



AMERICAN GI FORUM OF THE UNITED STATES

Constitution Committee

To: American GI Forum State Officers and Members

Three years ago, a committee was formed and tasked with revising and updating the American GI Forum Constitution. It has evolved to the current Constitution Committee that represents the National organization.

The Constitution had become a lengthy document with many pages that included policies and procedures for handling issues within the AGIF. The committee believed that there were other ways to organize the AGIF governing documents that make them easier to use. The Committee wanted to create documents that Chapters and State Organizations could use such as a Constitution; Bylaws; and Policies, Practices, and Procedures Manual in a plain language to address the needs of all levels of the AGIF Organizations.

The Committee made the decision that the best way to revise the Constitution was to break it into three functional documents:

1. Constitution – the main governing document with the basic purposes, organization, background, everything from the first part of the current Constitution, and information from the Federal Charter. This is a document that can be shared with potential corporate sponsors.
2. Bylaws – includes some of the items included in the Constitution and gives more details for the operation of the organization, the qualifications and duties of the officers, requirements for chapters and State organizations, information for conducting conferences and meetings, what a quorum is for meetings, and what is required of the National Organization, State Organizations, and local, regional, and other AGIF Organization(s).
3. Policies, Practices, and Procedures Manual – contains policies to assist the AGIF in presenting an appropriate, professional, and “get the business done” conference. This section contains information to help chapters and state organizations to conduct business and keep required records. The procedure for starting a new chapter, and for filing annual renewals are explained. It is full of helpful information for everyone.

Also included in the Policies, Practices, and Procedures Manual is an Appendices which contains many forms needed to conduct AGIF business, including a list of the documents it contains. The complete documents for the six policies that were approved at the 2022 Mid-Year Conference are attached. Forms needed for conferences – awards, sample registrations, agenda, and others are included.

A Glossary of words and phrases used with AGIF is attached to both the Bylaws and the Policies, Practices, and Procedures Manual. For the convenience of all members, there is a “Table of Contents” for all sections.

The Committee has worked very hard and has put in many hours to produce these documents. We feel these AGIF governing documents will help your chapters function better and provide the information that everyone needs.

The Constitution Committee