



Rules for the Annual Department Convention

2026

June 18-21, 2026

PROPOSED

By the AMVETS Department of Florida
State Executive Committee

CONVENTION RULES

The Convention rules are developed by the AMVETS Department of Florida Bylaws Articles III and IV. The Convention rules are presented to the State Executive Committee for consideration at the S.E.C. meeting preceding the annual convention. The Department Headquarters will circulate those rules to the posts at least 30 days before the Annual Convention. The Convention Rules may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates assembled at the Annual Department Convention. The Convention Rules approval vote will be the first item at the State Convention.

1. Pre-registration: The cost or registration for the AMVETS Department of Florida 2026 Convention shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00) for pre-registration and twenty – five dollars (\$25.00) at the Convention. Applications can also be mailed to the Credentials Committee Chairman postmarked on or before June 10,2026. Applications postmarked after June 10, 2026, shall not be recognized. The Credentials Chairman is:

Brenda Binegar, Credentials Committee
1720 N Lombardo Ave
Lecanto, FL 34461
E-mail littlebee06@outlook.com

2. Registration: The registration desk shall be open during the following hours at the Department Convention:

Friday	June 19, 2026	12:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Saturday	June 20, 2026	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
3. Registration Procedures: Each Delegate or Alternate must present a current membership card reflecting the post for which they are registering. A picture ID is required to verify the name on the membership card. Each Delegate must have been a member in good standing in their post for a minimum of 30 days before the convention. **AMVETS not meeting this requirement or membership in a post that has not been properly revalidated shall be registered as a guest and shall not have a voice or vote during the ELECTIONS (See “*” for detailed information).** Delegates from a post that has been chartered during these six months are exempt from this requirement. However, their post must be approved for Charter before June 1, 2024.
4. Delegates: Each revalidated Post in the Department shall be entitled to two (2) delegates for the first twenty-five (25) paid-up members. Each Post is authorized to have one (1) additional delegate for each twenty-five (25) paid-up members, or major fraction thereof, over, and exclusive of the first twenty-five (25) paid-up members. The Executive Director shall advise each Post, not later than 30 days prior to the convention, the number of delegates they are entitled to. Each Post shall be entitled to one (1) alternate

for each delegate. Eligible alternates may vote only in the event the delegate they represent is absent from the floor.

5. Order of Business: The order of business shall be determined by the Chairman in accordance with the published agenda of the convention.
6. Quorum: One third (1/3) of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum of all Convention business, providing there is at least one (1) elected officer to preside over the meeting.
7. Dress Code: Neither delegates, alternates or guests will be permitted on the convention floor wearing shorts, tank tops or sandals, etc. All shirts must have a collar. The only cover authorized is the official AMVETS cover. Reasonable accommodations will be made for all members with disabilities. All who are physically challenged should remain seated during all ceremonies.
8. Voting: During the business sessions all duly registered AMVETS present have full voice and vote. All duly registered AMVETS members shall have one (1) vote except during elections. Post delegates shall be entitled to one (1) vote each for the elective officers of the Department. The Department Commander must cast his vote in the event of a tie vote. Alternates may only have a vote if the delegate is not on the floor. Guests will not be eligible to vote.
9. Nominations: Intentions to become a candidate for office may be announced at any time. Nominations for any office shall be made at the spring SEC and at the State Convention on Saturday of the Convention. Nominations speeches, and seconding speeches, though not required, shall be limited to 5 minutes for Commander and NEC and two minutes for all others. In addition, nominations will be reopened for each office on Sunday at 9:00 AM or immediately following the credentials report. No speeches shall be permitted on the Sunday of the elections.
 - a) Members with intentions of running for an elected office that have not previously shown valid credentials must show valid credentials before Sunday morning elections.
10. Election Procedures: Elections shall be by roll call of revalidated Posts and shall be conducted by the Commander and supervised by the Judge Advocate with the assistance of the Provost Marshal. The order of Post voting shall be determined by a random drawing of a post number immediately following the first credentials report on Saturday.
 - a) If a member nominated is unopposed, the Chair, after ensuring that in fact no member present wishes to make further nominations; declares that the nominee is elected.
11. Elections: The order for voting shall be as follows on Sunday, June 21, 2026

- a) Commander
- b) First Vice Commander
- c) Second Vice Commander
- d) Judge Advocate
- e) Finance Officer
- f) Provost Marshal
- g) Finance Committee Trustee (3 Year)
- h) Service Foundation A (3 Year)

12. Installation of Officers: All elected officers shall be installed immediately following the adjournment of the Department Convention.

- Revalidation requirements
Every Post shall be required to revalidate its charter within seven (7) days following the annual meeting. An appropriate device to be issued by the National Department shall evidence such charter revalidation. In order to revalidate such charter, receive a Certificate of Revalidation of its charter, and have the ability to register for the State Convention, each Post, aside from any other requirements imposed in these Bylaws, shall:

- A. Furnish the Department Executive Director with a certified list of current Post Officers. In the "Official Contact" section of the AMVETS Post Officer Form, each post will be encouraged to enter a permanent Mailing address. This address should be the one and only address to which all official post correspondence will be sent.
- B. File Internal Revenue Form 990 for the Post calendar or fiscal year with the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS), as required by current IRS regulations, and indicate on the Revalidation form the date the 990 was filed with the IRS.
- C. Furnish the Department Judge Advocate with two (2) copies of the Post's current Constitution and Bylaws or a certification stating the copy previously submitted has not been materially amended.
- D. Be fully paid with all Post accounts with Department and National Headquarters.
- E. Any post operating a clubroom, Canteen or Social Quarters shall be required to carry workers' compensation insurance (in accordance with the law of the state of Florida) and public liability insurance, including product liability and personal injury coverage, with a minimum single limit of \$300,000. Posts that maintain a building primarily for meeting purposes shall be required to carry public liability insurance, including product liability and personal injury coverage with a minimum single limit coverage of \$100,000 or the minimum local amount prescribed by the State of Florida. The AMVETS Department of Florida and the AMVETS National Headquarters shall be included as additional insured in all policies and a certificate of said insurance shall be furnished to the AMVETS Department of Florida and to AMVETS National Headquarters.

- F. Have at least ten (10) members in good standing at the time of revalidation.
- G. Provide the Department Executive Director with a copy of the Post Articles of Incorporation and certificates of good standing issued by the Florida Department of State, Division of Corporations.
- H. Provide the Department Executive Director with proof of Bonding Officers handling over \$5,000.00 of AMVETS funds. Two (2) copies of all the above must be submitted, one to be placed in the Department files and the others to be forwarded to the National Headquarters. Failure to comply with the above requirements will result in the noncomplying Post not being seated at the State Convention.