

**THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN
CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMITTEE
RULES OF PROCEDURE**

Authorization:

This committee was authorized in its present form at Department Convention, July 20, 1975, although the Committee had been established at an earlier date.

Membership:

Subject to the Department Commander's discretion, and with the approval of the Department Executive Committee, the Children and Youth Committee of the Department of Michigan will normally consist of six (6) regular members with vote, and two (2) alternate members, without vote, unless they are serving in the absence of a regular member.

Per the American Legion Department of Michigan Bylaws (June 2019)

Article V Section 1 (Sentence 3): Department Commander The Commander shall appoint all standing committees, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, except as otherwise provided.

Article VI, Section 4: All committee members shall be appointed and may be removed for cause by the Department Commander, with the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The Department Commander shall name the Chairman of each committee to serve until the next Department Convention.

Members that are on mandated committees (Permanent Time and Place), or serving in an Alternate or Assistant position on the Department Executive Committee, may also serve on an appointive Department committee but not in a Chairmanship, with the exception of the Permanent Time and Place Chairman, who may serve in that role.

No member shall receive per diem and travel pay more than once per call, regardless of the number of committees they serve on."

Article VI, Section 5: The term of office of all members of Department Committees shall be staggered so that the term of one-half of the Committee shall expire at the close of the annual Department Convention each year. Appointments, except when a shorter term shall be necessary to comply with this provision, shall be for a term of two (2) years each.

Section 6: No Legionnaire may be appointed to serve on more than one regular standing appointive Department Committee at any one time.

"Alternate members will be appointed to serve a one-year term and will be designated as first and second alternate." (DEC April 20, 1974)

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At the first meeting of the new term, the Children and Youth Committee will elect one of its members to serve as Vice Chairman and one to serve as Secretary during that term of office. The Vice Chairman shall assume all duties of the Chairman in that person's absence.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Children and Youth Committee is to formulate and implement plans, programs and activities designed to assure care and protection for the children of veterans and to improve conditions for all children and youth with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home, preventing social and physical ills of children and youth where possible, utilizing services of and cooperating with sound organizations and agencies for children and youth, and maintaining a balanced program that provides for their physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs.

Meetings:

(Per the Department Bylaws) Article VIII, Section 2: Expenses - No Department officer or member of any committee shall be paid or reimbursed from the funds of the Department for any travel or other expense incurred upon Department business, unless a travel order or other suitable order, duly Called by the Department Commander or duly signed by the Department Adjutant, shall accompany the order for payment thereof.

Meeting Schedule:	Member	Chairman
Fall Leadership Conference	One day	Three days
Winter Meeting	None	One day
Department Convention	One day	Two days

Special Meetings:

Necessary special meetings may be held at Department Headquarters, via telephone conference, or internet conference capability (provided all members can hear each member during proceedings), with no mileage nor per diem authorized. Lunch may be provided by Committee funds with prior approval of the Department Commander. *(Rev 3.12.17)*

Per diem and/or mileage:

Per diem and/or mileage, if any, and only upon the authority of the Department Commander, shall be in accordance with current published Department policy, as recommended by the Department Finance/Personnel Committee and approved by the Department Executive Committee.

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Minutes:

Written minutes of each meeting shall be recorded by the Secretary and shall constitute the Chairman's report to the Department Executive Committee or the delegates to the Department

Convention and will be included in the official proceeding of the meeting, conferences or convention thereby being made a permanent record for retention at the Department office. Minutes of any special meetings, adoption of motions or resolutions approved at any time occurring between Department meetings, conferences or convention shall be incorporated into the next official proceedings. Recommendations and/or resolutions must be presented in proper form to the Department Executive Committee or delegates at the Department Convention.

Transacting Business:

The committee may transact business by mail, telephone, e-mail, and other technologies including, but not limited to, Skype, Facetime, conference calls, and webinar/video chat, provided all members see/hear all votes made. If an e-mail vote is implemented, each response must be forwarded to all members of the Committee. If standard mail, the voting shall be considered closed at the end of seven (7) business days provided a majority of members of the committee have returned to the Chairman their votes by that time, or it shall be considered closed at anytime prior thereto and when all the members have returned their votes. Other technical votes include a telephone conference or web conference provided each member can see and/or hear each other members' votes. In the event one-third (1/3) members of the committee objects in writing, the matter shall not be decided and will be considered as the first order of business at the next regular meeting or special meeting and the Chairman shall notify the committee of the action taken. *(Rev 3.12.17, 6.24.18 Res. 18-C-15))*

Chairman:

The Chairman, with the Children and Youth Committee, shall establish a Department program and administer same following the National Guidelines. The Children and Youth program shall be presented to the Department Executive Committee for approval at the Fall Conference.

The Chairman, with the Committee, shall present a Children and Youth School of Instruction at the Fall Conference. The Chairman shall prepare a School of Instruction for The American Legion session, which may be held jointly with the American Legion Auxiliary.

The Chairman shall accumulate all information pertinent to the program and shall disseminate the information to the Chairman of the various districts and posts.

The Chairman shall implement all mandates of the Annual Department Convention to the Children and Youth Committee.

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The Chairman, with the Committee, shall develop a financial budget for expenses of the Children and Youth Committee and program. The budget is to be presented to the Department Finance/Personnel Committee for approval at the annual budget meeting.

The reviewing of Consolidated Post Reports for awards will be done the Thursday of each annual Department Convention, wherever it may be held. The Chairman or Vice Chairman shall represent the Department of Michigan at Region V and present the Michigan program as prepared by the Children and Youth Committee. In the event the Chairman or Vice Chairman cannot attend the conference the Committee, with the Chairman, shall appoint a representative.

An Annual Report shall be written and submitted to the Editor by May 1st of each year.

Procedure:

Parliamentary procedure used to conduct meetings of this committee shall be governed by the Department of Michigan, The American Legion, Constitution and By-Laws. All questions not covered by the Department of Michigan Constitution and By-Laws will be governed by "Roberts Rules of Orders Newly Revised."

Quorum:

A quorum shall exist at any meeting of the Children and Youth Committee when a majority thereof shall be present, or shall have replied to mail polling. At no time shall lack of a quorum prevent those present from proceeding with the program but, where there is not a quorum, no vote shall be taken.

Amendments:

These procedures may be amended, in content but not in format, by a majority of the members of the Committee; submitted to the Internal Affairs Committee for review and recommendation; and approved by the Department Executive Committee.

Approved: *DEC July 29, 1978*

Amended: *DEC July 19, 1984, July 8, 2006, September 19, 2009, September 2014, March 2017, June 24, 2018, Feb. 16, 2020*