



The LIBERTY GREYS
6th Regiment, ANV



Organizational Guidelines

of

The Liberty Greys

(6th Regiment, 1st Division, Army of Northern Virginia)

Information and guidance on structure, unit membership,
safety standards, uniformity, and headquarters.

FOR THE USE OF MEMBER UNITS AND VOLUNTEERS

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Purpose

The primary purpose of the **Liberty Greys** is to provide mutual support and coordinate the battlefield activities of interested American Civil War reenactment units and organizations in New England that present a Confederate impression. This includes all of New England, but does not exclude the possibility of expansion into other areas. The **Liberty Greys** are not organized to replace or otherwise oversee the operation of any individual member unit in the organization. The **Liberty Greys** act as a central source of information and coordination while providing a Regimental structure at local, regional, and national events that we may decide to attend.

These Guidelines do not replace existing unit organizational by-laws, but provide an overall framework by which Regimental members can work together for the shared purposes of the hobby. These Guidelines will serve as a Standing Operating Procedure when not in conflict with local, state, or federal laws.

Mission Statement

The **Liberty Greys** are dedicated to the highest standards of safety, authenticity, and accuracy in its portrayal of the life and times of the people that fought for and lived in the Confederacy during the War Between the States. The **Liberty Greys** are dedicated to protecting our Southern Heritage, remembering our ancestors, and honoring those who fought bravely through terrible hardship and accepted defeat with honor. **The Liberty Greys** promote and actively encourage all members to participate in patriotic observances and holidays of both the United States and the Confederacy, and respects the rights of all citizens to learn more about their national heritage free from coercion or revisionism. The **Liberty Greys** denounce in the strongest possible terms, the practice of racism, racial supremacists, hate groups, or any other group or organization that promotes hatred, distrust, or suppression of any minority or ethnic group, or misuses or desecrates the symbols of the United States or the Confederate States of America.

Regimental Structure

The **Liberty Greys** are organized (with due acknowledgment of the numeric differences between an accurate 19th century Regiment and the realities of the late 20th century) as a legion of the Confederate States Army, specifically the Army of Northern Virginia, with military components of infantry, cavalry, artillery, and music; staff elements of signal corps, medical, and engineering; and civilians. To this end, **Liberty Greys'** organization consists of:

Headquarters Company

This company is composed of the Command and Staff elements the **Liberty Greys**.

- a. The Colonel is the commanding officer of the **Liberty Greys** and is elected each November at the Post-Season Meeting. A minimum 3/4 vote of the delegates present is required for this position.
- b. The Lieutenant Colonel is the Executive Officer and second in command of the **Liberty Greys**. He is appointed by the Colonel each November at the Post-Season Meeting and ratified by a majority vote of the unit representatives present.
- c. The Major is third in command of the **Liberty Greys**. He is appointed by the Colonel each November at the Post-Season Meeting and ratified by a majority vote of the unit representatives present.

d. The Sergeant Major is ranking non-commissioned officer of the **Liberty Greys**. He is appointed by the Colonel each November at the Post-Season Meeting and ratified by a majority vote of the unit representatives present.

e. The Civilian Coordinator represents the interests of the civilian reenactors of the **Liberty Greys**, and is elected annually. This election should take place close to the November Post-Season meeting. Written proxies may be given to the individual's unit coordinator. This position is ratified by a majority vote of the civilian coordinators of member units of the Regiment.

Other staff officers whom the Colonel may select, whose positions and grade, whenever possible, will be determined by the nominal grade(s) specified in the regulations of the Army of Northern Virginia are also members of this company. This company is responsible for the coordination of activities and the command of their Regiment at **Liberty Greys** events. Staff officers, up to and including the Lieutenant Colonel, serve at the pleasure of the Colonel. The Colonel serves at the pleasure of the member units based on the results of an annual election to that position. The Colonel may be removed by a positive vote of a minimum of 3/4 of the Units in Good Standing.

Infantry Companies

These companies, organized as light infantry companies in the Army of Northern Virginia, are under the command of their own company commander under the direct command of the Colonel and the **Liberty Greys** chain of command. They operate according to their standard drill and safety standards, or the **Liberty Greys** Ordnance Manual and Safety Procedures, whichever is stricter.

Artillery Companies

These companies, organized as artillery companies in the Army of Northern Virginia, are under the command of their own company commander, under the supervision of the Regimental commander or his designated Chief of Artillery. They operate according to their drill and safety standards, or the **Liberty Greys** Ordnance Manual and Safety Procedures,, whichever is stricter.

Cavalry Companies

These companies operate as cavalry companies, either mounted or dismounted, under their own company commander, under the supervision of the Regimental commander or his designated Chief of Cavalry. They follow their standard drill and safety standards in effect at the time of their association with the **Liberty Greys**, or the **Liberty Greys** Ordnance Manual and Safety Procedures, whichever is stricter.

