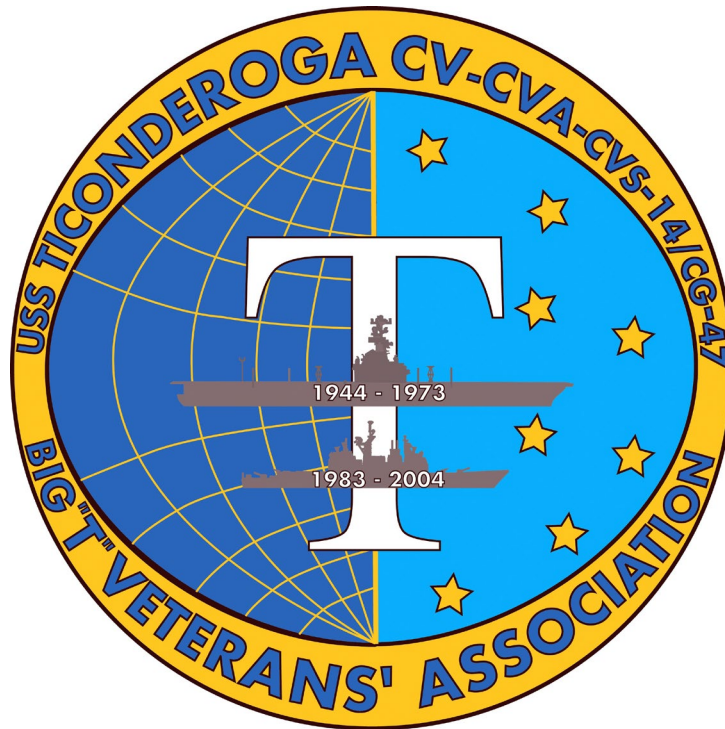


Veterans Association Of The
USS TICONDEROGA
(CV/CVA/CVS-14) (CG-47)



By-Laws

May 15, 2022

**BY-LAWS OF THE VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF THE
U.S.S. TICONDEROGA (CV-CVA-CVS-14)(CG-47)**

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ARTICLE I NAME:

The name of this association shall be:

BIG T VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF THE USS TICONDEROGA dba as USS TICONDEROGA
VETERANS' ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II MISSION:

The mission of this association shall be to perpetuate the memory of USS TICONDEROGA CV-CVA-CVS-14 commissioned May 8, 1944, and USS TICONDEROGA CG-47 commissioned January 22, 1983, and ship's company of these ships and to exchange mementos and memories of tours of duty and shall be a non-profit 501(c)(19) association incorporated in the State of Illinois May 24, 1999, in perpetuity. Such purpose to include:

- (a) planning and arranging annual general membership (reunion) meetings;
- (b) locating former shipmates and urging their participation in this association;
- (c) contributing mementos, pictures, plaques, artifacts, insignia, papers, letters, or other memorabilia relating in any way to the activities of, or service aboard, the aforementioned ships, together with any available funds for their procurement, shipping, display or maintenance as set forth in Article XI;
- (d) establishing, administering, and accepting voluntary contributions to accomplish the purpose of any approved and adopted memorial program of the association;
- (e) in the event of dissolution of the association, all association monies will be turned over to the museums and memorials of the association to be used for necessary expenses as long as it shall last, for the preservation of the same.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP:

- Section 1. Regular membership is open to all USS TICONDEROGA CV-CVA-CVS-14 and USS TICONDEROGA CG-47 personnel having served aboard these ships. In addition, membership shall be opened to other military or civilian official passengers who served aboard these ships while underway (such as flight and air group personnel, technicians, news media, space/moonshot recovery personnel, etc.). All regular members of the association may cast one vote in the business of the association. There is no proxy voting.
- Section 2. Honorary membership shall be bestowed upon the surviving spouse of any paid deceased member. The President, on recommendation of other members and after approval of the Executive Board of Directors, may appoint additional honorary members in exceptional cases where such an honor is deemed warranted. Honorary members shall pay no dues and may not cast a vote in the business of the association.
- Section 3. Associate membership shall be open to relatives and friends of members who wish to participate in association activities. An associate member shall pay annual dues and have all the rights of a member but may not cast a vote in the business of the association.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS:

- Section 1. An annual general membership meeting of the association shall be held in locales approved by the membership at the prior annual meeting. A representation of the voting members present represents a quorum for the purpose of conducting general membership meetings. If necessary, meetings may also be facilitated through electronic media as necessary to conduct a general membership meeting. Members must be notified via electronic media (i.e. e-mail or phone call,) a minimum of 10 days in advance.

