



**ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY**  
**ROUGH RIDER ASSOCIATION**  
**CONSTITUTION AND BY- LAWS**  
**MARCH 8, 2006**

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# **THE ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY ROUGH RIDER ASSOCIATION**

## **ARTICLE I. THE CONSTITUTION**

### **Section 1: The Academy**

After the First World War, the buildings of the William and Vashti College in Aledo, IL stood empty. The decreased enrollment and lack of finances had taken its toll. For four years, the campus was unused except that the administration building was used by the Aledo High School while North Side School was under construction. Then, in 1924, the buildings were taken over by a military school, and were occupied by that institution for nearly fifty years.

Fire had destroyed the buildings of the Kansas Military Academy at Oswego, Kansas, in March 1924, and Col. Clyde R. Terry, its owner, needed a place to relocate. He had heard of the vacant campus at Aledo and made arrangements to transfer from Kansas to Illinois. On March 16, 1924, Col. Terry, five teachers, and forty-four cadets arrived on the train in Aledo, and Illinois Military School had begun. In 1931 the cadets chose the new name, Roosevelt Military Academy, in memory and honor of Theodore Roosevelt.

### **Section 2: The Objectives**

The objectives of the RMA Rough Rider Association shall be:

- The promotion of alumni friendship
- The on-going development of alumni network
- The management and distribution of the:
  - RMA Roster
  - Rough Rider Newsletter
- The leadership to co-ordinate reunion planning
- The focal point for association planning

### **Section 3: The Purpose**

The purpose of the Rough Rider Association shall be to establish and promote on-going communication and organizational structure for the alumni, faculty, family members and friends who were connected with Roosevelt Military Academy.

### **Section 4: The General Powers**

The Rough Rider Association shall have full power and authority to do all acts that are in furtherance of its purpose. Specifically, but not by way of limitation, the Association shall have full power and authority to collect Association dues as well as to receive, hold and disburse funds and property from gifts, bequests and otherwise for the general purposes of the Association.

**Section 5: The Laws**

The Laws of the Rough Rider Association shall consist of the Association's Constitution and By-Laws, and all amendments thereto, adopted by the Steering Committee formed on June 26, 2004 in Nevada.

To the extent that any provisions of the Association's By-Laws or the Association's Policies are inconsistent with any provisions of the Association's Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall control. To the extent that any provisions of the Association's Policies are inconsistent with any provisions of the Association's By-Laws, provisions of the By-Laws shall control.

**ARTICLE II. THE MEMBERS**

**Section 1: Membership**

The Rough Rider Association shall consist of all cadet alumni, faculty, the Aledo, Illinois, business community, and the friends and families of cadet alumni and faculty members. Membership classifications and benefits thereof are outlined in Section 4.

**Section 2: Full Membership**

Any former cadet or faculty who attended, or taught at Roosevelt Military Academy shall be eligible for Full Membership in the Association.

**Section 3: Associate Membership**

Any former cadets or faculty who attended or taught at Roosevelt Military Academy, Aledo friend or family member of an alumni or faculty member shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association but shall not have the benefits of full membership in the Association.

**Section 4: Membership Classifications**

The different Membership Classifications and the benefits and privileges of each classification are as shown below. Memberships are based on a calendar year and dues after 2006 will be determined by the Officers.

<b>Membership Classification</b>	<b>Hold elected office</b>	<b>Vote</b>	<b>By Laws</b>	<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>RMA Roster</b>
<b>Full</b>	<b>Yes`</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Mail or Email</b>	<b>Mail or Email</b>	<b>Mail or Email</b>
<b>Associate</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Email only</b>	<b>Email only</b>	<b>Email only</b>

### **Section 5: Beneficiary Clause**

A cadet member of the Rough Rider Association may designate a family member to assume his membership in the Association upon his death. This membership would be at the Associate Member level and would expire at the end of the current calendar year. The benefactor could renew the membership at the Associate Member level by continuing to pay the annual dues required.

### **Section 6: Suspension/Expulsion from Membership**

The Officers of the Association shall deal with unacceptable behavior involving the Association or its activities.

### **Section 7: Resignation from Membership**

Any member of the Association may resign their membership in the Association by sending a notice of resignation to the Secretary of the Association. Failure to pay association dues will be deemed a voluntary resignation.

## **ARTICLE III. THE BY-LAWS**

### **Section 1: Officers**

The executive and administrative authority of the Rough Rider Association shall be vested with the officers. The officers shall manage the affairs of the Association. All power and authority exercised by any officer shall be in accordance with the Association's constitution and by-laws.

The officers of the Association shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and the Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected by the voting members. Voting members shall be able to cast their ballot at the Reunion, electronically or by postal mail. Officers will be elected for a 2-year term at the bi-annual Reunion. All Officers are eligible for re-election and terms of office will be on a calendar year basis.

