

# **National Society of Pershing Rifles**

*The Ohio State University  
Alpha Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment*



## **Company By-Laws**

**November 2024**

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## **PREAMBLE:**

We, the members of the National Society of Pershing Rifles, Company Alpha, 1st Regiment, to fulfill our vision as outlined in The Purpose, do establish these Bylaws. Henceforth, we shall be known as Pershing Rifles.

## **THE PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the National Society of Pershing Rifles is to develop outstanding traits of leadership, military science, military bearing, and discipline, to the highest degree possible within the framework of a military-oriented, honorary fraternity

## **Article I**

### **Section 1 - Name**

This organization shall be known as the National Society of Pershing Rifles.

### **Section 2 - Symbols**

The colors of this organization shall be blue and white; the flower shall be the white rose.

## **Article II - Membership**

### **Section 1- General**

Membership shall be as stated in the Constitution and in accordance with the requirements of the By-laws.

### **Section 2- Eligibility**

Any individual enrolled at The Ohio State University may maintain or gain a membership with the Unit Society of Pershing Rifles. Members may include Undergraduate students, Graduate students, ROTC cadets and midshipmen, and members of the Armed Forces currently enrolled at The Ohio State University.

### **Section 3- Classes**

The following terms define types of membership in the company:

1. Active membership is defined as a rifleman in good standing with the company and university including: attendance and job execution. Active members are given all benefits of the organization including: wearing of insignias, attending formal and informal meetings, and attending official social functions.
2. Inactive membership is the intermediary process between active membership and disenrollment. Inactive membership is reached if any of the situations arise that are stated in the by-laws. Inactive members forfeit the right to: wear Pershing Rifle insignia, and attend formal and informal meetings unless otherwise invited.
3. Honorary membership may be initiated into the National Society of Pershing Rifles by a Chartered Unit upon approval of the National Commander. Honorary members may not hold office or vote.
4. Alumni membership status will be granted to anyone who has successfully completed the new member induction process, has graduated from their host university, or has left for non-disciplinary reasons. Once member has accepted alumni status, member is subject to the Pershing Rifles Alumni Association, and may no longer be granted active status within the National Society of Pershing Rifles. Upon two years of being an inactive member, no individual may become active again unless granted the approval of the Regimental Commander in the University's prescribed region and the National Commander while enrolled in a University.
5. Members that have been removed from Pershing Rifles forfeit all rights of membership in the organization. Removal process of members can be found under Article VIII.

### **Section 4: University Eligibility**

Having satisfied this University's rules governing eligibility an individual who has served their candidate duties may become active in Pershing Rifles and is entitled to all benefits and privileges of the organization.

### **Section 5- Academic Requirement**

Pershing Rifles requires for members to be in good academic standing with the university to be initiated. Candidates must attain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 to be initiated. Active riflemen must also maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 in order to continue participating in the Company. Any riflemen on probationary status with the University will also be put on probationary status within the company, pending future academic progression.

## **Section 6- Physical Fitness**

Any member that is an active cadet within the Army or Air Force ROTC programs at the university must adhere to the guidelines and regulations set forth within their respective military branches to include meeting minimum passing requirements for the physical fitness tests, and maintaining height and weight standards. Any cadet who cannot meet these requirements will be put on a probation status till they meet the standards of their respective program's physical fitness requirements.

## **Section 7- Induction Process**

A potential candidate must meet all requirements set forth within Article I of the company by-laws to be considered for membership. A candidate who meets all requirements will be in a 60 day probation status. After the 60 day probation, the candidate must pass the Pershing Rifle Qualification Test (PRQT). If the candidate passes, they will be formally inducted into the organization as an active member. If the candidate fails the test, they will be put on a 30 day probation status to retest after the 30 day period.

## **Section 8- Hazing Policy**

The Pershing Rifles has a zero tolerance policy for hazing. This is a violation of Federal Law and University standards of conduct. This company will not violate the University's hazing policies.

## **Section 9- Discrimination Policy**

The National Society of Pershing Rifles does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status in any of its activities or operations.

# **Article III – Meetings**

## **Section 1**

The number of hours and meetings of the Unit will be determined by the CO upon the recommendation of the Unit. Meetings will not exceed one hour and thirty minutes.