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- Section 2. The President shall call an Executive Board of Directors meeting on the day of or prior to the annual general membership meeting.
- Section 3. The newly elected President shall call a meeting of the new Executive Board of Directors as defined in Article V immediately after the annual general membership meeting.
- Section 4. Both annual and ad hoc meetings of the association or of the association's Executive Board of Directors shall be conducted by the President or, in his absence, by the Executive Vice President, or, in his absence, by elected officers in order of their seniority as defined by Article V.
- Section 5. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with *Robert's Rules of Order*. From time to time, specific rules of order noted in these By-Laws or by other recognized "association rules of conduct" as defined by the Executive Board of Directors will supersede the applicable section of *Robert's Rules of Order*. The association members shall transact such other business as may properly come before them.
- Section 6. The Secretary shall record minutes of business conducted at the annual membership meeting and such minutes shall be distributed to the association members in the next scheduled newsletter release.
- Section 7. The Treasurer shall give an association financial report at the annual membership meeting which has previously been audited by the Audit Committee.
- Section 8. The President shall submit a budget for membership approval for the ensuing year at the annual membership meeting. Such a budget needs to be submitted in writing and approved by the Executive Board of Directors and to the association membership present for approval during the annual membership meeting.

ARTICLE V DIRECTORS:

- Section 1. The Executive Board of Directors shall be the senior governing body of the association and shall include all elected officers during their term of office, the association chaplain, and as past president' of the association, the most recent seven (7) past presidents of the association. A representation of one-third of the Executive Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at any meeting of the Executive Board of Directors. All are voting members of the Executive Board of Directors.
- Should a director become incapable or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of the role to which he was elected due to death, incapacitation, misconduct, resignation, or other cause, the current president shall nominate a replacement to fulfill the remaining term. Such nomination is subject to majority of the Executive Board of Directors' approval.
- Section 2. Prior to the adoption of these By-laws of May 15, 2022, thirteen (13) Directors/Past Presidents along with the elected officers constituted the Executive Board of Directors. As part of the adoption of these By-Laws of May 15, 2022, it was approved to reduce the total number of former Directors/Past Presidents through attrition by one Director/Past President in order of appointment annually until such time as there are not more than seven (7) such members. Should any of these Directors/Past Presidents so identified become incapable or unwilling to fulfill this role or responsibilities, the position would be permanently vacated, and the subsequent Directors/Past President would sunset the proceeding year.
- Section 3. Upon any member's departure from the Executive Board of Directors, all association property, documents, records, memorabilia, or electronic files shall be turned over to the current President expeditiously.

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Section 4. Any association matter may be submitted for consideration by a member in good standing to the annual Executive Board of Director's meeting held before and after the annual general membership meeting. The request should be in writing, addressed to the outgoing or newly elected President, as appropriate, and in time to be included in the agenda for the Executive Board of Director's meeting. Should it become necessary between annual association meetings of the Executive Board of Directors to conduct a vote on any issue that cannot wait until the next scheduled Executive Board of Director's meeting, a written request to the President and/or Executive Vice President for such a vote must be made. The President must authorize the Secretary to notify all board members of this ad hoc meeting via a certified notification media (i.e., e-mail or phone).

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS:

Section 1. The following officers shall be nominated and elected at the annual membership meeting to be effective at the beginning of the following Calendar/Fiscal year:

Second Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

They are to be elected by closed ballot.

Section 2. The term of Secretary and Treasurer shall be three years (election to be staggered to avoid both positions being filled in the same year). All other officers will have a term of one year. The Nominating Committee shall recommend persons for each position and followed by a vote for or against each respective officer to take place via closed ballot during the general membership meeting.

Section 3. Members holding the following positions will progress in succession pending the Executive Board of Directors approval and will not require an election unless the position to be filled is vacant and shall be effective at the beginning of the following Calendar/Fiscal year:

First Vice President
Executive Vice President
President

ARTICLE VII DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties and responsibilities of the association's officers shall be as listed below.

