

The National Guard Association of Connecticut

By-Laws

Of October 1993, as amended in March 1998, March 2003, and March 2008

Article I – Name

The name of this Association as per Article I of the constitution is “The National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT),” herein called the Association.

Article II – Affiliations

Section 1. The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS). The Association will encourage all eligible Guardsmen to become members of NGAUS and will participate in NGAUS activities. It will also fund the attendance of the President or the Vice President and the Executive Director or his designee at the annual NGAUS Conference.

Section 2. The Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS). The association is a chartered member organization of EANGUS. As a chartered organization, the Association will collect EANGUS dues from all eligible Guardsmen that apply for EANGUS membership. All new enlisted payroll deduction policy holders with the NGACT sponsored Life Insurance plan (starting 1 January through the 31st of December of the preceding year with coverage of \$50,000 shall be enrolled as paid (\$6.00) EANGUS members for the ensuing year including a subscription to the “New Patriot” (EANGUS) Magazine. The Association will sponsor a delegate to the EANGUS Presidents’ Workshop. It will also fund the attendance of the President or Vice President and the Executive Director or their designee at the annual EANGUS Conference.

Section 3. The National Guard Executive Director’s Association (NGEDA). The Association will sponsor the President, the Vice President and the Executive Director as members of NGEDA and send at least one representative to NGEDA meetings/workshops.

Section 4. The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee in Connecticut.

Section 5. The Connecticut National Guard’s Family Support Group.

Section 6. The Minority Military Association of Connecticut.

Article III – Membership and Dues

Section 1. Membership.

- a. Member (Annual). Any current member (officer or enlisted) of the Army or Air National Guard of Connecticut is entitled to membership upon payment of annual dues.
- b. Life Member. Any current member (officer or enlisted) of the Army or Air National Guard of Connecticut shall be entitled to a Life Membership upon payment of 10 times the annual membership fees (effective 1 January 1990).
- c. Retired Life Member. Any former member (officer or enlisted) of the Army or Air National Guard of Connecticut who is a member of the Retired Reserve or is retired under Title III U.S. Code, upon reaching age 60 shall be entitled to a Retired Life Membership upon payment of 10 times the annual membership fees (effective 1 January 1990).
- d. Honorary Member. Individuals not otherwise eligible for membership who make significant contributions to the welfare or benefit of the Association may be granted honorary membership by affirmative vote of the Executive Council. Honorary members are non-voting members of the Association and as such can participate in official functions and social events, but are not authorized to cast ballots or vote in any activity of the Association. Honorary members are not required to pay dues.
- e. Associate Member. Any other person who is interested in and dedicated to the purposes of the Association may be granted associate membership affirmative vote of the Executive Council. Associate members are non-voting members of the Association and as such can participate in official functions and social events, but are not authorized to cast ballots or vote in any activity of the Association. Associate members are required to pay annual dues.
- f. Associate Life Member. Same as Associate Member except upon payment of a life membership fee.
- g. Corporate Member. Any company, firm, organization or corporation that is interested in and dedicated to the purposes of the Association may be granted corporate membership with the affirmative vote of the Executive Council. Corporate members are non-voting members of the Association and as such can participate in official functions and social events, but are not authorized to cast ballots or vote in any activity of the Association. Corporate members are required to pay annual corporate dues.

Section 2. Dues

- a. Term of membership shall be on a calendar year basis from 1 January thru 31 December each year.
- b. Members called to involuntary active federal service or deployed OCONUS in excess of thirty (30) days will be carried on the rolls of the Association as active members during the period of active federal service.
- c. An appropriate membership card will be issued to all members.

Section 3. Fee Structure

- a. Member (Annual) - \$ 11.00
- b. Associate Member - \$ 11.00
- c. Corporate Memberships shall be conferred based upon the amount of the membership fee paid by such member in accordance with the following fee structure:
 - i. Contributing Member \$1,000.00
 - ii. Bronze Member \$1,500.00
 - iii. Silver Member \$2,500.00
 - iv. Gold Member \$3,500.00
 - v. Platinum Member \$5,000.00
- d. The Executive Council may accord appropriate forms of recognition and privileges commensurate with the category of membership and level of activity of such members consistent with the terms of members as set forth above.

Section 4. Dues for active Guardsmen or Retirees who have been policy holders of record in the NGACT sponsored Group Insurance Plan for over one year and have coverage of \$20,000 or more shall be enrolled as a paid NGACT member. Their membership in the Association is active until such time that their insurance policy shall lapse; unless they are life members; or until they pay annual dues.

Article IV – Committees

All committees will consist of at least three members and will be chaired by a member of the Association with the affirmative vote of the Executive Council.

Section 1. Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) committee. The EANGUS committee shall consist of all the Enlisted members of the Executive Council and will be chaired by one of the top three officers that is enlisted. This committee will coordinate all EANGUS affairs including:

- a. The nomination of delegates to the annual EANGUS conference.
- b. To enroll Enlisted members of the Association in EANGUS, to collect EANGUS dues and issue EANGUS membership cards.

Section 2. Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee (ESGR). To coordinate national ESGR activities at the State level.

Section 3. Equal Opportunity Committee. To coordinate Equal Opportunity policy with the Army and Air National Guard in the State of Connecticut.

