

## Bylaws of the Military Postal History Society

1. **Name.** The Society shall be known as the Military Postal History Society.
2. **Purpose.** The purpose of the Society is to promote the study of the postal history of military forces and military campaigns; to promote the collection of postal and related materials of such campaigns; to disseminate results of such study and collection by others; to foster and encourage such study and collection by others; and to promote a spirit of fellowship and cooperation of all members.
3. **Organization.**
  - a. The Society shall have the following officers: President, up to three Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Youth Liaison Representative and up to seven (7) Directors, one of whom shall be the immediate past President, with duties and responsibilities as set forth below. The Officers and Directors shall be known collectively as the Board.
  - b. Officers shall be elected in the manner hereinafter provided for a term of two years beginning on the first day of January.
  - c. Any officer may succeed him/herself in office except the President shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.
  - d. The fiscal year of the Society shall be from January 1 to December 31.
  - e. The Society shall be an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society.
  - f. Quarterly meetings of the Board shall be held at such times and places as proposed by the President. Additional meetings deemed to be required by the President can also be scheduled.
  - g. At all meetings of the Board a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Board, each of which is entitled to cast one vote. Six affirmative votes are necessary to approve matters which require a vote. In the absence of a quorum, the President, at their discretion, may submit matters to the Board for a vote by other means.
  - h. The Society will strive to be represented as a convening society at one major philatelic exhibition each year and share this information with the membership.
4. **Journal.** The official publication of the Society shall be known as the Military Postal History Journal which shall be published four times per year and provided in paper and/or electronic format to each dues paid member. The editor shall be responsible for the content of the Journal, subject to any written order of the President. Advertising space may be sold at rates approved by the Board.

**5. Duties/Responsibilities of Officers.**

- a. President. The President shall be the chief executive of the Society and shall be responsible for the observance and enforcement of these Bylaws, overall operation of the Society and such other requirements as specified in these Bylaws. The President shall appoint committees, and require reports from the chairperson thereof, for such purposes as is deemed necessary. The President shall appoint the Journal Editor; Convening Society Representative; Awards and Membership Chairpersons; General Counsel; and APS Representative. The President shall chair all meetings of the Board and shall keep the Board informed of appointments and other matters of interest. In January the President will present a budget for the next fiscal year for Board approval. In the event the Treasurer is incapacitated for any reason, the President shall dispense funds on the Society's behalf until a successor is appointed.
- b. Vice-Presidents. The Vice-Presidents shall advise the President and perform such duties as required of them by the President. It is anticipated that each Vice-President will take on a responsibility associated with the initiatives of the Society. In the event the President is unable to perform the duties of their office, the Vice-Presidents shall perform those duties until the President resumes such duties or the next election, whichever is sooner.
- c. Secretary. The Secretary shall record and disseminate to all members of the Board minutes of all meetings of the Board; process requests for information, publications, Journal articles, etc.; and prepare such reports and perform such other duties as may be requested by the President. The Secretary will also facilitate the transition of records upon completion of their term(s).
- d. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of; and be responsible for all funds of the Society and make such expenditures as necessary for the normal operation of the Society. Funds shall be deposited, as received, in a bank insured buy an agency of the US Government. All disbursements shall be made by check signed by the Treasurer who shall expend no funds except as authorized by the President. The Treasurer shall make periodic financial reports as specified by the Board and shall prepare and submit to the Board an annual financial report within thirty (30) days after the end of the fiscal year. The Treasurer shall maintain an accurate record of the society membership and shall notify the Journal Editor and Secretary of all new members. The records of the Treasurer shall be audited as called for by the President.
- e. Youth Representative. An appointed member of the Board for the purpose of providing perspectives and responses to the Board that represents the perspectives and values of philatelic youth who are interested in military postal history. The representative is expected to participate in all Board meetings and it is hoped they will be able to support recruitment efforts involving youth and contribute towards representing the Society. This is a renewable two year term.
- f. Other. Any member of the Board may submit to the President a proposal, recommendation or other matter for consideration by the entire Board including

all requests for expenditures not required for the normal operation of the Society which exceed \$500.

**6. Election of Officers.**

- a. The President shall issue a call for nominations for office in the Spring Journal of each election year, and shall appoint a Nominating Ballot Committee to propose a slate of officers and to count ballots. Additionally, any ten members may endorse another member for any office with that member's agreement to run for the office and serve if elected. All nominations shall be submitted to the Secretary by July 31 of the election year.
- b. b. Candidates for all offices must have been members in good standing of the Society. Candidates for President must have previously served as a member of the Board.
- c. c. The Secretary shall prepare and provide to each member in the election year Fall Journal a ballot identifying all candidates for office. Ballots must be signed and sent to the Ballot Committee by October 31; unsigned ballots shall not be counted except, however, an email response is acceptable.
- d. d. The Ballot Committee shall forward a report signed by its chairperson to the President listing the totals for each candidate. The President shall notify all candidates, and the Secretary, of the results; the Secretary shall notify the Journal Editor who shall publish the list of successful candidates in the election year Winter Journal. In case of a tie vote for any office, the election shall be decided by a majority vote of the Board.
- e. e. Notwithstanding c and d above, when there is only one candidate for an office voting shall be waived.

7. **Succession to Office.** In the event of the absence, death, incapacity, unresponsiveness or removal of an officer of the Society, succession to office until the next regular election shall be as follows: The President is succeeded by the longest serving Vice President (on the Board); any other officer is succeeded by appointment of the President.

**8. Membership.**

- a. Membership in the Society shall be open to any person, unless such person shall be denied membership for cause in accordance with the procedure set forth herein.
- b. b. Application for membership shall be made to the Treasurer on a form provided by the Society accompanied by dues in the amount in US funds specified on the application as determined by the Board. Upon receipt of notice of an application the Secretary shall (i) assign and notify the applicant of a membership number, (ii) place the new member's name in the records of the Society and (iii) cause to have the new member's name published in the next issue of the Journal.

- c. Any member of the Society may challenge a new member, within sixty days of receipt of the Bulletin listing such membership, by writing to the Secretary, who shall forward such challenge to the President. Challenges shall be promptly acted upon by the Board, a majority of which may order the membership voided and the membership dues refunded.
  - d. A new or existing member, including an officer/director may be dropped from membership for cause by a two-thirds vote of the Board.
  - e. A member whose dues for the current fiscal year are not paid by the date of mailing the first Journal shall be dropped from the rolls.
  - f. Members are expected to resign by notice to the Secretary when they wish to terminate their membership.
  - g. Officers can decide to offer special membership rates, such as a free initial first year membership, to induce new members.
9. **Chapters.** A chapter or work study group may be initiated with the approval of the Board by providing the Secretary with the name and appropriate details. Participants must be members of the Society. The Secretary shall cause such chapter or work study group to be identified in the Journal.
10. **Indemnification.** The Society shall indemnify, as provided by law, members of the Board and any person appointed by the President. The President may authorize the Treasurer to purchase insurance on behalf of those persons indemnified.
11. **Amendments.**
- a. Proposed amendments to these Bylaws shall be submitted to the President in writing, sponsored by at least six Society members. Such proposals shall be considered and voted upon by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting
  - b. The Bylaws of the Society shall be furnished to any member upon request to the Secretary accompanied by a postage paid return envelope.
  - c. Approved amendments/revisions shall be published in an issue of the Bulletin.
12. **Dissolution.** Upon dissolution of the Society for any reason, all assets of the Society shall be donated to the American Philatelic Society Research Library.
13. **Effective Date.** This general revision of the Society Bylaws, having been approved by at least a two-thirds vote of the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting, is effective June 1, 2024.