



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief
70 Curtis Drive, East Berlin, PA 17316



GENERAL ORDER - 09 Dual Membership Rulings

National Secretary Alan Russ, PDC, requested the Commander-in-Chief rule on several issues that may arise by members holding dual camp memberships in our Order. In the process of my evaluation of these issues (1a through 3b) other concerns arose and are addressed in ruling (4):

1a: Can a Brother be elected as a delegate to a Department Encampment from other than his primary Camp?

RULING: Yes. National Regulations do not limit the rights of a Brother in any Camp he may be a member.

1b: Can a Brother be elected as a delegate to a Department Encampment from a dual Camp in a different Department than his primary Camp?

RULING: Yes. National Regulations do not limit the rights of a Brother, in good standing, and with dual memberships from being elected as a delegate by any Camp they belong, even if these Camps may be in different Departments.

1c: Can a Brother be elected as a delegate from his primary Camp in one Department, and as a delegate from his dual Camp, in another Department?

RULING: Yes, for the same reasons as in Rulings 1a and 1b above.

2a: Does a Brother who is a dual member of a Camp, and has served as the Camp Commander of his dual Camp, hold the honor of Past Camp Commander, with voting rights at a Department Encampment from the dual Camp?

RULING: Yes.

2b: Can a Brother who held the honor of Past Camp Commander, and subsequently transferred his primary Camp to another Department while obtaining "dual" status in his original Camp, request reinstatement of his Past Camp Commander status in the original (now dual) camp for the purpose of voting at the Department Encampment of the dual Camp?

RULING: No. If a Brother changes his primary Camp from Camp 01 – Department XX to Camp 02 – Department YY, but maintains dual membership in Camp 01 – Department XX, he is still a PCC in Department XX.

3a: Can a Brother who is a dual member of a Camp be elected to, and hold, a Camp office in the Camp with which he is a dual member?

RULING: Yes. It is up to the Brothers of the respective Camp to determine if the Brother involved can ably do both.

3b: Can a Brother who is a dual Member in a Camp that is not within the same Department as his primary Camp be elected to, and hold, a Department Office in a Department other than the Department in which his primary Camp is located.

RULING: Yes. There is nothing in the Regulations to limit a Brother's rights in the Primary or Dual Camp. A member could, in theory and practice, be a Department Commander of two different Departments simultaneously.

4: Encampment Credentials.

RULING: Our Regulations outline the responsibility of the Camps, and Departments, to vote on delegates to Department and National Encampments. It is their duty then to provide the delegates with credentials. Based on the foregoing rulings, individuals may find themselves in possession of multiple credentials for Department and/or the National Encampments. However, these Encampments, also by our Regulations, may only accept ONE credential card from any Brother thereby limiting any member, under any circumstances, from voting more than once on any action brought before an Encampment.

Ordered this 28th day of December, 2015, in the Town of East Berlin, Pennsylvania.

ATTEST /s/ Alan L. Russ, PDC
National Secretary

/s/ Eugene G. Mortorff
Commander-in-Chief