Section 1. President:

- (a) Shall be the senior officer of the association;
- (b) Shall conduct all membership meetings, annual, general and ah hoc;
- (c) Shall receive quarterly reports from all other officers as to the activities of chairmen under their jurisdiction;
- (d) Shall ensure quarterly reports from the remaining members of the Executive Board of Directors are reviewed and compiled in an annual report included in the associations' newsletter as needed;
- (e) Shall ensure that the annual reports are reviewed at the annual reunion meeting with the general membership;

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- (f) Shall have final authority in appointment of committee chairmen as recommended by the vice president in charge of such committee;
- (g) Shall submit an annual budget for membership approval for the ensuing fiscal year at the annual membership meeting as identified in Article IV, Section 8;
- (h) Shall award Honorary memberships as warranted;
- (i) Shall have the authority to approve expenditures exceeding budgeted amounts or for new, non-budgeted purposes only up to an aggregated total of \$1,500.00. Any authorization for money beyond this amount must be approved by the Executive Board of Directors.

Section 2. Executive Vice President:

- (a) Shall perform the duties of the president in his absence or incapacity, be it temporary or permanent;
- (b) Shall co-chair the annual membership meeting and be responsible for coordinating the activities of other committee chairmen involved;
- (c) Shall take overall responsibility of the Nominating Committee and its chairman;
- (d) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and to provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 3. First Vice President:

- (a) Shall co-chair the association Newsletter/Website Committee;
- (b) Shall monitor all activities pertaining to the association' web site and oversee the activities of the WebMaster;
- (c) Shall be responsible for printing and distribution of the By-Laws, as needed;
- (d) Shall give detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 4. Second Vice President:

- (a) Shall co-chair the Memorial Committee, oversee the activities of the Historian;
- (b) Shall coordinate with museum curators and correspond with them as necessary;
- (c) Shall be responsible for reporting to the U.S. Navy as to condition of the artifacts, annually, as described by papers on file with the association's Secretary;
- (d) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 5. Secretary:

- (a) Shall keep minutes of annual membership meetings and publish in newsletter immediately subsequent to that meeting;
- (b) Shall keep records and files of all association correspondence;
- (c) Shall receive membership applications, dues renewal forms; make and retain copies, and forward original forms and payments to the Treasurer;
- (d) Shall keep an up-to-date membership file;
- (e) Shall prepare annual roster or supplement and mail to paid-up members or publish

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in newsletter;

- (f) Shall be custodian of association property per Article XI;
- (g) Shall maintain an updated list of all members of the Executive Board of Directors to include their contact information for publication in the newsletter;
- (h) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President.

Section 6. Treasurer

- (a) Shall manage all association funds and keep full and accurate accounts of all receipts and disbursements in the association's books for the fiscal year, such accounts shall differentiate between funds designated for general association expenses and accounts and those designated for memorial or museum purposes; execute plan to move the association's fiscal year to align with the calendar year.
- (b) Shall receive current membership application/dues renewal forms and payments from the Secretary and deposit dues and contributions to appropriate accounts;
- (c) Shall make payment of all approved bills of the association;
- (d) Shall inform the President of all requests beyond the scope of the budget. Payment of these expenditures shall be made only if specifically approved by the President;
- (e) Shall give a detailed report quarterly (January, April, July, October) to the President and provide an annual report to the general membership via the President;
- (f) Shall be responsible for all tax-related filings.

Section 7. No officer nor member of the Executive Board of Directors shall receive any salary for their service to the associations.

Section 8. Any officer may be removed from office for conduct not in the best interest of the association upon receiving in the affirmation of two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

All officers and committee chairmen must hold regular membership status per Article III and be in good standing within the association.

The President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be bonded in the amount not less than \$50,000.00 and the Reunion Coordinator, if one is appointed, shall be bonded in the amount not less than \$25,000.00.

ARTICLE IX VOTING:

Voting privileges for member of the association shall be extended to those regular members and be in good standing within the organization.

ARTICLE X DUES:

Section 1. All dues for membership in the association, shall be reviewed by those officers and board of directors present at the annual membership meeting, and adjusted, if necessary, to reflect current and projected operating expenses and financial health of the organization. An adjustment will require a vote by more than half of the total number of officers, Executive Board of Directors, and members present at the annual membership meeting.

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Regular Members shall pay the annual dues amount determined by the officers and Executive Board of Directors prior to each calendar year to receive all member benefits as described in these By-Laws, including distribution of the newsletter, for that year. A Regular Member may pay dues in advance for multiple years. Dues paid for a calendar year, after the beginning of that year, shall be effective for the remainder of that year only (i.e., dues will not be amortized for a partial year). A form to accompany payment will be provided in the newsletter, on the website, or (if requested) by mail.

