

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment

## By-Laws

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."*  
Psalms 119:105

1. The 43<sup>rd</sup> Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment, hereinafter referred to as "the Unit", is a Christian, faith-based and family oriented unit, and its members will conduct themselves as such at all times when representing the unit.
2. Unit Command Staff shall consist of the following: One (1) Captain, one (1) Lieutenant, one (1) First Sergeant per company, and two (2) Corporals per company. The unit will appoint one (1) Chaplain. The position of Chaplain shall carry no field rank.
3. Participation in any event is one hundred percent (100%) voluntary. Each member participates in an event at his or her own risk regarding injury, etc.
4. No alcoholic beverage or illegal substance, narcotic or drug will be tolerated at any time within the ranks of the unit at any event in which the unit is participating. Any member of the unit found to be under the influence of the above will be given an opportunity to leave the event willingly. If that person refuses to leave willingly, he or she will be escorted from the event site by the unit Captain or his designee and will be reported to event coordinators.
5. Any member of the unit found to be in possession of any illegal substance, narcotic, or drug will be escorted from the event site by the Captain or his designee and will be reported immediately to local law enforcement personnel for prosecution.
6. Any member of the unit found to be in violation of unit by-laws 4 and/or 5 will be dismissed from the unit immediately and will forfeit any dues and/or monies paid to the unit. The Captain or his designee at any event will have absolute authority to make decisions for the good of the unit in these instances.
7. Military impressions will meet minimum standards as set forth in unit guidelines, but will generally be appropriate for mid-war Army of Tennessee impressions. Each member of the unit will be furnished with a printed copy of military uniform guidelines. Only unit officers and appropriate NCOs will carry side-arms on the field.
8. Civilian impressions will meet minimum standards for general civilian clothing patterns for the approximate period of the War for Southern Independence. Each member of the unit will be furnished with a printed copy of Civilian Impression guidelines.

9. The unit will camp as a unit at any event in which it takes part. All members are urged to camp with the unit.
10. Civilians and family will always be welcome at the unit's camp site unless prohibited by event guidelines or regulations set forth by event organizers.
11. Any person desiring to become a member will complete the following steps:
  - A) Complete and return application form.
  - B) Attend a minimum of two (2) events with the unit.
  - C) Attend a minimum of two (2) overnight camping events with the unit.

Once an applicant has met requirements A, B and C above, that person will be presented before the unit and membership will be voted upon by unit members in attendance, providing that a quorum of unit members is present. A two-thirds majority vote in the affirmative shall be required for acceptance into the unit.

12. A new member will have one (1) calendar year from admission into the unit to complete his or her impression kit. Special circumstances will be considered on an individual basis for members who do not or cannot complete their kits in the time allotted. A "Kit" will be understood to consist of: **Military members:** uniform, weapon, accoutrements and shoes and for **Civilian members:** at least one complete set of period clothing, including shoes.
13. The unit will hold drills once per month (12 times per calendar year). Time permitting, drills may be conducted at an event in lieu of a regularly scheduled drill date. Military and civilian members will be expected to participate in drill days, as activities for both segments of the unit will be included on drill days.
14. The unit will conduct a minimum of two (2) business meetings per calendar year. Regular business meetings will be held in January and August, with exact dates to be announced with a minimum of 30 days advance notice. Other business meetings may be called by the Captain as special circumstances arise. It will be the duty of the Captain, First Lieutenant, and the First Sergeant to notify all unit members of called business meetings. All unit members will be expected to attend any business meeting.
15. Any unit member (military or civilian) whose dues are current will be allowed to vote on unit business.
16. Annual dues will be assessed as follows:

Individual dues:	\$20 (Twenty dollars) per year
Family dues:	\$30 (Thirty dollars) per year

Any military participant age 17 or older shall be required to pay individual dues. Additional monies may be asked occasionally of members for specific purposes (to purchase rations, donations for camp and cook gear, to collect funds toward a unit flag, etc.) Under no circumstances shall a member be asked to remit additional monies without precise and exact explanations of why those monies are being requested.

17. All unit members in attendance at an event will be expected to participate in unit activities. These activities shall include, but not limited to; meal preparation, collection of hay, water, firewood, campsite cleanup, and so on at the close of an event. The First Sergeant and his NCO designee will create and carry out fatigue details for this purpose at each event.
18. Unit officers and NCOs will serve by appointment only. The unit commander will only make these appointments. Special appointments or brevets will be made to fill open positions. A brevet will last only for a particular event. Long term brevets will be made as circumstances dictate. Long term brevets will be established and approved by the Command Staff only.
19. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, a vote or election will be considered valid only if a quorum of members is present at any meeting in which voting is to take place.
20. At no time will any officer, NCO, or any member of the unit be held liable for injury, dismemberment, illness or death which may befall a member of the unit, assuming that standard safety practices have been followed. The unit will assume no liability for the safety and/or well-being of any individual. The unit command staff will be responsible for seeing that standard safety practices are followed at all times by unit members.
21. Even though we do not generally fire live projectiles, members should not need reminding that our weapons are just that – weapons. Misuse, abuse or neglect can result in serious injury and/or death. Therefore, weapons will be well-maintained and kept in safe operating condition. Under absolutely no circumstances will a damaged, excessively dirty or otherwise unsafe weapon be loaded or used in any way at all, at any time at any event in which the unit is participating. Any member knowingly violating this regulation will be asked to leave the event immediately and may be subject to further penalty or punishment from the unit Command Staff.
22. The unit camp will be maintained in a neat and orderly fashion at all times. Although allowed in camp, any modern items (coolers, modern bedding, etc.) will remain completely hidden from public view at all times.
23. Each member will be properly prepared for approaching events. Each member will be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of personal gear. (Do not wait until the morning of an event to sew buttons, purchase caps, roll cartridges, etc. Don't be the one who has to hunt for your brogans on Friday afternoon!) Remember, we function as a military organization, and each member should be prepared to act as such.