

52nd Tennessee Co. C / 52TH Illinois Co. C BYLAWS

PURPOSE: The purpose of these bylaws is to establish a written standard and historical culture for the 52th Tennessee Infantry, Company C, (C.S.) / 52th Illinois Infantry, Company C (U.S.), hereafter to be referred to as “the company”. The bylaws are meant to lay the groundwork for the accurate portrayal of soldiers and civilians during the Civil War (1861-1865), while maintaining a family-friendly atmosphere.

ORGANIZATION

Member Requirements

1. Members must be 16 yo with an adult sponsor (e.g. Brother, Father, or Uncle) OR 18 yo or greater.
2. Members must supply contact information or a change of address, phone or status to the adjutant. Name, Address, Phone Number, and Email Address required.
3. Members must be in good physical health. If in question consult your primary care Physician.
4. Report all major Health issues to Adjutant. (e.g. High Blood Pressure, Diabetes, Allergies, Seizures...)
5. The company reserves the right to charge dues of \$15 a year. if the company strength reaches of 10 to 15 active members.

Voting Privilege

1. Only members who have met the criteria above and below shall be allowed to cast a single vote in elections and matters of company business.
2. Members must have attended a minimum of three (3) events during the previous year to gain voting privilege.
3. A two-thirds (2/3) quorum of votes must be recorded by attendance at the meeting and/or by email as listed below.
4. Voting is to be in person at appointed meeting.
5. To vote by email it must be sent to all 3 elected officers by midnight BEFORE the day of the scheduled vote or meeting. Those abstaining from a vote or votes received after the designated due date will be assumed by default to the judgment of the majority of those members present at that particular meeting.
6. In the event of a tie the 3 elected officers' votes will become the deciding factor.

Elected Positions

1. **Point-of-Contact** – hereafter referred to as the POC, shall be responsible for sending a quarterly newsletter to all members, and shall maintain regular contact with all members. The POC shall also act as the company treasurer.
2. **Adjutant** – shall be responsible for maintaining the active membership roster, the company website, keeping up with officer and NCO lists, keeping up with member attendance at events, and shall handle event registration.
3. **Quartermaster** – shall be responsible for maintaining lists of all extra military and civilian clothing or equipment that is available, and the members willing to loan out said clothing and equipment as needed.
4. Each officer's role must be fulfilled by a different active member.
5. All elected positions shall be chosen by simple majority vote, to be cast on secret ballot, by all voting members for a term of two (2) years. The newest member of the company shall count the votes.
6. If an officer must step down before his time in the role is fulfilled. An Election shall occur within 30 days of vacancy.
7. Elected positions shall be automatically eligible for a position on either the officer or NCO list, as befits their choice.
8. Members elected or appointed to Battalion or higher level positions shall be ineligible for company office for the duration of the other position.

RANK STRUCTURE

Officer List

1. The Officer List shall be a rotating list of members who meet the qualifications detailed below.
2. Member shall have five (5) years active reenacting experience or 15 events within the current five years.
3. Member must demonstrate (during any event, drill or education event) a working knowledge of Hardee's School of the Soldier, School of the Company, Instruction for Skirmishers, and have a passing familiarity with Hardee's School of the Battalion.
4. Someone with confirmed working knowledge and fulfilled the officer's position the candidate seeks may check off the candidate.
5. The check off person shall be provided a minimum check off sheet for candidate.

NCO List

1. The NCO List shall be a rotating list of members who meet the qualifications detailed below.

2. Member shall have one (1) year active reenacting experience or 3 events within the current 1 year.
3. Member must demonstrate (during either Fall or Spring Muster) a working knowledge of Hardee's School of the Soldier, School of the Company, and have a passing knowledge of Instruction for Skirmishers.
4. Someone with confirmed working knowledge and who has fulfilled the officer's position the candidate seeks may check off the candidate.
5. The check off person shall be provided a minimum check off sheet for candidate.

Duties

1. Once a member has served in an officer or NCO capacity at an event, his name shall rotate to the bottom of the list.
2. Members on the Officer List are required to learn the duties of a 2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant, and Captain.
3. Members on the NCO List are required to learn the duties of Corporal, Sergeant, and 1st Sergeant.
4. Members on the Officer and NCO Lists are expected to perform the duties of their rank while at an event, without distraction or favoritism.
5. Members who fail to perform their duties, or circumvent bylaws shall forfeit their rank immediately, and have their name removed from the Officer and NCO lists for a period of one (1) year.
6. Members elected or appointed to Battalion or higher level positions shall be ineligible to participate in either the Officer or NCO list for the duration of the other position.

Rank Chart

The following chart shall be consulted prior to an event, to determine the rank to be worn. Rank shall be based on the number of pre-registered members attending.

Men	Cpl.	Sgt.	1st Sgt.	2 nd Lt.	1 st Lt.	Capt.
1-5	1	0	0	0	0	0
6-10	1	1	0	0	0	0
11-15	1	1	1	0	0	0
16-20	1	1	1	1	1	0
20+	2	1	1	1	0	1

MEETINGS / MUSTERS

Annual Meeting

1. The annual meeting shall be every year on the 3rd Sunday in February.

2. The annual meeting shall be the forum for election, setting the events calendar, and for conducting company business.

Monthly Meeting

1. The monthly meeting shall be every month on the 3rd Sunday.
2. The monthly meeting shall be the forum for event elections, setting the events calendar, and for conducting company business.