Combined Arms Companies

These companies are organized as combined arms (infantry, cavalry, and artillery in one company, and operate under the command of their own commander, under the direct command of the Colonel and the **Liberty Greys** chain of command. While operating under **Liberty Greys** command, their separate arms will be combined with like arms of the Regiment to ensure uniformity of drill and deployment while on the battlefield.

Musicians and Cadets

These companies are composed of those interested in participating in events as either non-combatant musicians, or soldiers under the required age for carrying a weapon on the field. Minimum age of a musician will be 12. Musicians will be expected to be able to perform as Regimental musicians and have a knowledge of their duties on the battlefield. Minimum age for a cadet will be 11. Cadets are expected to drill regularly, and demonstrate a knowledge of military customs and courtesies of the period.

Specialized Units

These companies are composed of those interested in participating in events with non-combatant military or non-military impressions. Members of these units are expected to dress in period attire, and perform functionally as period persons in that specialized category.

Civilians

Civilians are an active, integral part of the living history experience. Their presence at events is encouraged. These individuals, while full members of the **Liberty Greys**, are not organized as a formal distinct company at the present time. These individuals are represented by their unit's civilian coordinator. They are to operate under their own unit's guidelines or bylaws, or under the Organizational Guidelines included herewith.

As events allow, civilians should coordinate their activities to ensure accurate portrayals of life as a non-combatant during the War Between the States. Prostitute and para-military impressions or impressions of famous civilians should be approved by Unit civilian coordinators, as well as **Liberty Greys** staff. Formal activities should be organized with the knowledge of the **Liberty Greys** civilian coordinator, and/or the Event's Civilian Coordinator.

Civilians must respect military protocol at all times.

Company Guidelines

Minimum age for an active combatant to carry and discharge a firearm or carry an edged weapon in any **Liberty Greys**, activity is 16, event rules allowing younger riflemen notwithstanding. Participants under the age of 16 (both military and civilian) must be under the active supervision of an adult guardian or parent participating as a member of their company in the **Liberty Greys**.

Existing methods of company selection of commanders, NCOs, or other staff members will be respected by the **Liberty Greys**.

A company commander will hold a grade no higher than Captain, unless unit by-laws permit a higher brevet rank. In no case will grades above Captain be acknowledged at **Liberty Greys** events unless sanctioned by the **Liberty Greys**. This is in keeping with common restrictions on field officer grades imposed by event coordinators.

A field company, composed of fragments from existing companies in the **Liberty Greys**, may be assembled at events where there is a lack of numbers to compose a full company. A brevet field company commander will be recommended by the companies and confirmed by the Colonel for the duration of that event.

Any unit with more than three (3) civilians should elect or appoint a civilian coordinator as a point of contact for the *Liberty Greys*' coordinator.

Liberty Greys Meetings

Liberty Greys meetings will be managed on the basis of Robert's Rules of Order except where other provisions have been made in the **Liberty Greys** Guidelines, and all decisions will be made in a collegial atmosphere.

The **Liberty Greys** will endeavor to hold at least 2 meetings a year, with others to be scheduled if and when a need arises to do so, to address matters of immediate importance to the entire membership. Civilian presence at Regimental meetings is not expected, but strongly encouraged.

The Annual Meeting will be held prior to the beginning of the reenacting season. The purpose of this meeting is to finalize the staff positions and assignments, vote on unit petitions for full membership, and to set the preliminary schedule of events for the **Liberty Greys** (max effort and secondary events). Any other such **Liberty Greys** business as may be brought up at this time will be discussed, and, if needed, a vote will be taken as to its disposition.

The post-season meeting will be held in November following the yearly campaign. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Colonel, review the past year, address any outstanding issues, and set the agenda for the **Annual Meeting**. The Civilian Coordinator position shall be elected at a Civilian meeting held as close as practicable to the Annual Meeting.

An official meeting may be convened at the request of the Colonel or a simple majority of **Liberty Greys** Units in Good Standing present at any particular time, provided that a quorum is present. A quorum is defined as a minimum of 2/3 of **Liberty Greys** Units in Good Standing **represented** by an approved representative or their proxy.

Each member Unit in Good Standing is entitled to one vote, with the HQ Company vote being cast by an HQ Company member selected by the Colonel. The Lieutenant Colonel acts as the tie-breaker in the event of a tie vote.

Written and signed proxies for votes for absent Units in Good Standing will be submitted at the start of the meeting to the meeting chairman.

Civilians should hold 2 meetings per year, with others scheduled if the need arises. A civilian meeting may be convened at the request of the Regimental civilian coordinator, or by a simple majority of civilian coordinators, or their representatives, present. Any proposal that requires a vote, requires a quorum of civilian coordinators, or their representatives. (2/3 of unit civilian coordinators present.)

Membership

Excepting the Headquarters Company members, all individuals are members of individual units within the **Liberty Greys**, and are responsible to their member unit in all cases.

There are 3 categories of unit membership in the **Liberty Greys**:

Unit in Good Standing

- Unit with liability insurance for each of its members, and provides typewritten proof to an officer designated by the Colonel prior to the start of the active campaign season, but no later than 1 March.
- Unit's membership is accepted at an official **Liberty Greys** meeting as a full member upon positive simple majority vote by current member units in good standing after the probationary period.
- Unit can field a minimum of 5 combatants (not including officers) at a minimum of 3 **Liberty Greys** events. Specialized units must attend 3 events with 5 members performing the specialized unit function.
- Unit command, organizational, and business structure will be respected by the **Liberty Greys**.
- Unit in Good Standing has the privilege of voting at **Liberty Greys** meetings.
- Unit in Good Standing must agree to comply with **Liberty Greys** standards and practices, when stated and applicable, and not superseded by those of their own unit. In any case, the more stringent regulation will be abided.

Affiliated Unit

- Unit with liability insurance for each of its members, and provides proof to an officer designated by the Colonel prior to the start of the active campaign season, but no later than 1 March.
- Unit's membership is accepted at the Annual Meeting after a probationary period.
- Unit can field at least 5 combatants, not including officers, but does not attend the requisite number of sanctioned **Liberty Greys** events.
- Affiliated Units do not have voting rights, but can comment on and will be consulted about issues that have an impact on **Liberty Greys** activities.
- Affiliated Units' command, organizational, and business structure will be respected by the **Liberty Greys**.
- Affiliated Units must agree to comply with **Liberty Greys** standards and practices when under **Liberty Greys** command, and those practices are not superseded by those of their own unit. In any case, the more stringent regulation will be abided.

Probationary Unit

- Unit with liability insurance for each of its members, and provides proof to an officer designated by the Colonel at the time of their petition or no later than 1 March.
- Unit's written petition for membership, detailing the unit designation, commander, NCO

staff, and combatants will be forwarded to the Colonel for his review. After review, the Colonel will direct copies of the petition be forwarded to his staff and company commanders for their review, comments, and information.

- Unit must be able to field a minimum of 5 combatants (exclusive of officers).
- Unit must have in place operating by-laws and an organizational structure that details the capacity to act as an independent company. The **Liberty Greys** will respect this structure.
- Once the petition is reviewed, a public discussion will be held to review the petition, and membership will be voted on by the representatives of units in good standing; the results being communicated to the petitioning unit. Once accepted as a probationary unit, the unit will have to demonstrate their ability to act as a trained and safely functioning company. They must participate in **Liberty Greys** events at the same level as an active unit until the next annual meeting. At this time, full membership is voted upon, unless affiliated unit status is desired by the petitioning unit.
- Units accepted as probationary units do not have the right to vote on **Liberty Greys** business, but do have the privilege of commenting on **Liberty Greys** activities and business that may come before the general membership.

Contested Unit Petitions

- It is a specific policy that the entire membership of the **Liberty Greys** is privy to any and all information regarding the operation and composition of the Regiment, its policies, financial position, staff duties, votes, and member units' concerns as they relate to the smooth functioning and composition of the **Liberty Greys**.
- If a petition for membership is contested by a unit, there will be an open discussion by the member units of the pertinent facts as to why the petition is being contested. In all cases, Robert's Rules of Order will determine the procedure.
- Each side will be allowed to state their case and question the facts presented by the other side. At the end of the discussion, which will not exceed 1 hour total in length, a vote of the member units present will be taken as to whether or not the contest should be upheld. In the event of a tie, the **Liberty Greys** Lieutenant Colonel will cast the tie-breaking vote.
- In the event that the contest is upheld, the petition will be returned to the petitioning unit for their review and correction of the matter which caused the contest; in the event the contest is denied, voting on unit membership will proceed.

Changes to Membership Status

Resignation

Should a unit wish to resign membership in the **Liberty Greys**, a letter indicating this must be sent to the Commanding Officer by registered mail or presented to him in person. This letter

must be on company letterhead and signed by the commanding officer and two senior NCOs of the unit wishing to resign.

Attendance

Any unit which fails to meet Legion standards for attendance in a given season will, at the vote of the membership, be changed to Affiliated status. Any unit failing to attend any **Liberty Greys** events in a given season may, by a 2/3 vote of the membership at the Post Season Meeting, be dropped from the **Liberty Greys** roster.

