

The Rules of the Society (Revised 2000, 2003, 2005 & 2006)

- A. The objectives of the Lincolnshire Military Preservation Society (herein after referred to as 'the Society' are:
- (1) To foster an interest in, and to stimulate research into, the Second World War period;
  - (2) To bring together people of good character who share these aims that they might enjoy their hobby;
  - (3) And, at the same time, to raise money for charity.
- B. These objectives the Society will seek to achieve by means of displays, exhibitions, collections of memorabilia, battle re-enactments, 1940s style dances, ENSA-type concerts, etc. etc.
- C. The Society DOES NOT aim to glorify war, but sees itself as a "living history" society maintaining an interest in, and an awareness of, a significant era of 20<sup>th</sup> Century history.
- D. The Society will also, at the discretion of the Commanding Officer and Membership, lend support to other organisations with the same or similar objectives.
1. HEADQUARTERS STAFF.
- 1.1 The Headquarters Staff is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Society in accordance with the rules laid down below.
- 1.2 The Headquarters Staff shall be made up of:
- (a) The Commanding Officer, Deputy Commanding Officer and / or Adjutant, financial officer, secretary and welfare officer.
  - (b) The Secretary and Treasurer, who may be drawn from the remaining membership of the society.
- 1.3 Any Society member including the Commanding Officer wishing to resign his / her appointment must give three months notice in writing to the Commanding Officer or HQ Staff.
2. SOCIETY ORGANISATION.
- 2.1 There will be an Annual General Meeting, the main business of which will be:
- (a) Appointments;
  - (b) Consideration of proposed changes to Society rules including structure, and name.
- 2.2 There will be a Monthly Meeting (ordinarily the first Thursday of each month):

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- (a) To transact Society business;
- (b) For Society fellowship.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY.

3.1 Membership of the Society is open to anyone of good character, with a genuine interest in the Second World War period.

(a) All potential new members shall be given a copy of both the Society's rules and the Oath of Membership.

(b) They will be required to sign a statement that they have read and can accept both the rules and the Oath of Membership.

3.2 (a) The annual Membership fee falls due on the date of the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Veterans will have to pay the same fees as any other member when joining. Existing Veterans (i.e. veterans joining before 2006) will pay for their insurance cover only, until they leave the Society.

(c) Members not renewing their membership within FOUR WEEKS of the renewal date will be deemed to have left the Society and relinquished their membership.

3.3 All members will be issued with a Membership / ID Card which MUST be carried at all times when in uniform and when attending Society functions.

3.4 (a) There shall be a Trial Period for every new member lasting THREE MONTHS: that is, a period covering three monthly meetings. This allows new members, having had experience of the Society's activities, to decide whether or not their decision to join has been a wise one.

(b) During this time, new members will be issued with an Identification Card. If they decide to remain in the Society, and the Society is happy with them, then a Full Member's stamp will be placed on their card.

(c) The Society's decision regarding the acceptance of new members shall be at the monthly meeting immediately after the Trial Period.

(d) Young Persons:

Any application to join the Society will be discussed and agreed by the Membership at the monthly meeting.

If the application is for a young person under the age of 16, consent is required from their parent / legal guardian, who will also be asked to ensure that they will be present with , and take responsibility for the young person at all times. Without this, an application will not be considered.

In the event that a young person has joined but does not have subsequent parental supervision, their membership will be reviewed.

3.5 New Members may join the Society section of their choice, and this will be considered their PRIMARY Section.

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- (a) Any new member joining any section of the Society should seek advice regarding the purchase of equipment and uniforms for the designated Uniform and Equipage advisor for that section.
- 3.6 All new members will be given the rank of Private (or the Naval and Air Force equivalent), though consideration MAY be given to actual service rank and experience. Promotion will be earned.
- (a) The only exception to this rule is in the case of members whose appointment carries with it a specific rank (e.g. U.S. Nursing Corps.; Second Lieutenant; RAF Chaplain; Squadron Leader).
- (a.i) Rank:  
The Commanding Officer's rank to be no higher than that of Major (or the Naval and Air Force equivalent).  
The Executive Officer's rank to be no higher than that of Captain (or the Naval and Air Force equivalent).  
The Unit Commanders' rank to be no higher than that of Captain (or the Naval and Air Force equivalent).
- If a member, whatever their rank or standing within the Society, is voted out (as in 3.11) of their position, or resigns from that position, their rank will be adjusted accordingly.
- (b) Promotions and awards will ordinarily be made at the annual dining-in evening;
  - (b.i) Section Commanding Officers can recommend members for promotion and for awards. However, all members, whatever their rank or standing within the Society will have their rank and position reviewed annually by members. Promotions and demotions shall be made according to their contribution to the Society and its aims during the preceding 12 months.
- The only exception to this is in the case of illness or authorised Leave of Absence from the Commanding Officer.
- (c) Any Member leaving the Society, for whatever reason, but who later wishes to rejoin, will be reinstated at the rank of Private (or the Naval and Air Force equivalent).
- 3.7 (a) Members may have a second uniform, but it must not carry rank insignia higher than their Primary Section rank.
- (b) This privilege is granted at the discretion of the Commanding Officer of the Section they will be joining.
  - (c) Any member wishing to transfer to another section may have to accept a lower rank if there is no vacancy in the new section for the rank he or she is currently holding.
- 3.8 Members are expected to attend as many Monthly Meetings and Society functions as possible.

