

Department of Missouri Marine Corps League

Rules of Order for Department of Missouri Convention

1. Business sessions shall begin and end PROMPTLY, as indicated on the schedule of the Department Convention, unless deemed otherwise by the Department Commandant. They will be conducted in strict adherence to the prescribed ritual of the Marine Corps League. Delegates are expected to be in attendance well in advance of the beginning of each session, so as to preclude any delay, or interruption of the session.
2. Department of Missouri bylaws and the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall prevail at all times.
3. Delegates, alternates and members desiring to attend business sessions of the Department Convention must possess a paid membership card for the year and shall be registered with and approved by the Convention Credentials Committee. Certification by the Department Paymaster that a delegate, alternate or member is currently paid will be adequate to establish valid membership.
4. All registered and approved delegates, alternates and members shall have the right to speak on the Department Convention floor on any matter or question before the body.
5. Should the Department Commandant desire to admit a visitor, he shall first declare the meeting to be under the "Good of the Order". After the visitor has been excused, the Commandant shall declare the meeting "Open for official business".
6. In the interest of expediting business before the convention, the Department Commandant may:
 - a. Limit debate or announcements to three minutes per delegate.
 - b. Deny the floor to any delegate who has spoken twice on a question unless he or she is the maker of the motion.
7. Delegates desiring to leave the hall will salute the chair. When the salute is acknowledged, they shall leave by the nearest exit. When re-entering, the same procedure on saluting applies.
8. To expedite convention activities, the Department Commandant shall appoint any member in good standing to occupy a place on the rostrum with specific instructions to recognize and return the courtesy salute of all members leaving or entering the hall.

9. The chair, no matter how occupied, shall be addressed as "Sir Commandant".
10. The Department Commandant may ask the Department Judge Advocate to give opinions on any point of order.
11. At the time of nomination of officers, the nominators shall be allowed not more than two minutes. Seconds shall be allotted not more than one minute.
12. The Chairman of the Credentials Committee shall announce the attending detachments and their strengths prior to any roll call vote.
13. Any roll call vote may be required and recorded upon the request of any five (5) registered and approved delegates.
14. The Department Commandant shall call a five minute recess prior to any roll call vote to allow the detachments to caucus on the question.
15. The Chairman of the Credentials Committee on any roll call vote shall "Call the Roll of the Detachments" alphabetically. Should a detachment pass, it will again be polled after all the other detachments have been called.
16. In the event of a challenge of the stated vote of any detachment by a registered and approved delegate from the detachment, the roll of delegates of that detachment shall be called and each delegate of that detachment shall rise and be identified as an approved delegate before casting his block of votes.
17. A majority of the votes cast is required to elect Department Officers. When a simple majority is not obtained on the first ballot, a second balloting will immediately commence after a caucus (not to exceed five minutes) is called. should a majority fail to materialize on the second or successive ballots, the candidate with the fewest votes shall be dropped as a contender (after each ballot) until a simple majority is achieved.
18. When a delegate, alternate or member desires the floor, the member shall rise, **AND WHEN RECOGNIZED, STATE HIS OR HER NAME AND DETACHMENT NAME.**
This procedure shall be followed each and every time.
19. These rules may be changed or amended by a 2/3 majority vote of the Convention assembled.