

13th Texas “Burnetts” Cavalry Regiment

Bylaws and Guidelines

The 13th Texas Cavalry is a progressive reenacting group portraying a Trans-Mississippi Based Texan Cavalry regiment. As such, members are encouraged to obtain a copy of Hardee’s and Cook’s tactics. We strive to maintain a high level of safety, authenticity, and camaraderie. In order to achieve this, the following Bylaws and Guidelines will be established and adhered to by the membership.

By-Laws

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be The 13th Texas Cavalry, or Burnett’s Mounted Volunteers, also known as the Dreadnaughts.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Section 1. The purposes of this organization are: A. To promote a better understanding by the public of our country’s history; B. To authentically recreate America’s civil and military past; and C. To encourage research on topics of historical interest.

Section 2. Individual members contribute toward attaining these goals by cooperation, study and by reaching their own potential in terms of authentic clothing and equipment.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The 13th Texas Cavalry is open to any person without regard to race, creed, color, or gender, with the desire to participate, the intention of acquiring the necessary clothing and equipment, and the desire to make a positive contribution to the organization as a member.

Section 2. Full membership may be awarded to the applicant who has: a) paid the annual dues, b) is active with the organization, c) has acquired, or is acquiring, his/her kit and, d) has the intention to participate with The 13th Texas Cavalry in the future.

Potential members must attend **two** 13th Texas Cavalry activities **and** be recommended by two (2) members in good **standing who vouch for their meeting membership requirements**. . The new recruit will then be voted on by the membership, and will either be voted in as a member in good standing, or may remain a new recruit.

Section 3. An Executive Board will exist, composed of the commanding officer, any other commissioned officers, and the ranking NCO’s. A similar Executive board shall

exist for the Women's Auxiliary, to be voted on by the Executive Board, and the members of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Section 4. After a proper hearing by the Executive Board, a member may be recommended for removal from The 13th Texas Cavalry membership for failure to satisfy the criteria established in BY-LAWS ARTICLE II and II. With this loss of membership, all rights and privileges in 13th Texas Cavalry are lost, including, but not limited to, the forfeiture of any dues paid, other fees, and Regimental assets.

Section 5. Dues shall be \$20.00 per year to be paid to the appointed Regimental treasurer, a member of the Executive Board. Dues are due at the first event of the year, or by January 31st, payable annually.

ARTICLE IV

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

Section 1. Each member's clothing and equipment, **when representing a member of the 13th Texas Cavalry**, must be authentic and conform to regimental standards (**see appendix**). The officer in command, **at each event**, will review and pass on all items used.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. Treasurer: The treasurer has sole charge of The 13th Texas's funds and will maintain a current account of said funds, open to inspection by any full member. Together with the Commanding officer, the treasurer will authorize any expenditure of group funds.

Section 2. Quartermaster: The quartermaster will maintain a reference file of current sources of supply for kid items and maintain patterns of uniforms and equipment when available. He will be responsible for the care and availability of any organizational property. Damage to group property, or property entrusted to the 13th Texas Cavalry, will be paid for by the person (s) responsible. The quartermaster will assess any such damage charges.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS

Section 1. Commissioned officers shall be appointed rank commensurate with the level of skill and responsibility, and in direct correspondence with the number of members in the regiment.

Section 2. Non-commissioned officers shall be promoted from within the membership of the 13th Texas Cavalry, and shall be appointed rank commensurate with responsibilities, and skills demonstrated.

Section 3. To maintain rank, all officers and NCO's must attend a minimum of 60% of events scheduled for the 13th Texas Cavalry, unless personal hardship, occupation, or family situations supersede attendance. In the event of inability to attend the requisite percentage of events, the person in question will be asked to resign the office, with no endangerment to their status in the regiment as a member in good standing.

Section 4. Brevets shall be awarded and revoked as the situation mandates.

ARTICLE VII

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The Executive Board between general membership meetings shall handle the business of the 13th Texas Cavalry. There shall be one (1) general membership meeting per year.

Section 2. The Board shall consist of all Administrative Officers. The Commanding officer shall be the Chairman of the Board; in a tie, his vote may be used to break a tie vote.

Section 3. All business matters will be handled by the Board with the following exceptions: a) loss of membership, b) amendments to the BY-LAWS, and c) items deemed necessary by the Board.

Section 3b. All business may be disposed of by the following methods at the discretion of the **-President:** a) calling special Board or General meetings, b) telephone pools.

Section 3c. A reasonable effort shall be extended to inform all Board members of any action taken.

Section 3d. The Board is accountable to the membership for all actions taken. A written request by three members to the Board shall bring any Board action before the general membership for review.

Section 3e. The general membership shall be kept informed in the **13th Texas Cavalry newsletter and on its web site** of all actions taken by the Board.

ARTICLE VIII

STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. Authenticity Committee: the board of directors shall appoint this committee. They shall formulate guidelines and approve both sources of supply and all items used in various impressions. .

Section 2. Events Committee: This committee is charged with planning and organizing events.

Section 3. Other Committees may be introduced, as circumstances arise.

ARTICLE IX

PROCEDURES

Section 1. All meetings will be conducted under Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 2. With the exception of the BY-LAWS Amendments, member expulsion and officer removal, all issues brought up for vote or confirmation vote will be decided by simple majority vote of those present and/or voting.

Section 3. A quorum shall consist of all present at the annual membership meeting.

Section 4. Any three members can petition the Executive Board for a business meeting. The secretary will schedule a meeting within six (6) weeks and notify each member at least four (4) weeks in advance.

Section 5. A 2/3-majority vote of membership shall be required to approve or amend BY-LAWS.

Section 6. Voting proxies must be in writing and signed to be valid.

Section 7. Balloting by mail will be permitted when circumstances prevent the membership from holding a proper meeting. The Executive Board shall deem when the mail ballot will be used.

Section 8. If a full member cannot attend a meeting and chooses not to send in a proxy vote, he will not be included in the count for figuring a 2/3 majority for voting purposes.

ARTICLE X

DISASSOCIATION

If this organization deems it necessary to dissolve, then all organizational assets and monies shall be donated to a non-profit, historical organization, which shall be decided by the board.

APPENDIX ITEMS

Personal Checklist

Things to leave home

Wrist watches

Heavy bead work

Belt loops

Zippers/Velcro

Obvious, non-period accoutrements

Sunglasses

Obvious elastic

Non-period jewelry, or peircings. (Cover tatoo's and rings)

Modern electronic devices... We're here to get away from that stuff

Modern politics or religion... Modern news items. We're here to really get away from that!

Things to consider while here

Cover inauthentic items in camp

Strive for period eyewear where possible

Minimum camp furniture ...Do you really need your whole house at every tent site?

There will be a full camp kitchen with complete commissary at most events. Think about what you need before you pack it.

Avoid taking on a persona that has not been assigned to you .

Don't be a walking brass store....

Avoid using cigarettes and lighters in front of the public

(if you use them, PICK THEM UP) Pipes and cigars are okay, but NO LIT TOBACCO ANYWHERE NEAR POWDER.**EVER**

Avoid profanity (you never know whose listening)

Be accurate when interacting with the public (if you don't know, say so)

You can learn a lot from Harper's weekly for your daily chit chat around spectators.

We are a team. No one person is the be all end all of the 13th Texas Cavalry.