Section 4. Family Support Committee. To coordinate Family Support of the National Guard activities in the State of Connecticut.

Section 5. Finance Committee. The Finance Committee shall make recommendations for the collection, expenditure and safekeeping of funds of the Association. The committee will be responsible for selecting the annual auditor.

Section 6. Legislative Committee. To establish liaison with various legislative bodies within the state with special regards to interests of the Connecticut National Guard; to undertake such legislative action and measures as the Executive Council and the Association may direct; advise the Association of current state of pertinent legislation and to prepare resolutions or other material for submission to the legislature. One member of this committee may be registered as a legislative agent.

Section 7. Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall keep records of membership of the Association and make a report to the annual meeting or any other time upon call of the President. This committee shall prepare all membership forms and membership cards. The Membership Committee shall have the power to designate Unit Representatives to act on its behalf in enrollment and the collection of dues from the membership.

Section 8. The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) Committee. The NGAUS Committee shall consist of all Commissioned and Warrant Officer members of the Executive Council and will be chaired by one of the top three officers of the Association that is a commissioned or warrant officer. The committee will coordinate all NGAUS affairs including:

- a. The nomination of delegates to the annual NGAUS conference.
- b. To monitor the NGAUS membership program.
- c. To encourage all members to attend the annual conference.

Section 9. Public Affairs and Information Committee. The committee shall promote the goals and purposes of the Association by informing the public of the activities and achievements of the Association. It shall disseminate timely news releases and announcements to the public news media for release thru the office of the President. Publish a quarterly newsletter.

Section 10. The President of the Association may appoint such special committees as he deems necessary. The membership thereof shall consist of such members as the President may determine.

Article V – Order of Business.

The order of business meetings, in so far as possible, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VI – Finance

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be from 1 January each year through 31 December of the same year.

Section 2: An annual budget for expenditure of all Association funds will be prepared. The Executive Council will review the budget quarterly and approve the expenditures for the next quarter.

Section 3. Expenditure of funds must be for either internal operations of the Association or within the scope of the NGA CT Constitution, Article II – Purpose of the Association.

Section 4. All requirements for funds must be submitted in writing with complete justification to the Finance Committee for review and inclusion in each year's budget.

Section 5. The schedule for remuneration is as follows:

- a. Secretary up to \$100.00 annually
- b. Treasurer up to \$100.00 annually
- c. Executive Director up to \$250.00 monthly

Article VII – Executive Director

The Executive Director shall monitor and implement such programs of insurance as approved by the Executive Council and cause such funds derived from insurance operations to be maintained by the treasurer.

Article VIII – Awards and Recognitions

The Executive Board may recognize outstanding achievement or service in keeping with the purpose, goals, objectives and policies of the Association through the presentation of any or all of the awards set forth below. The Executive Board shall determine an appropriate mechanism for identifying and selecting deserving recipients and may appoint an ad hoc committee(s) to assist in the selection process. Announcement and presentation of awards and recognition will be made at the Annual Conference except where presentation of awards to National Guard units, corporations or other organizations would be more effectively made by a representative of the Association visiting such unit, corporation or organization directly.

Section 1: The Minuteman Award: This award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of the Association. It recognizes exceptional achievement, a patriotic act, highly distinguished service and/or an outstanding contribution to a military organization, community, the State, the Nation or the National Guard Association of Connecticut. Posthumous awards may be made to next of kin.

Eligibility: Member or former member of the military
Member of NGA CT

Section 2: The NGA CT Leadership Award: This award recognizes a company grade officer who epitomizes the loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage exemplified in the Officer's Creed.

Eligibility: Company grade officer, member of the Connecticut National Guard

Member of NGACT

Recommendation endorsed by the chain of command

Section 3: The CSM Anthony V. Savino Award: This award recognizes a noncommissioned officer who epitomizes the loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage exemplified in the NCO Creed.

Eligibility: NCO and member of the Connecticut National Guard

Member of NGACT

Recommendation endorsed by the chain of command

Section 4: The Meritorious Service Award: The Meritorious Service Award is bestowed on an individual, firm or organization for outstanding service to the Connecticut National Guard and/or the National Guard Association of Connecticut.

Eligibility: Any individual, firm or organization, military or civilian

Section 5: The President's Corporate Member Award: This award recognizes a corporate member that distinguishes itself through noteworthy contribution in furtherance of the purpose, goals and objectives of the Association.

Eligibility: Current corporate member of NGACT

Section 6: The President's Retiree Award: This award recognizes the retiree member who distinguishes him/herself through noteworthy contribution in furtherance of the purpose, goals, objectives and policies of the Association.

Eligibility: Retired member of the military

Member of NGACT

Section 7: Connecticut National Guard Unit Awards: These awards recognize units that distinguish themselves through their levels of commitment to and participation in the Association and its functions.

Highest Membership: Unit strength vs. Unit membership

Highest Enlisted Membership: Enlisted strength vs. Enlisted membership

Highest Officer Membership: Officer strength vs. Officer membership

President's Unit Membership Awards

Gold Award 100% membership

Silver Award 90% membership

Bronze Award 80% membership

Most Improved Unit Membership Award

Highest Participation at Annual Conference: Unit strength vs. Unit attendance