SONS OF AMVETS Department of Florida
Revised Standing Rules 2026

1. Sons of AMVETS Department of Florida Commander shall have a discretionary fund of $3,000, to be used as he deems necessary, to conduct Department business. (Voucher required for reimbursement)

2. Department dues shall be $12.00 per member, National dues will be $13.00, thus the total dues per member conveyed to the department for the year will be $25.00. Department shall convey to national $13.00 per member.

3. Department officers and AMVETS coordinator shall be paid one day per diem of $35 while attending SEC or Department Convention up to three (3) days for the purpose of attending pre-convention and other meetings, setting up the hospitality room or working at the commander's call. (Voucher required for reimbursement)

4. The Department Finance Officer shall establish that a minimum of $3500 is available in the department checking account that is not earmarked for any other purpose (e.g. VMAP Fund, etc.) before booking any accommodations.

5. The SOA Department of Florida shall cover lodging for Department officers as follows. (Voucher required for reimbursement).

a. Department Commander. Three (3) nights' stay SECs and Department Convention. Five (5) night's stay at spring NEC and National Convention

b. Department Finance Officer. Three (3) night's stay for SECs and Department Convention, allowing him to attend Pre-Convention and Post-Convention meetings.

c. Elected Department officers and immediate past Commander. One (1) night's stay SECs and Department Convention, two (2) night's stay for National Convention.

d. Department appointed officers. One (1) night's stay at SECs, Department and National Conventions.

e. Department 3rd vice Commander or designated hospitality room chairman. Three (3) night's stay for department convention and any other appointed hospitality room Department or National.

f. Past Department Commanders other than IPC and any PDC holding a Department office; The Department shall cover up to five (5) PDCs, in descending order of their years of service-one (1) night's stay at SECs, State and National Convention's.

g. For all Department Officers (Elected and Appointed) attending National SOA Convention, the Department will pay their Convention Registration Fee.

6. The SOA Department of Florida shall cover the cost of airfare or mileage for the Commander and NEC man or his alternate for the purpose of attending NEC meetings and National Convention's, as follows, (Voucher required for all reimbursements).

a. Mileage shall be paid at 45 cents per mile. (Mileage allowance shall not exceed $250.00) b. Airfare shall be paid at the cost of a standard economy airfare. (Airfare shall not exceed $525.00 without approval of the Department Commander).

c. The Department Commander shall receive a $35 per diem per day, up to five (5) maximum , while attending NEC meetings or National Convention.

d. The Department Commander, NEC Man or any department delegate attending the spring NEC and walking Capitol Hill soliciting and attending appointments with the Florida Legislature shall be purchased a ticket by the department enabling them to attend the Silver Helmet banquet as representatives of the SOA Department of Florida.

7. The SOA Department of Florida shall pay per day per Department officer Commander's Aide or AMVETS Coordinator, one (1) nights lodging and a per diem of $35 plus mileage of 45 cents per mile, when traveling at the Commander's call on Department business.

a. All Department officers (both elected and appointed) traveling to and attending an Executive Board meeting shall have one (1) nights lodging paid for by Department if traveling 50 miles round trip.

b. The Department officer responsible for towing the Department utility trailer to and from SOA Department meetings and events shall receive 10 cents per mile in addition to his regular mileage allowance.

c. The SOA Department of Florida business travel mileage reimbursement shall be 45 cents per mile as long as gas prices remain under $4.00 per gallon in Florida. If gas prices exceed $4.00 per gallon in Florida, the reimbursement shall increase to 50 cents per mile.

8. Requests for Department purchased scooters for Veterans shall be reviewed by the Executive Board for approval.

9. All vouchers shall be submitted no later than 30 days of date of expenditure to the Department Finance Officer for reimbursement.

10. The Son of the Year selection committee shall be comprised of the Department Commander, as chairman, and all PDC's as are available. The Son of the Year shall

receive an SOA life membership; If the awardee is already a life member, he may then nominate a member of the SOA Department of Florida for a life membership.

11. The SOA Department of Florida Executive Board shall meet prior to each SEC and Department Convention, far enough in advance as to facilitate the general membership mailing 30 days prior to said meetings.

12. The SOA Department of Florida will provide for a NEC-Man or alternate NEC-Man appointed by the Commander with the approval of the Department Executive Committee.

13. The SOA Department of Florida will provide for Commander's Aides (in lieu of "District Commanders" as Florida SOA does not have Districts) as required to cover the Department Squadrons. Commander's Aide shall be appointed by the Commander with the approval of the Department Executive Board. Their terms of reference are contained in Appendix A of these Standing Rules.

14. The department will provide a Department embroidered cover for any first time elected or appointed officer and for any first-time appointed Commander's Aide. Any officer or aide who is subsequently elected or appointed to a different office will be personally responsible for a new or re-embroidered cover.

15. Anyone applying to become a Son of AMVETS who is listed on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement database or any other similar official State or Federal database, as a Sexual Offender, Sexual Predator, Sexual Deviant or found guilty of molestation of any human being, shall be deemed ineligible to join the Sons Of AMVETS. If a member in good standing is found to have a judgment against him of this nature (Section 1, Appendix B National Sons of AMVETS CBL. "… any violation of Law that reflects unfavorably on Sons of AMVETS…"), he shall be dropped from the membership of the Sons of AMVETS Squadron and the Sons Department of Florida after a hearing and deemed as trespassing if found on any AMVET property.

16. The Department Sons of AMVETS shall budget for a mutual assistance fund each year. This fund may be applied for by any Department of Florida Son of AMVETS member in good standing, which may have incurred a financial hardship. This hardship could be due to, but not limited to, illness, injury, or loss of property. All requests shall be directed to the sons of AMVETS Department Commander who will consult with the Executive Board on the disbursement of funds. This fund will be disbursed in one time amounts not to exceed $250.00. However, any funds left in this account at the end of the fiscal year, shall carryover to the next fiscal year until the fund reaches a maximum of $5000.00 As this fund grows and more funds are available in the future, the State Executive Committee may raise or lower the disbursement cap.

**Under no circumstances will payment be made in cash or directly to the individuals. (All IRS Guidelines for non-profit organizations will be strictly followed)

APPENDIX: A
Sons of AMVETS Department of Florida

1. Sons of AMVETS Department of Florida Commander's Aides, are a need at this time (in lieu of “District Commanders” as Florida SOA does not have Districts) and will be appointed from squadrons across the state of Florida by the Department Commander with the approval of the executive board.

2. Commander's Aides will serve a term of (1) year and shall be reappointed as deemed necessary.

3. Commander's Aides shall wear a black braid with the title Commander's Aide on the right side of their cover and shall wear a silver name plate with WHITE lettering thus allowing them to represent the Department.

4. To serve as a Commander's Aide.

a. He must be a Sons Member in good standing in the Department of Florida. He must have held an elected office (Preferably Commander) for a minimum of (2) years.

b. He shall travel at the Commander's call, to visit squadrons in his local area, and to access those that are having administrative or Disciplinary problems.

c. He shall report in writing directly to the Department Commander and the Executive Board, who will, after deliberation, further direct him.

d. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES will he render judgment or offer advice on any matter without reference to the Department Commander and Executive Board.

e. When traveling at the Commander's call he shall receive mileage, per diem and lodging at the rate specified in Standing rule (7) using the same voucher procedure as Department Officers.

5. When not traveling at the Commander's call he shall,

a. At least every three (3) months, make contact by phone or visit all squadrons within his local area (a meeting with all Commanders if possible), reporting any problems or concerns to the Department Commander and Executive Board.

b. He shall also present, to the Department Adjutant for inclusion in the SECs and Convention booklets, a written report and if present make such report on the Department floor.

c. On completion of his term he may wear his Commander's Aide black braided cover with relevant dates of service, as his highest office held within the Department.

d. The Commander's Aide shall, at all times, conduct himself in a manner befitting that of a Department Officer.

Revised 6/2026

APPENDIX B

X Factor Relief Fund
Purpose and Guidelines

1. To further our mission of “Sons Serving Veterans,” SOA Department of Florida will establish a separate Relief Fund to enhance the natural disaster emergency efforts of AMVETS Department of Florida Service Foundation. It will be named X Factor Relief Fund.

2. This fund is established in memory of PDC Michael X Marecek, whose exemplary leadership, dedication, and commitment to Sons Serving Veterans bring distinction to both himself and the Sons of AMVETS Department of Florida.

3. SOA Department Finance Officer will deposit $20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars), taken from Programs line item, into an interest-bearing account to establish the X Factor Relief Fund.

4. Interest earned shall remain in the account.

5. 5% (Five Percent) of SOA Department of Florida carry-over will be deposited into the X Factor Relief Fund Annually. Deposit must be made no later than 45 days after annual budget approval at June Convention.

6. A minimum of $5,000.00 (Five thousand dollars) must be maintained in the X Factor Relief Fund.

7. Distribution and donation must be approved by majority vote of the body at State Executive Committee meetings (S.E.C.) or Department Convention ONLY.

8. Only 50% of funds in the X Factor Relief Fund may be used during any fiscal year. Multiple donations may be made in the fiscal year provided funds are available and do not exceed 50% of the X Factor Relief Fund total.

9. Donation(s) will be made to AMVETS Department of Florida Service Foundation within 45 days after approval by the body.

10. A recap of the X Factor Relief Fund shall be included in all budget reports by Department Finance Officer.

REV 6/2026