Section 2. Lifetime Membership shall be available to those members who wish to participate. The dues amount for lifetime membership shall be determined by age groups and the current effective amounts shall appear on the dues form in the newsletter, on the website, and on the mail-out form. The current amounts are as follows:

29 and under.....	\$1,000.00
30 – 39.....	\$ 900.00
40 – 49	\$ 700.00
50 – 59	\$ 550.00
60 – 69.....	\$ 350.00
70 and over.....	\$ 150.00

Lifetime members shall receive all member benefits, including all future newsletters, for the members lifetime or as long as the association exists.

Section 3. Members shall be considered delinquent with unpaid dues for 2 years at the end of any calendar year. Any member who is delinquent, and has received newsletters during the delinquency, must pay all dues for the period of delinquency, plus current dues, to be reinstated.

ARTICLE XI ASSOCIATION ASSETS:

All material donated to or purchased with association funds, including pictures, display materials, files, artifacts, printed material, **electronic media**, etc., shall become the sole property of the association and shall be actually or constructively in the custody of the Secretary.

ARTICLE XII MEMORIALS:

The association shall establish and support, within the limit of available funds, such suitable memorials to veterans of the USS TICONDEROGA CV-CVA-CVS-14 and USS TICONDEROGA CG-47 as are recommended by the Board of Directors and as approved and adopted by majority vote of members attending the annual.

ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES:

Section 1. The President shall be a de facto member of and have authority to assign current officers or members as co-chair to any committee for the purpose of oversight and general guidance.

Section 2. Committees shall be of three types:

- (a) Special purpose committees whose chairmen (who may be past members of the Executive Board of Directors) are appointed by and report directly to the President.
- (b) Standing committees whose chairmen are appointed jointly by the President and designated supervisory Vice Presidents but report only to their designated supervisory officers.
- (c) The Nominating Committee shall be comprised of all current members of the Executive Board of Directors.

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Section 3. Each appointed committee chairman shall select his own committee members.

Section 4. Special purpose committees and their duties are:

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

This committee shall prepare a proposed association budget for each fiscal year beginning January 1 and ending December 31 and present it to the President who will submit it for approval by the Executive Board of Directors and subsequently to the general membership for approval at each annual membership meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE:

This committee shall be appointed by the Executive Board of Directors and shall audit the records of the Treasurer:

- (a) annually;
- (b) prior to a change of personnel as Treasurer;
- (c) 30 days prior to the general membership meeting, a written report shall be submitted to the President to be reviewed by the Executive Board of Directors; and
- (d) prepare a written report for the general membership at the annual membership meeting.

Section 5. Standing Committees and their duties are:

NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE COMMITTEE:

Under the supervision of the First Vice President, this committee shall publish a newsletter (digital and/or hard-copy) as needed for communication to the complete membership. The first edition after the annual membership meeting will contain a list of officers for their current term. The newsletter shall also contain the minutes of the annual membership meeting and any accepted amendments and/or additions to the By-Laws as adopted at the annual membership meeting.

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

Under the supervision of the Second Vice President, this committee shall be responsible for recommending appropriate action in support of memorial programs already adopted by the association and to recommend and propose such suitable new memorials as are within the limits of available funds to honor veterans of the USS TICONDEROGA.

Section 6. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Under the supervision of the Executive Vice President, and with the active participation of no fewer than three former association presidents, establishes guidelines for the nomination of elected officer positions of the association and solicits recommendations from all members in good standing as to the availability and suitability of those to be nominated. This committee shall:

- (a) coordinate and conduct an interview of each prospective candidate;
- (b) present interview findings to the Executive Board of Directions prior to nomination and election during the annual general membership meeting.

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ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

These By- Laws, or any part thereof, may be repealed, amended, altered, or added to by submitting the proposed modification in writing and signed by any member in good standing of this association to the Executive Board of Directors for consideration. Such proposition shall, if deemed valid by the Board, be published in the association newsletter at least 30 days before the annual membership meeting and brought before the body at that meeting for discussion. Adaptation of the proposition shall be by two thirds vote of the members present and voting, such proposition to take effect immediately.

These By-Laws revised and approved May 15, 2022

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ARTICLE XV

ORGANIZATION CHART