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- 3.9 (a) Whilst in uniform, members will respect officers and N.C.O.s.
- (b) Officers will be saluted and addressed as "Sir" or "Ma'am"; and N.C.O.s will be addressed by their rank.
- 3.10 AT ALL TIMES, members are expected to behave in a responsible manner and NEVER to indulge in any conduct likely to bring the Society or its aims into disrepute.
- 3.11 **Any Member, including** the Commanding Officer and HQ Staff may be voted out of the Society or their position should they indulge in any conduct likely to bring the Society, or its aims, into disrepute or as a vote of no confidence, should their duties not be performed adequately or in the Society's interest.
- 3.12 General Department:-
- (a) The wearing of excessive jewellery (such as earrings, bracelets, medallions, etc.) when in uniform is not permitted. Offending members will be required to remove such jewellery.
- (b) Hair will always be worn short: (1) Men: Clear of the neck and ears, no sideburns; (2) Women: Above the collar or pinned up.
- (c) On no account are firearms to be carried except at a battle re-enactment, living history display and at drill, parade and training sessions.
- (d) MPs may carry side arms when on duty, but weapons must not be loaded and ammunition must not be carried.
- 3.13 Members not complying with Society rules are liable to disciplinary action by the Commanding Officer and / or Headquarters Staff. Members, however, have the right to appeal to the Society against any decision made and to have an official representative present.
- 3.14 Any proposed demotion will be considered at a special meeting of the Headquarters Staff, and the member under consideration will be required to attend.

## 4. SOCIETY ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS:

- 4.1 The Society will seek to organise Battle re-enactments, drill and field training exercises, living history sessions and public shows as and when necessary; and on these occasions, full combat uniform plus weapons, will be worn, unless ordered otherwise.
- 4.2 The Society will arrange for members to attend vehicle rallies, 1940s style dances etc. Whilst attending these functions all members will wear "Walking - Out" uniform.
- 4.3 Members are of course free to attend any show, rally or gathering arranged by other societies, providing that these do not interfere with the Society's own functions.

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- 4.4 All L.M.P.S. members, whatever their rank or standing in the Society, are encouraged to take part in re-enactment scenarios, which can be of a temporary or a more permanent nature, but they must have the correct uniform and accept the rank structure and the discipline of the authorized officers / N.C.O.s in charge of those scenarios.  
When a Society approved unit, properly rank structured and uniformed is engaged in a re-enactment scenario, no Officer or N.C.O unattached to that unit is authorised to interfere with its current organisation and activities except in extreme cases (e.g. in a dangerous or emergency situation).
- 4.5 To comply with LAW at battle re-enactments, ALL officers, N.C.O.s and enlisted personnel will follow totally the safety directions of the Safety / Pyrotechnics Officer; and the only pyrotechnics permitted at re-enactments are those provided by the appointed Pyrotechnics Squad; and these MUST comply with UK Safety Law and be approved by the Society's Safety / Pyrotechnics Officer.
5. CHANGES TO SOCIETY RULES.
- 5.1 All proposed changes to the rules of the Society must be submitted – in writing – to the Commanding Officer at or before the monthly meeting TWO MONTHS PRIOR to the Annual General Meeting; and these proposed changes will be presented in writing to the membership at the monthly meeting immediately prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.2 Any proposed changes to the rules shall only become effective if they receive a two thirds MAJORITY assent of those PRESENT and VOTING.
- 5.3 Any member unable to attend the Annual General Meeting but wishing to vote on Rule changes is permitted to submit a vote in writing to the Commanding Officer.
- 5.4 NO member may vote on behalf of absent members at the Annual General Meeting, or at any other meeting.
- 5.5 At the Commanding Officer's discretion, any vote may take the form of a secret ballot.
- 5.6 Safety rules, to comply with UK law, can be introduced or amended at ANY time and at ANY meeting.
- 5.7 Appropriate insurance cover will be purchased out of Society funds for all full members wishing to participate in approved L.M.P.S. events, as agreed by Society members at the monthly meetings.  
Membership fees may fluctuate to meet the cost of such insurance.