Failure to Provide Insurance

A unit failing to provide proof of insurance by the first event of the season will immediately be reduced to Unit Not in Good Standing status until this is corrected. A unit failing to provide such by the Post Season meeting will be dropped from the **Liberty Greys** roster.

Removal by Vote

Any unit may be dropped from the Legion roster by a 2/3 majority vote at any official **Liberty Greys** meeting for which one month prior notice has been provided.

Uniformity

Shirts, jackets, and trousers of enlisted men must all be of 19th century cut and tailoring of correct cloth. Jackets should be of a documented depot pattern (Unit-specific documentation to the contrary must be presented) and trousers should be full-cut, with the waistband covering the navel and rising sharply from side seam to rear seam, also of documented style. It is strongly suggested that there be reasonable uniformity of cut, color, and style within a company.

Proper accouterments, correct for the period and impression, will be used by all units in the **Liberty Greys**.

Proper eyeglasses with period frames are mandatory for those requiring corrective lenses unless the individual prescription makes this impossible. In this case, individual discretion should be exercised to obtain eyeglasses that are as close to period correct (i.e. no Ray-Ban aviator or black plastic frames...) should be acquired. Contact lenses are acceptable

Proper footwear in acceptable condition, accurate for the time period and impression, is also required. Company standards will be respected.

Hats should be of the correct style and type that is accurate for the impression being presented. Slouch hats must be properly blocked, including a sweatband, with the use of hat cords and brass strongly discouraged. Kepis and forage caps must be of the correct cut, color, and style for the period and impression, with minimal decoration. In all cases, company standards will be respected.

New civilian members will be provided with clothing guidelines, and are expected to follow them to the best of their abilities. They are to operate under their own unit's clothing guidelines, or under the **Liberty Greys** civilian clothing guidelines. In the event that no unit clothing guidelines are available, the **Liberty Greys** civilian guidelines should be presented.

Women in the Ranks

Women in the ranks allow for the greatest range of participation by interested living historians. However, acknowledging the physical differences, women who desire to participate as a combatant should endeavor to adjust their impression so that their gender is not obvious to the casual observer. All participants of either sex are encouraged to ensure their impression is accurate to the time period and area being recreated.

Safety

The *Greys* are devoted to the highest standards of safety and health for its member units and soldiers. Therefore, we will abide by and follow the standards and practices covered in the *Liberty Greys Ordnance Manual and Safety Procedures*,. (a separate document). Units are expected to have in place their own safety guide which supplements or expands upon the *Liberty Greys* procedures.

Camp

The *Greys* policy is to ensure that all modern anachronisms are out of sight of the public, and to maintain the camp appearance and layout as specified in the army regulations of the Confederate States.

Sound in camp should be reduced by 10:00 p.m. All Quiet should be at 12:00 p.m., or at the time posted by the event coordinator.

The *Liberty Greys* are encouraged to engage in 19th Century entertainment, both during hours that the public visits the reenactment, and after those hours. Entertainment must remain within the bounds of reasonable taste and decorum at all times.

Reenactors are encouraged to be in period attire from reveille Saturday morning until the event closes to the public on Sunday afternoon.

Children are encouraged to remain in period attire from reveille Saturday morning until the event closes to the public on Sunday afternoon, but reasonable accommodations can be made.

Drill

Regimental-level drill will be conducted at the Colonel's discretion as scheduling and circumstances permit. Whenever possible, it will be conducted in the early morning or late in the day so as to avoid excessive heat or sun exposure.

Neither Regimental nor Company drill will be held during that time set aside on Sunday mornings for Divine Services in accordance with the original ANV regulations and custom. Drill should normally last for a maximum of 90 minutes, and company drill style, apart from Legion activities, will be respected. Attendance at Regimental drill is required of anyone wishing to take the field with the Regiment, except by direct exemption of the commanding officer.

Drugs and Alcohol

The use or possession of illegal drugs or **non-prescribed** controlled substances at any event will

not be tolerated. Use or possession at a **Liberty Greys** activity will result in the immediate and permanent expulsion of the individual from the **Liberty Greys**, as well as reporting of the incident to local law enforcement agencies. The official policy of the **Liberty Greys** is zero tolerance to the use or possession of illegal drugs or non-prescribed controlled substances. This is a safety as well as legal issue.

Social consumption of alcoholic beverages, when permitted, is acceptable after all weapons are secured at the conclusion of the day's activities and other duties or responsibilities retired. Members are reminded that the etiquette of the period considered drunkenness, especially in mixed company, as boorish and low behavior. The consumption of alcoholic beverages by those not of legal age for the jurisdiction where the **Liberty Greys** activity is being held is not condoned and will not be tolerated.