### **Section 2: The President**

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association, shall oversee all Association activities and appoint all committee chairmen, as provided in the Association's by-laws. The President shall preside at the bi-annual reunion and shall make a report as to the state of the Association.

### **Section 3: The Vice President**

The Vice-President will assume the duties and responsibilities of the President in the absence or inability of the President to carry out the duties and responsibilities of that office. The Vice-President will perform other duties as assigned by the President, including serving as Chairman of an Association committee.

### **Section 4: The Secretary**

The Secretary shall be the Chief Recording Officer of the Association, shall keep the minutes, and shall manage communications and records of the Association. The Secretary will assume the responsibilities of the Vice-President in the absence, or inability of the Vice-President to carry out the duties and responsibilities of that office until the next election when the membership will elect a new Vice-President to fill the vacant position.

## **Section 5: The Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Association and shall collect, receive and have care and custody of all moneys and securities of the Association. The Treasurer shall have responsibility, under the direction of the President, for managing the financial affairs of the Association in accordance with the Association's Laws and shall make an annual report to the President as to the financial condition of the Association.

The Treasurer will assume the responsibilities of the Secretary in the absence, or inability, of the Secretary to carry out the duties and responsibilities of that office until the next election when the membership will elect a new Secretary to fill the vacant position.

## **Section 6: Succession of Officers**

In the event of a vacancy in the office of any elected Officer, excepting the President who will be succeeded by the Vice-President, the provisions of Article III, Sections 3, 4, and 5 shall apply.

## **ARTICLE IV. THE FINANCES**

### **Section 1: The Funds**

The funds of the Association shall be obtained by means of dues and contributions as provided for in the Association's by-laws, and placed in the Association's operating fund. The Treasurer of the Association shall collect all dues and contributions. The officers of the Association shall establish the amount of such dues.

### **Section 2: The Budget**

The Treasurer of the Association shall establish an annual budget for the Association's operations. The officers shall set forth written procedures for the preparation, review and approval of an annual budget and for the management and control of expenses.

### **Section 3: Annual Financial Reporting**

The Treasurer of the Association shall submit to the President of the Association an annual report on the financial condition of the Association. Such report shall include the appropriate financial statements, including but not limited to the statement of revenues and expenses, the statement of fund balance, the statement of changes in fund balance, and other appropriate financial statements. The complete annual report on the financial condition of the Association shall be published in the Rough Rider Newsletter Annually.

## **ARTICLE V. THE ROUGH RIDERS ASSOCIATION'S INSIGNIA AND HERALDRY**

### **Section 1: The Logo**

The Theodore Roosevelt logo will be the official logo of the RMA Rough Rider Association.

### **Section 2: The Colors**

The colors of the Association shall be scarlet and gray.

### **Section 3: Association Membership Recognition**

TBD

### **Section 4: The Flag**

TBD

### **Section 5: Association Media**

The Association shall publish and distribute a newsletter for and about the Association, the members, and matters of importance to them. The newsletter shall be called the Rough Rider Newsletter.

Included in the association media will be the RMA Rough Rider Association Website, and the RMA Roster, which is a listing of cadets, family members of cadets, faculty, and friends of RMA.

## **ARTICLE VI: ASSOCIATION FORMATION**

### **Section 1: The Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee, established at the 2004 reunion in Las Vegas, is responsible for developing the Rough Rider Association in order to implement the objectives as outlined in Article 1, Section 2 of the Constitution. The committee shall be comprised of a Chairman and an odd number of members in order to avoid any tie votes. The Steering Committee will assist the President when requested and will also receive the various reports, completed by the Officers, for their review to ensure compliance to the Association's Constitution and By-Laws.

In the event of malfeasance of any officer of the Association, the Steering Committee will have the authority to remove that officer, through a majority vote of the Steering Committee.

### **Section 2: The Nominating Committee – 2008 Reunion**

At least six months prior to the next scheduled bi-annual reunion, the President of the Association shall appoint a Nominating Committee of five members to solicit, evaluate, and nominate candidates to stand for election for the officers of the Association.

### **Section 3: Initial Seating of Officers**

Special provision for the 2006 Election of Association officers. The nomination of the initial officers for the Rough Rider Association will occur from March 2006 through August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Voting for nominees will occur at the business meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Accommodations will be made on Friday August 4 and Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006 for individuals to join the Association, pay their membership dues, and nominate individuals for the various offices

## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

### **Section 1: Authority and Notice of Amendments**

The Rough Rider Association Constitution, or By-Laws, may be amended by a majority of the voting members at the bi-annual reunions provided that, at least 90 days prior to such vote, written notice of any proposed amendments shall be provided to the Secretary of the Association.