

# United States Submarine Veterans Inc.

April 22, 2023

**Minneapolis / St. Paul Base**

## Constitution

### Article I

#### Preamble

**Section 1:** The name of this organization shall be “**Minneapolis/St. Paul Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.**” For the purpose of this Constitution the term “Organization” shall be synonymous with the “**Minneapolis / St Paul Base**”

**Section 2:** If an auxiliary is formed, the name of this organization shall be known as the: “**Wives of the Minneapolis / St. Paul Base.**”

### ARTICLE II

#### PURPOSE/CREED

**Section 1.** The purpose/creed of the “**Minneapolis/St Paul Base**” is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country; that their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice may be a constant source of motivation toward greater

accomplishments; and to pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

**Section 2.** In addition to perpetuating the memory of departed shipmates, “**Minneapolis/St Paul Base.**” shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as Submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie.

**Section 3.** The organization will engage in various projects and deeds that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the Supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it encounters about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyle we enjoy today.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **POLICY**

**Section 1:** The Organization shall adopt no policy in conflict with the laws and practices of the United States of America, and the National Constitution and By-Laws of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **Membership**

**Section1: Regular Membership:** Regular Membership is restricted to those Officers and Enlisted men who qualified and served as a crew member on a United States Submarine.

**Section 2: Charter Members:** Charter Members of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Base are those members who have been accepted for membership prior to December 31, 1993, and will hereafter be considered Charter Members of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Base

**Section 3: Honorary Members:** Honorary Membership may be conferred any person who renders notable service to this organization. Candidate's name(s) shall be submitted to the Executive Board no later than two months prior to the annual meeting, along with details of their aid or service. The Executive Board shall screen the application(s) and present them to the membership at the Annual Base meeting. (ABM) A (two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present is required to confer honorary membership on the candidate. Honorary members shall not pay dues, hold no office, and may not vote.

**Section 4: Holland Club Members:**

- A. Any Regular Member in good standing who has been designated "Qualified in Submarines" for fifty (50) years or more is eligible to become a member of the Holland Club within the organization.
- B. Holland Club members are subject to National Dues to the same extent as other Regular Members of the organization. Holland Club members inducted prior to 9/4/2010 are 'Grandfathered' and will continue to be designated as National Life Members, but they may be required to pay Base dues as per Base By-Laws.

**Section 5: Commodore Membership:** Holland Club members who have attained the age of seventy-five years (75) as of the Date of the Annual Base meeting (ABM) shall be inducted into the Commodore Club of the Minneapolis / St. Paul Base. Commodore Members are awarded Life Membership in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Base and are no longer required to pay base dues. However, are still required to be a National Member in good standing.

**Section 6: Associate Membership:** An Associate Member is defined as any person who is not eligible for Regular Membership, but who is related to the Submarine Service by their deeds or actions. (All Associate Members must be at least sixteen (16 years of age). This does not preclude any relative of a Regular Member in good standing from applying for Associate Membership. Such persons must be recommended by a Regular Member in good standing. The application must be brought before the membership at a regularly scheduled meeting, and it must be approved by a majority of the members in attendance. Their dues shall be the same as Regular Members. They shall abide by the same rules and by-laws as Regular Members. Associate Members are eligible for life membership. Associate Members may not vote in National Elections and cannot hold National Elected office positions. Any naturalized US Citizen who is a “Qualified Submariner” of a currently Allied Navy may become an Associate Member and does not require a sponsor. Associate Members may vote on local base matters and may serve as Base Secretary and/or Treasurer. In the event an Associate Member’s sponsor can no longer sponsor the Associate (i.e. Transferred or called on Eternal Patrol) the local base may assume sponsorship of the Associate Member or any Appointed Position.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Meetings**

**Section 1:** Regular membership meetings shall be held as determined by the membership in the Base By-Laws. They shall be called by the Base Commander with proper notification to the membership. A Special Meeting may be called by the Base Commander that has been approved by a

majority of the Executive Board. Such meetings must be promulgated to the membership in a timely manner.

**Section 2:** The Minneapolis/St. Paul Base meetings may coincide with District Convention or Central Regional Convention.

**Section 3:** Base business may only be conducted at meetings where a Quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of at least seven (7) members (Including Regular & Associate) in good standing and shall include at least two (2) elected Executive Board members.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Dues**

**Section 1:** Every member of this organization, except Honorary Members shall pay Dues as prescribed in the By-Laws of this organization.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Officers**

**Section 1:** The Officers of this organization shall be known as the Base Executive Board (E-Board), and shall consist of the Commander, Vice Commander, Secretary, Treasurer, Chief of the Boat (COB), Master at Arms (MAA) and the Immediate Past Commander. Appointed position holders may also serve on the Executive Board and are allowed to vote on base matters.

**Section 2:** The Executive Officers are to be nominated and elected in the manner prescribed in the B-Laws and will serve for a term of one (1) year.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Obligations and Liabilities**

**Section 1:** There are no Obligations or liabilities of any kind which would subject any individual or group who are members of the Minneapolis/St.

Paul Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. There is a duty of Honor that all officers upon the completion of their individual term of office to turn over all properties and monies of the Base to their successor and to fully brief their successor.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Amendments**

**Section 1:** This constitution may be amended at the Annual Base Meeting (ABM) of any given year by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership present.