized person(s) shall be bonded in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. The adoption of this Article shall constitute authorization by the Ship for the payment of bills, when and as due, for monthly rental, public utility service, postage, janitor service and for janitor's supplies and minor emergency repairs authorized by the House Committee, provided that the amounts to be paid for monthly rental and for janitor service shall have been previously established by the Ship.
- Sec. 3. No other payment or expenditure shall be made except on the specific authorization of the Ship's membership in each and every case.
- Sec. 4. Expenditures from the Relief Fund is required to be authorized by a majority vote of the Ship's membership.

**ARTICLE IX
COMPENSATION**

- Sec. 1. No compensation shall be paid to any officer of this Ship for their services as such officer, except as hereafter may be provided.
- Sec. 2. For services rendered, the Ship may, by majority vote, pay the annual dues of the Adjutant and Paymaster for the periods or parts of periods they serve as such, and such other compensation commensurate with their duties as may be determined and specified by vote of the Ship.
- Sec. 3. For services rendered "above and beyond" (as determined and approved by the Ship's membership), the Ship may, by majority vote, pay the annual or Life Member dues of the member; if already a Life Member, may authorize the payment for Legacy Life Membership, and/or a Life Membership to the VFW National Home.

ARTICLE X

FUNDRAISING PROMOTIONS/SOLICITATIONS

- Sec. 1. This Ship shall solicit funds or donations only by prior vote of the members agreeing to the proposition. It shall not solicit funds or donations or otherwise engage in fundraising activities or projects outside the immediate geographical area or community of the Ship.
- Sec. 2. This Ship shall not enter into any agreement with a promoter for the purpose of raising funds unless the said promoter shall have first furnished a good and sufficient surety bond in a principal sum sufficient to give the Ship ample protection in the particular circumstances. The said bond shall be subject to the approval of the Ship's Judge Advocate, bear the endorsement of the Captain and be kept in the possession of the Ship's Paymaster. The bond will be conditioned on the payment to the Ship's Paymaster of all monies due the Ship as a result of the solicitation within thirty (30) days of the close of the campaign. If the promoter has made satisfactory settlement within the thirty-day period, then surety will be determined to be discharged, otherwise the bond will remain in full force and effect.
- Sec. 3. If the bond cannot be furnished, then all collections shall be made by the members of the Ship sponsoring the campaign or entertainment and said funds shall be paid to a bonded officer of the Ship who shall hold the funds in their custody pending proper pro rata distribution.
- Sec. 4. Fundraising organizations or individuals conducting solicitations, activities or projects for a profit shall not be engaged or used by the Ship for such purpose unless such engagement is made by written agreement between the Ship and the organization or individuals providing those services. The form of any such written agreement must be submitted to the Department Commander for review at least thirty (30) days prior to any Post/Ship entering into any such agreement.
- Sec. 5. No solicitations or ticket sales shall be permitted in the Ship quarters or at socials or meetings unless such solicitations or ticket sales shall have been approved by the Ship's membership.

ARTICLE XI

MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 1. Every member of this Ship shall keep the Ship's Adjutant and Paymaster advised of their current address by promptly reporting any change of same.
- Sec. 2. The Ship's Paymaster will make the appropriate updates of the members on the National VFW website through Online Membership System (OMS)
- Sec. 3. One copy of these Bylaws shall be issued to each elected and appointed officer of this Ship, and any other member of this ship that requests a copy.
- Sec. 4. In all Ship procedures not provided for by the Congressional Charter, National Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual or these Bylaws. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the

authority, and it shall be the duty of the Ship's Judge Advocate, in an advisory way, when called upon to do so by the Ship's Captain to advise the Captain on the proper rule(s).

- Sec. 5 All elected and appointed officers of this Ship shall review and understand Robert's Rules of Order to be able to preside or maintain order in any and all meetings.

ARTICLE XII SPEECHES

- Sec. 1. No member will be permitted to speak on any one subject (Pro or Con) more than twice; and the first time no longer than five (5) minutes, and the second time no longer than three (3) minutes, with the exception of a committee report and recommendations and visiting guests who have a message to impart.

ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 1. These Bylaws shall become effective after adoption by this Ship and after review by the Commander of the Department of California and Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- Sec. 2. These Bylaws may be amended by the Ship by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a meeting, provided each member had been notified at least twenty (20) days in advance and upon request provided a copy of the proposed amendments.
- Sec. 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this Ship as though written herein.

These Bylaws were adopted, subject to the review of the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on this 12th day of May, 2026, at a regular meeting of this Ship.

Osmond K. Ingram Ship Post No. 1774
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

ATTEST:

Michael Martin

Adjutant

Jim Taylor

Captain

APPROVED 5-27-2026
FOR THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

"Ship" Miller
STATE ADJUTANT



REVIEWED **JULY 7 2026**
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

Brian Walker
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL

BY Q. Hill, DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS