

Statutes for Danish Veteran Association (DVA)

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§ 1 The Association

Article 1

The name of the association is Danmarks Veteraner (DVA).

Article 2:

The DVA is resident in Denmark and registered at the address of the current President of the association (address is required to always be in Denmark).

§ 2 Objectives

Article 1

DVA objectives:

1. To provide a foundation and facilitate network for all personnel within the Unity of the Realm – Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland - deployed to international missions - military and humanitarian - in order to strengthen and enhance relations and friendships among members.
2. To inform of missions involving personnel from the Unity of the Realm – past and present.
3. To acknowledge and honor veterans – living and deceased – in a worthy manner.
4. 4: To support returning veterans if needed – through Veterans Peer Support (VS) – and to aim at improving conditions for veterans.
5. To participate in the establishment and support of local associations and initiatives.

Article 2

DVA seeks to achieve its goals by way of:

1. National and international rallies, meetings, social arrangements and miscellaneous activities.
2. Seminars and information meetings.
3. Publishing of DVA magazine – Baretten.
4. Establishing and run relevant websites and other social media platforms.
5. To inform of the DVA activities through other relevant media.

Article 3

DVA seeks to achieve the goals by way of:

Establishing and maintaining contact and cooperation with the Ministry of Defense, the Defense, related organizations and institutions, as well as authorities and institutions of the civil administration at all levels.

To further the DVA objectives, contact and cooperation with civilian associations is pursued, nationally as well as internationally.

Article 4

DVA claim political neutrality.

§ 3 Logo

Symbols and insignia

Article 1

The DVA colors are red, white and blue (representing national colors, NATO colors and EU colors). The symbol is a Danish Mantova Cross with an added veteran insignia centrally placed.

Article 2

The DVA insignia may be used in connection with activities in both local associations and DVA activities.

Any other implementation of the symbol may take place only by preapproval from the DVA.

Article 3

The DVA provides national access to UN, OSCE, NATO and EU banners as well as to national Danish flags.

The local associations have no commitments to flags beyond the Danish flag.

§ 4 DVA members

Article 1

Danmarks Veteraner (DVA) is the association of men and women officially qualifying as Veterans – either having been awarded an Official Medal or received an official Veteran ID Card in recognition of their contribution to international missions.

Article 2

The Controller of the national membership register approves and registers new members and refers to a local association. Any applicant and any member, however, is entitled to choose a local association according to personal preference.

Article 3

At their own request, members residing abroad are welcome to apply for membership at either a local association or directly to the DVA.

Article 4

Anyone is welcome to join the DVA as a supporting member. Supporting members pay a membership fee and receive the DVA magazine. Beyond the membership, supporting

members have neither commitments nor rights with respect to the running of their designated local association.

Article 5

Some DVA activities are open to all members, supporting members and relatives.

Article 6

Members, relatives and supporting members may participate in activities of any local association regardless of affiliation.

Article 7

Any applicant considered a liability to the DVA reputation and interests may be denied membership following a coordinated review amongst the Board, the Controller of the national membership register and the local association in question

Article 8

Exclusion of a member harming the DVA reputation and interests can be decided solely by the Executive Committee following a written motion from the Board or the local association. Appearing at a meeting of the Executive Committee the member is entitled to make a statement in relation to the matter at hand as well as to the written proposal.

The member is entitled to appoint an assessor.

Article 9

Resignation from the DVA must be addressed to the DVA Controller of the national membership register in writing. Without delay, he will inform the local association.

Lack of payment will result in annulment of the membership and loss of seniority. Prior to this, the local association will, however, contact the member.

§ 5 The DVA Structure

Organization structure:

1. The Executive Committee: The highest authority of the DVA.
2. The Board: The Board is responsible for the day to day running of the DVA, its external activities and the management of funds made available to the DVA through membership fees and donations (see §7).
3. Representatives Meeting: Meeting with elected chairmen of all local associations. This assembly acts as advisory committee to the Board with respect to current cases and questions.
4. Local Associations: Responsible for contacts to members as well as to local communities.

§ 6 The Executive Committee

Article 1.

The Executive Committee constitutes the highest authority of the DVA and sets its own rules of procedure

Article 2

The Executive Committee consists of:

1. Members of the Board.
2. Representatives of local associations.

The latter are appointed by each local association. Elected chairmen of said associations are permanent members

Additionally, the local associations may appoint one further representative per 100 members as per the 31st of December the previous year (supporting members not included). However, it is possible for any local association to decide further representation by up to 2 members in addition to the elected chairman.

Article 3

The Annual Executive Committee Meeting takes place in April with a prior summons of at least 4 weeks including a preliminary agenda.

