

STEPHENS COUNTY HONOR GUARD  
Proposed By-Law Amendment (02/10/2021)

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in the SCHG is open to all who have served and are honorably discharged, or are presently serving in the uniformed services of the United States of America subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.
2. SCHG is in full compliance with Title 6 Civil Rights Act and does not nor will not discriminate against any individual or group as required by law. Membership in a Veterans Organization (i.e: Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, AmVets, etc) is not required for membership in SCHG.
3. All applicants for membership in SGHG shall complete an application form and provide a discharge certificate, Form DD-214 or other documentation to verify eligibility for membership. Upon verification of eligibility by an elected officer(s) a vote of the membership to admit the applicant will be conducted at a regular or special called meeting where a quorum is present. An affirmative vote by the majority of the members present is required for admission to membership.
4. The name, address, and telephone number of each member shall be kept on file (roster) by the Secretary for contact purposes and made available to the membership. If desired by the individual members involved, electronic contact information may also be included on the contact roster.
5. There are three classes (rosters) of members as follows:
  - a.. Active Member in Good Standing:
    - All members shall be considered Active Members in Good Standing except for reasons specified herein or in other SCHG directives.
    - Active Duty Members in Good Standing are fully valued and are expected to attend and participate in funerals and other SCHG activities.
    - Only Active Duty Members in Good Standing shall have voting privileges, the right to submit and second motions at regular and special SCHG meetings and hold elective office.
  - b. Honorable Life Member:
    - Honorable Life Members have all the privileges afforded Active Duty Members in Good Standing.
    - Honorable Life members are fully valued and are exempt from attendance requirements.
    - Placement of a member on the Honorable Life Member roster requires a motion from the floor at a regular or special called meeting and Super-Majority Vote (60% of members present) .
  - c. Inactive:
    - An Active Duty Member in Good Standing who does not participate in a SCHG meeting or activity (including funerals) during a time period of 12 successive months will automatically be placed on the Inactive roster.
    - Inactive members have no voting privileges nor can they hold elective office. They retain all other privileges afforded to Active Duty Members in Good Standing.
    - A member placed on the Inactive roster may be restored as an Active Member in Good Standing upon receipt by SCHG Commander of a written request from the inactive member. The SCHG Commander, in turn will notify other SCHG Officers.

6. Spouses or significant others of SCHG members may be auxiliary members and may hold *appointive* office: however, auxiliary members have no voting or parliamentary privileges.
7. Discipline:
  - a. All SCHG members are expected to comport themselves in a manner that does not besmirch or bring discredit on the SCHG.
  - b. Members conducting themselves in a manner deemed to be insubordinate or prejudicial to the best interests of SCHG may be subject to suspension or expulsion
    - The accused member will be counseled by the SCHG and/or other elected officers. If the issues are resolved no further action is required.
    - If warranted the SCHG Commander, upon the advice and approval of the SCHG Board of Directors, may suspend a member from Active Duty for a period of not more than thirty (30) days. The suspended member must be advised in writing and shall not return to active duty without approval by SCHG Commander.
    - Expulsion from the SCHG is appropriate when a member willfully and persistently engages in an act or acts prejudicial to the best interests of SCHG. Expulsion of a member cannot occur without a full and fair hearing before the SCHG Board of Directors. The Board's findings and recommendation will be submitted to the SCHG membership for approval at a regular meeting.