Musters

1. Spring Muster shall be every spring on the first weekend in March.
2. Fall Muster shall be every fall on the first weekend in November.
3. All musters shall feature drill and training in various military skills related to the Civil War period.
4. Should the set date of the muster conflict with an event, the POC shall choose another date, and must inform every member at least thirty (30) days prior to the event.

Other Meetings

1. Members wishing to call a meeting must issue their wish to do so in writing to the Adjutant with at least thirty (30) days notice.
2. The Adjutant shall contact all members, informing them of the meeting no less than thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

Standard Business

1. Standard business can be conducted without a meeting.
2. Ten days for viewing and or discussing Standard business is required before the vote.
3. Vote will follow as outlined in above section "Voting Privilege".
4. Standard Business is anything not already outlined in the bylaws as requiring special waiting periods or meetings.

Events

1. The Event schedule is posted at www.52ndtennessee.org and it is the member's responsibility to let the adjutant know, if he can or cannot make an event.
2. All possible new events will be forwarded to the Adjutant.
3. Events will be reviewed by the POC.

AUTHENTICITY STANDARDS

Uniforms and Clothing

1. Military members are required to purchase or make a basic Confederate kit first. After this, Federal items may be added. See Uniform Requirement guidelines as posted on company website for further details.
2. If a member wears his period clothing away from the reenactment area, he must remember what his outfit represents and be responsible for himself and the reputation of the company.

Vendors

1. Members are strongly encouraged to use only the vendors on the Approved Vendor list as posted on company website.
2. Members wishing to purchase items from vendors not on the Approved Vendor list, shall consult with a more knowledgeable member before making a purchase.
3. If a member finds a possible authentic vendor please notify one of the elected officers for approval and addition to the list.

General Guidelines

1. The ranking officer or NCO shall be the final authority in either the Military or the Mixed garrison Camp.
2. Upon arrival in camp, members shall have one (1) hour to unload their vehicles and erect their tents. After this vehicles shall be removed from camp and modern light sources shall be prohibited.
3. Members shall remain in period uniform/ clothing anytime they are outside their closed tent.
4. Food and/or drink shall be in a period container when outside closed tent.
5. Pets are prohibited in camp. If the event specifically requests (or lends itself to) animal participation, it shall be up to the commanding officer or NCO whether to grant special permission.
6. No Modern attired friends, family or persons will be allowed in camp except if there are posted visitation times by the event.
7. Any tent left open shall be conditioned inside so that no anachronisms are visible
8. Members shall bring sufficient cartridges and caps for participation in an event. No cartridges shall be rolled outside of closed tent.
9. Any weapon failing inspection shall be prohibited from the field, along with its owner until it has passed inspection.
10. If the weapon is failed the carrier/owner has 30 min to have it in working order.
11. Only muskets on the approved list are allowed. All non-listed weapons are subject to approval by the Ranking officer.

12. Bayonet scabbards without tips shall be prohibited from the field.
13. Physical fighting in or away from camp is not allowed and will not be tolerated from any member and may lead to expulsion from the company..
14. Illegal drug use shall result in immediate expulsion from the company and possible arrest by Law Enforcement.
15. Alcohol shall be consumed only by members twenty-one (21) years old or older. Drunkenness will not be tolerated from any member and may lead to expulsion from the company.
16. The company will not be responsible for any underage drinking. Only the guardian and minor will be held responsible if something should occur from the minor's drinking and/or actions.
17. There will be no handling of weapons of any kind while drinking.
18. Any members requiring expulsion or disciplinary action will be handled by the POC or other officers in his absence.
19. Women are prohibited from serving in the military ranks.

AMENDMENTS

Submission

1. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Adjutant no later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual planning meeting.
2. Proposals must include Article and Section numbers.
3. The Adjutant shall distribute copies of the proposed amendment to all members of the company no less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual planning meeting.

Approval

1. Discussion and voting of amendments shall only take place at the next annual planning meeting.
2. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote from all voting members is required to ratify an amendment.

Institution of Bylaws

Approval in the First

1. Approval of these Bylaws will be adopted by a vote as outlined in above section "Voting Privilege".
2. Institution can be done at any meeting with active current members
3. The Adjutant shall distribute copies of the Bylaws for approval 30 days prior to the Vote.

4. Once these bylaws are instituted all changes must be made by Standard Process as outlined in above section "Voting Privilege".

Dissolution

Dissolution of the company

1. Approval to dissolve the company will be voted on by ALL active members a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required. ALL active members must be in person at the Meeting called for Dissolution.
2. No inactive or active member not meeting requirement as a member as listed in Article named Organization will be allowed to vote or call for dissolution of the company.
3. Email voting is not allowed for dissolution.
4. If this company be dissolved all debts must be paid from company funds first then split equally between all active members and paid off.
5. The POC as acting Treasurer with oversight and help from Adjutant will pay off existing debts.
6. If all debts be paid, after a waiting period of 60 days the treasury will be dissolved and all proceeds split equally between active members at time of dissolution vote.