The final agenda including a list of candidates for election and reelection together with documents pertaining to the annual meeting, is to be made public no later than 2 weeks before the meeting.

Article 4

The DVA National Secretary facilitates the availability of the agenda, the annual report, incoming proposals and all relevant documents to the local associations, which in turn, are responsible for the circulation to all representatives.

Whenever possible, this information should be accessible digitally.

Article 5

The Executive Committee meetings consists of participants from:

1. Members of the Board.
2. Representatives from the local associations.
3. One observer from the UN museum (no voting rights).
4. Selected guests such as DVA honorary member, Board deputy members, Veteran Peer Support members or designated project members, all invited by either the Executive Committee or a local association (none of whom with rights to vote).

Article 6

A member of the Board cannot simultaneously represent a local association.

Article 7

Agenda for the annual meeting is to comprise at least:

1. Election of chairman of the meeting as well as rapporteur
2. Acceptance of procedure (§6. Art. 3)
3. Election of tellers
4. Approval of agenda
5. The annual report from the Board, presentation and approval. To be presented by the residing President
6. Activity briefing from the chairman of the VS subcommittee (Veterans Peer Support)
7. Financial statement and budget; presentation and approval. To be presented by the Treasurer
 - a. Determination of upcoming annual membership fees as well as division of funds to local associations
8. Incoming proposals
9. Election of Board
10. Election of auditor
 - a. Election of statutory auditor
 - b. Election of internal auditors
11. Miscellaneous

Article 8

Proposals for the annual Executive Committee meeting should be submitted to the committee no later the 10th of March or immediately following the annual general assemblies of the local associations.

Article 9

Apart from association statutes, the Executive Committee addresses proposals as follows:

1. Voting by show of hands.
2. In case of majority request by showing of hands, a proposal may be put to the vote in writing.
3. Proposals are adopted by simple majority.
4. Each member represents only one vote and voting by power of attorney is not accepted.
5. In case of a tie, the proposal will be annulled.

Article 10

The Executive Committee's election of Board members:

1. All DVA members are eligible to the Board.
2. Candidates are nominated by either the Executive Committee or a local association
Nomination for reelection may take place.

3. Candidates nominated for election are, as a rule, required to be present at the annual Executive Committee meeting at the nomination in order to introduce themselves. In cases of reelection, personal appearance is not required.
4. Should the candidate be absent, a written consent to the nomination should be made available to the chairman of the meeting.
5. In case of multiple nominees, the nominations should be put to the vote in writing.
6. The number of names at the ballot paper must concur with the number of candidates nominated for election, and no single name can appear on any ballot more than once.
7. All nominations are decided by simple majority.
8. All members entitle to vote have one (1) vote and voting by power of attorney is not possible.
9. In case of a tie, a reelection is required.

Article 11

The Executive Committee decides on honorary medals and honors.

Article 12

1. The Executive Committee may decide to award an individual member as well as non-member an honorary membership in cases of extraordinary efforts to serve the DVA.
2. Honorary members pay no membership fee.
3. Setting for honorary membership of DVA is presented to the Executive Committee.
1. In special circumstances this membership status can be revoked (see also § 4).

Article 13

The Executive Committee decides to which organizations the DVA will liaise, both national and international.

Article 14

Extraordinary Executive Committee meetings can be convened if a majority of the Committee finds it necessary, or upon a written request from 1/3 of the regular members of the Committee, in which case the request should be accompanied by a substantiated agenda.

Summons procedure as described in § 6 article 3&4.

Article 15

In connection with an extraordinary Executive Committee meeting the DVA will refund mileage costs and meals as well as accommodation.

Refunded mileage allowance for 1 car; 2 cars for local associations participating with more than 4 delegates. Delegates using public transport will receive a refund for travels on regular class. Meals are refundable when travelling more than 6 hours (according to national tax regulations). No other expenses will be refunded by the Committee.

Article 16

Minutes from the Executive Committee meeting will be recorded and signed by the rapporteur as well as the chairman of the meeting. The minutes will be made public on the DVA website.

§ 7 The Board

Article 1

The Board is elected at the annual DVA Executive Committee meeting as follows:

1. National Chairman – elected in odd years.
2. National Treasurer – elected in even years.
3. National secretary – two-year period.
4. Auditor.
5. Five board members:
 - a. Three elected in even years.
 - b. Two elected in odd years.
6. From outside the Board, and without voting privileges, the following are elected for one year:
 - a. Two to four alternate members.
 - b. Election of two statutory auditors.
 - c. Two alternate auditors.
7. Further to be elected for two-years period are:
 - a. One standard-bearer, western Denmark in odd years.
 - b. One standard-bearer, eastern Denmark in even years.

Article 2

The DVA is bound by the signature of the President who may authorize designated member of the Board to act on behalf of the DVA.

Article 3

The DVA President furthermore acts as chairman of the Veterans Peer Support and as president of the Board of Nordic Veterans Federation (BNVF) according to the rotation statutes of the BNVF.

Article 4

Should the President be absent, he/she is automatically replaced by the Vice President.

Article 5

To reach quorum, at least four members of the board as well as the President (or Vice President) must be present.

Article 6

Board Responsibilities:

1. To gather immediately following the annual meeting and appoint a Vice President.
2. To lead and organize the DVA work according to §2 and § 5 art. 2.
3. To assume operational and administrative tasks on behalf of the local associations, among others financial as well as the central administration of the national membership register.
4. To document and report its activities to the Executive Committee.
5. To implement and avail rules of procedure and accounting regulations to the local associations on the website.
6. To have ongoing contacts with the local associations including hosting at least one annual meeting with the association's representatives.
7. To represent the DVA nationally and internationally.
8. To form special ad hoc project committees. The mission and tasks of these committees are to be made available to the local associations.
9. To appoint controller of the national membership register.
10. To appoint editor in chief of the DVA magazine Baretten and implement publications at least 4 times a year.
11. To appoint editor in chief of social media.
12. To appoint statutory auditors.
13. To enter into mutual written agreements with relevant partners.
14. To ensure, through contracts with one or more suppliers, that logos, insignia and other merchandise are made available to the DVA members at reasonable prices.
15. To appoint the Custodian responsible for the Colors and in charge of the Guard of Honor.

Article 7

Alternates members and members of ad hoc special project committees may be involved in the Board activities, however, without voting privileges.

Article 8

Apart from the Chairman, the Board is responsible for appointing the following designated members to the Veteran Peer Support standing committee:

1. Vice chairman.
2. Financial controller.
3. Accountant.
4. Secretary.

Article 9

The Board decisions are made by simple majority. In case of tie vote, the President or Vice President has the casting vote.

Article 10

Board meetings may be convened by the Chairman or by a majority of the board.

Article 11

All expenses related to Board meetings are met by the DVA. It is expected that costs of transport and catering are kept at a moderate level.

Article 12

The DVA is not responsible or liable for financial or other contractual agreements entered into by any local associations.

§ 8 Representatives Meeting

Article 1

Each fall – usually by the last week of September – the chairman of the board hosts a meeting for elected chairmen of all local associations.

Article 2

Besides assembly member, special invitees may attend e.g. participants from the UN Museum, selected members of the DVA board, honorary members, special project group members, board members from the Veteran Peer Support organization etc.

Article 3

The Representatives Meeting is a source of mutual inspiration and debate of relevant current scenarios as well as future visions for local and national activities to be instituted by the Board. The recommendations of the Representatives Meeting are advisory.

Article 4

All expenses related to extraordinary Executive Committee meeting the DVA will refund mileage costs and meals as well as accommodation.

Refunded mileage allowance for one car; two cars for local associations participating with more than four delegates. Delegates using public transport will receive a refund for travels on regular class. Meals are refundable when traveling more than six hours (according to national tax regulations). No other expenses will be refunded by the Executive Committee.

Expenses related to the Representatives Meeting may partly be covered by the local association.

§ 9 Local Associations

Article 1

The local associations are autonomous vis-à-vis, as well as the organizational structure.

Article 2

Each association prepares its individual by-laws, taking into consideration the statutes of Danmarks Veteraner, local conditions, customs and traditions etc. as found necessary by the association in question.

The by-laws are to be approved by the Executive Committee in so far as §2, §3 and §4 is concerned.

Article 3

Danmarks Veteraner may, if agreed upon, support new local associations, including financially, during the initial establishment.

Article 4

The first name of any local association is to be Danmarks Veteraner. This may be followed by an additional name e.g. referring to a geographical location, possible interests or special activities etc.

The name of any local association is to be approved by the Executive Committee.

Article 5

By the 1st of March and no later, each local association is to submit the following to the Executive Committee:

1. By-laws, in case of changes from previous editions.
2. Documentation with respect to the election and establishment of the local association board; names, addresses e-mail, and phone numbers (landline and cell) of all local association members.
3. Names, addresses, e-mail, and phone numbers (landline and cell) of all association members and alternates elected to represent the local association at the DVA Representatives Meeting.

Article 6

The local DVA associations are to liaise with regional authorities, institutions and other local associations.

Article 7

The local associations are represented by their elected chairman. He/she may delegate power of attorney to other association members with respect to the business of said association.