## **Section 2**

All meetings of the Unit shall be conducted in accordance with the Constitution, and as further outlined by these By-laws.

## **Section 3**

Quorum shall consist of one half of the active members of the unit PLUS one.

#### **Section 4**

Any candidate, who willfully misses two formal meetings, and any active that willfully misses two formal or informal meetings, in a semester and who offers no previous legitimate excuse, will be dropped from the roster of the unit upon the discretion of the Company Commander. Subsequently they will not be entitled to wear any of the symbols of Pershing Rifles.

Any candidate who must be legitimately excused, must notify a member of the Executive Board either prior to or within 24 hours after the meeting. If notification is not sent within the timeframe as stated in Section 4, member will be considered unexcused.

#### **Section 5**

The legislative body of the Unit will consist of all active Pershing Riflemen in the Company. A majority of the active members present, and voting is sufficient to carry any motion. Excused riflemen will be allowed to vote via absentee.

### **Article IV – Executive Board**

#### **Section 1**

The Commander, Executive Officer, and NCOIC are elected to serve annually per academic year and are elected by all active members of the Unit. The Executive Staff are elected to serve from start to end of one semester by all active members of the Unit. The Executive Board is comprised of 9 members. An unit advisor, a member of the faculty of the Military Department of the University, will serve in advisory capacity only (An advisor shall be empowered to give an opinion). The Unit officers will be elected the semester prior to taking their office.

#### **Section 2**

Elections for the Command Team will be held in April of each academic year. Elections for the Executive Staff will be held in December and April of each respective semester. Elections will be held as secret ballots by all active members. The Legislative Body will preside over the election. No member of the Executive Board will handle submitted ballots.

Ballots will be counted by two designated members of the Legislative Body and confirmed by a Faculty Advisor. Designated members will be selected by Faculty Advisor. Announcement of Elected Officials will be made by the Faculty Advisor within one week of the election.

New Command Group will take command during the last week of April. Transition from old to new command will be conducted under a change of command ceremony. Newly appointed Executive Staff members will take charge of positions within the first week of December and the last week of April.

### **Section 3**

The Executive Board members will meet at least once a month to discuss business at large of the unit. To be eligible for a position on the Executive Board, a member must be in both good academic standing and company standing.

### **Section 4**

Besides the specific duties stated in Article V, the Executive Committee will act on business matters of this unit.

## **Article V – Duties of the Executive Board Members**

### **Section 1**

The duties of the Unit Commander (P/R O-3) are:

- A. Plan & preside at meetings.
- B. Execute all orders.
- C. Take responsibility for the actions of the Unit.
- D. Enforce Unit by-laws and the National Constitution and Standard Operating Procedures.

### **Section 2**

The duties of the Executive Officer (P/R O-2) are:

- A. Unit Management.
- B. Serve as second in command.
- C. Head of Legislative Body.
- D. Serve as Chief of Staff.
- E. Preside at all meetings.

### **Section 3**

The duties of the NCOIC (P/R E-8) of the unit are:

- A. Maintain the standards, proficiency, and conduct of all candidates.
- B. Serve as adviser to Unit Commander.
- C. Assist S-3 with training and selection of Drill Team, Color Guard, and Exhibition Team Commanders.

#### **Section 4**

The duties of the S-1, Adjutant Officer (P/R O-1) are:

- A. Keep meeting minutes and attendance.
- B. Answer all correspondence to their headquarters and publish orders.
- C. Maintain applications of prospective members.
- D. Update and monitor Membership Roster.
- E. Responsible for contacting, maintaining and involving the Pershing Rifles Alumni.

#### **Section 5**

The duties of the S-2, Expansion Officer (P/R E-7) are:

- A. Responsible for all expansion and social activities of the unit.
- B. Coordinate with S-3 on training activities for safety and weather considerations.
- C. Overall responsible for coordinating safety of training, events, and travel to National Convention/Competition.

#### **Section 6**

The duties of the S-3, Operations Officer (P/R O-2) are:

- A. Responsible for all operations and planning.
- B. Coordinate with CO, XO, and NCOIC of National Competition events.
- C. Provide oversight of training for the Drill Team, Color Guard, and Exhibition Team.
- D. Recommend Commander positions for Drill Team, Color Guard, and Exhibition Team.
- E. Responsible for Training Calendar.

#### **Section 7**

The duties of the S-4, Supply Officer (P/R O-1) are:

- A. Responsible for coordination and acquiring of supplies.
- B. Responsible for correct use of National Supply System within Unit and all supplies stocked within the Unit HQ, forms and procedures.
- C. Responsible for the Acquisition of new supplies for the Company such as drill rifles, harnesses, gloves, etc.
- D. Responsible for cleanliness/upkeep of gear and equipment that the company is responsible for.

#### **Section 8**

The duties of the S-5, Public Affairs Officer (P/R E-7) are:

- A. Responsible for posting news articles, events, photos/videos to Unit Facebook Page.
- B. Assist in recruitment of prospective members to unit.
- C. Ensure pictures and/or video are being taken at meetings and events.



D. Coordinate events, fundraising opportunities, and community projects.

## **Section 9**

The duties of the S-8, Finance Officer (P/R O-1) are:

- A. Maintain, report, and monitor financial budget of Chapter.
- B. Allocate spending.
- C. Keep records of financial transactions.

## **Article VI – Duties of Team Commanders**

### **Section 1**

The Drill Team Commander is responsible for coordinating and controlling Drill Teams, instruction of Rifle Drill and Ceremony, and report to the S-3 Operations Officer.

### **Section 2**

The Color Guard Commander is responsible for coordinating and controlling Color Guards, ensuring Color Guard teams are readily available for special events, Honor Guards, and report to the S-3 Operations Officer.

### **Section 3**

The Exhibition Team Commander is responsible for coordinating and controlling Exhibition Teams, instruction of Exhibition Rifle Drill and Ceremony, and report to the S-3 Operations Officer.

## **Article VII – Removal of Officers**

### **Section 1**

Impeachment of any staff member may be initiated by the CO, or any active member in good standing, and presented to the legislative body. Upon completion of a debate, the charges must pass with a  $\frac{3}{4}$  vote of the active body.

### **Section 2**

Terms for debate of impeachment will be as follows: CO or active member presenting charges has 5 minutes to present the charges. The Active in Question (AIQ) will have 5 minutes to debate the charges. The legislative body shall have the right to conduct a 10-minute question/answer session of either side. After a 2-minute closing argument by both sides, the Legislative body shall have a closed 10-minute debate. After the debate has ended, a closed vote shall take place.

## **Article VIII – Judicial Body**

### **Section 1**

The purpose of the Judicial Body will be to preside over conflicts between active members (including the CO), dismissal proceedings, for active dereliction of duty issues, and any other matter that the CO/XO deems necessary.

### **Section 2**

The Judicial Body will consist of the CO/XO, S-1, and NCOIC. In the event that the CO/XO are unavailable, the board leader shall be the ranking officer in the company other than the CO (XO or S-1).

### **Section 3**

The Judicial Body will decide disputes between Active Members after hearing arguments from both parties.

### **Section 4**

The process for dismissal proposition is for an Active Member, in good standing, to propose a motion before the Legislative Body, quorum being present, for an active to be dismissed from the Company. The motion must be seconded and arguments for dismissal be heard before the Legislative Body votes on the motion. Another process is for the active to be put up for dismissal is to be set forth by the judicial body. At the time the CO/XO will also notify the Member in Question for Dismissal (MQD) of the Judicial Board meeting time and place. The MQD can be present for the Judicial Body and argue their case before the Judicial Body.

When an active is up for disenrollment, the legislative body will vote and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the legislative body must positively vote for the MQD to be removed.

The Active may be dismissed without prejudice. The Judicial Body may also render a decision outside of these parameters. The ranking officer on the board will act as a tiebreaker in the Judicial Body meetings and will always vote last. A majority approval of the decision is necessary for action. Abstaining is not allowed.

### **Section 5**

The Judicial Body will be convened for dereliction of duty hearing in the event that the CO/XO ascertains that an Executive decision is not proper for making a decision. In the event that the MQD is a member of the Judicial Body, the Judicial body will consist of the next highest staff member in the Chain of Command.

### **Section 6**

Actives are held to the following standards, the ignorance of which will lead to a Judicial or legislative Body meeting.

1. As stated in Article II, Section 4, actives must not miss more than two formal or informal meetings without legitimate excuses received and approved by the XO. Upon occurrence, the legislative Body shall determine if the active is dropped from the unit. Any active not removed from the company by the legislative body will be put on Inactive status for the duration of that semester.
2. No active should ignore their duties while assigned a position that they willingly accepted. Ignoring of duties will result in a meeting of the judicial body which is limited to putting the active in question up for disenrollment.
3. Actives under suspicion of hazing will be subjected to both company and university judicial review.

## **Article IX – Legislative Body**

### **Section 1**

The Legislative Body will be comprised of all active members not holding a position on the Executive Board. Each member and Executive Staff member will be given one vote on decisions affecting the Unit. The Commander, S-1, and NCOIC will be recognized as non-voting members. The Executive Officer shall be appointed the Head of the Legislative Body but not be given a vote except in the event to break a tie.

### **Section 2**

In the event the Executive Officer cannot be present to break a tie in voting, the NCOIC shall be delegated to cast the vote.

### **Section 3**

A two-thirds majority of active chartered units in good standing shall be required to constitute a quorum of the Legislative Body. Quorum will be required to complete any action before the Legislative Body except as otherwise directed by this Constitution.

### **Section 4**

Meetings of the Legislative Body shall be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order as a guide. During meetings of the Legislative Body, the President shall be the Unit Commander, the Executive Officer will serve as the Parliamentarian, and the S-1 will serve as the Recording Secretary.

## **Article X – Finance**

### **Section 1**

The income of the unit shall be derived from fundraising, sources of sponsorship, and any other source not detrimental to the organization, which may become available.

### **Section 2**

The Finance Officer of the unit will be responsible for documenting and reporting all spending, available funds, and budgets to the Commander and Executive Officer. The S-1 will assist the Finance Officer in developing a budget plan for the unit. Review of the budget plan will be presented to the Executive Board during each monthly Executive meeting. The budget plan will be presented to the Legislative Body for a final approval at the next meeting following the Executive meeting.

### **Section 3**

In addition to the Finance Officer, the S-1, Executive Officer, the Commander, and current faculty advisor will have access to the unit's funds. Only the Finance Officer and Executive Officer, with Commander approval, will be authorized to sign for expending of funds.

### **Section 4**

A semi-annual audit will be conducted on 01 October and 01 April of each fiscal year. The audit will be conducted by the Commander, Executive Officer, two senior members of the Legislative Body, and the Finance Officer.

## **Article XI – Amendments**

### **Section 1**

Any active member of the unit may initiate for a proposal for amending the Constitution. The proposal shall be made in writing with the proposed amendment and presented to the Command Group.

### **Section 2**

Upon receipt of the proposal, a vote will be made within the following scheduled meeting. Two-thirds vote of the active members currently at a formal meeting will be needed to approve of a proposed amendment for it to modify or become an addition to the Constitution.

## **Article XII - Non-Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct**

### **Section 1**

The National Society of Pershing Rifles, Company A-1, does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law, in its activities, programs, admission, and employment.

### **Section 2**

As a student organization at The Ohio State University, The National Society of Pershing Rifles, Company A-1, expects its members to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from sexual misconduct. All members are responsible for adhering to University Policy 1.15, which can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/public/documents/policy/policy115.pdf>. If you or someone you know has been sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at <http://titleIX.osu.edu> or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at [titleIX@osu.edu](mailto:titleIX@osu.edu).

15 Nov 2024

By Order of the Company Leadership:

Official:

P/R CPT Joseph A. Doty, NSPR  
Captain, Pershing Rifles  
A-1 Company Commander  
National Society of Pershing Rifles

**DISTRIBUTION:**

This publication has been authorized for public distribution

**RATIFICATION**

As the undersigned, we the Members of Company Alpha-1, do hereby accept this document as the governing document of Company Alpha of the 1st Regiment of the National Society of Pershing Rifles in accordance with the National Society of Pershing Rifles, and The Ohio State University, on this day, 15 November 2024..

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P/R CPT  
Commander

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P/R 1LT  
Executive Officer

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P/R 1SG  
NCOIC

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Captain Christopher Mitchell  
Company Advisor

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Company Advisor