Article 8

The local associations are not liable for any financial or contractual obligations entered into by the DVA.

Article 9

In case of dispute between local associations, the parties involved are obligated to seek solution through negotiation. Failing to reach consensual agreement, the matter will be solved through intervention from the DVA Board.

Article 10

At the establishment of new local associations, any other local DVA associations will be part of the decision process.

§ 10 Financial Accounting

Article 1

The fiscal years starts at January 1st. and ends on December 31st.

The financial statement is published in accordance with current legislation as well as in accordance with the DVA statutes and instructions.

Article 2

The DVA funds are deposited in purpose designated bank accounts. Funds can be made available only to the DVA National Treasurer and the President or a third person with mandated authority.

Article 3

The annual financial statement must have undergone the required audition and approval of the appointed accounting company.

Article 4

1. No later than February 1st, the financial statement must be handed over to the appointed accounting company.
2. No later than March 10th, the accounting company will return the revised and approved financial statement to the DVA.

No later than March 20th, the DVA statutory auditors are to deliver any remarks to the financial statement.

§ 11 Membership fees

Article 1

The membership fees should support the day to day activities of the DVA as well as cover the costs of the magazine, Baretten.

Article 2

In connection with the annual budget proposal from the Executive Committee, both membership fees and allocations hereof to the local associations, are proposed.

Article 3

1. Membership fees are annual and due January 10th.
2. First calendar year of the DVA membership is free.

Article 4

Funding to the local associations is made available by early February and by mid-December. The associations are also being made aware of possible arrears in connection with the financial transfers.

§ 12 Sponsorships, foundations, public funds and personal donations.

Article 1

Funds acquired from sponsorships, foundations public, as well as personal donations are transferred to designated accounts, all kept separately and audited individually.

Article 2

Donations designated purposes are to be used for these only. Any attached accounting instruction is to be obeyed.

Article 3

Funds donated without designated purpose may be used to DVA related purposes and projects as well as special projects in connection to local associations. The individual allocations are decided by the DVA Board.

Article 4

No donations can be used to cover possible operating deficits of the DVA. Donations are to be used only for purposes as stated in § 12 article 3.

§ 13 Public funds

Article 1

Public funds allocated to named projects are to be use only for these purposes. The funds will be placed in designated accounts. Any attached accounting instruction is to be obeyed.

Article 2

The use of public funds is subject to public control. Special requirements with respect to accounting is be observed.

§ 14 Public Funding

Article 1

Funds financed by means of appropriation under the Finance Act are designated to one purpose only.

Article 2

Funds financed by means of appropriation under the Finance Act are to be managed separately and never to be included in other DVA business activities.

Article 3

To secure adherence to the stipulations of § 14 article 2, DVA Board has founded a specific committee to manage these funds (The Veteran Peer Support).

Article 4

Funds financed by means of appropriation under the Finance Act are subject to special requirements with respect to accounting.

§ 15 Membership register

The DVA national membership register is administered by the appointed controller. The register is to contain information as stated below:

1. Member number.
2. Year of entry (first fiscal year of payment).
3. Membership fee – local association.
4. Name, date of birth, full registered address, phone number / (landline and/or cell) and e-mail.
5. International deployment (mission & rotation).
6. Medals and DVA honorary medals.
7. DVA positions of trust. Positions of trust in local associations.

Article 2

1. Name and address for registration at the national mail.
2. Relevant membership register lists to be sent to local associations through secure channels.

Article 3

Each member is responsible for notifying the controller in case of changes relevant to the national register.

§ 16 Amendments to DVA statutes

Article 1

1. Amendments to DVA statutes can take place at either the annual Executive Committee Meeting or during an Extraordinary Assembly. In either case, a 2/3 majority in favor, is required. Only members present at the meeting and with right to vote may participate.
2. Each member with right to vote may cast only one vote. It will not be possible to vote by proxy.

§ 17 DVA dissolution

Article 1

Dissolution of the DVA can take place at either two consecutively, legally summoned Executive Committee Meetings, or during two consecutively, legally summoned Extraordinary assemblies. In either case, a 2/3 majority in favor is required. Only members present at the meeting and with right to vote may vote.

Article 2

In case of a dissolution of DVA, all assets will be transferred to the approved local DVA associations divided by ratio of the number of members. DVA mementos will benefit the UN museum.

Article 3

A dissolution of the DVA will not affect the continued existence and activities of local associations.

Article 4

The local associations are autonomous with respect to statutes, possible dissolution and subsequent distribution of means and paraphernalia.

Approved by the Executive Committee April 27th, 2019