



POST 176  
LEGION HONORS  
STANDING RULE



Revised 10 February 2026

**Section 1. Committee Membership:** The Commander shall, in accordance with the American Legion, Post 176 By-Laws, Article X, by special appointment, appoint the Legion Honors Standing Rules Committee at the March General Membership Meeting (GMM). The committee will provide a report to the EXCOM and General Membership regarding any nominations for any of the below. Committee members must be Post 176 members in good standing.

**Section 2. Legionnaire of the Year:** Any member, in good standing, may be nominated for *Legionnaire of the Year*, however, the selection of one individual for the annual award rests with the Commander.

- a. When choosing nominees, consideration should be given to the individual's performance over and above his/her normal duties as a member; e.g.,
  - 1) what has this individual accomplished for Post 176?
  - 2) Why is his/her performance so outstanding?
  - 3) How did his/her performance aid Post 176?
- b. The *Legionnaire of the Year* award may be given to an individual only one time.
- c. Nominations must be received by the Commander or his/her designee by the **April GMM**.
- d. Recognition and issuance of a *Legionnaire of the Year* pin will be presented at the **June GMM**.

**Section 3. Post 176 Life Memberships:** There shall be two (2) classes of *Post 176 Life Membership* in Post 176.

- a. **Post Life Members (PLM).** Members who shall have acquired a minimum of fifty (50) years continuous service in The American Legion and a minimum of five (5) years

continuous service in Post 176, shall automatically become a PLM and no dues shall be required of him/her.

- b. **Honorary Life Member (HLM).** The greatest honor that can be bestowed on a Legionnaire is to be selected as a Post 176 HLM. This is the only category of life members authorized to wear the insignia designating the wearer as a "Life Member".
- 1) The Commander shall, in accordance with the American Legion Post 176 By-Laws, Article X, by special appointment, appoint a chairman to the HLM Committee from among the Post 176 members in good standing, by the March GMM. The HLM Committee will have a minimum of five members and no more than seven members required to review submissions for HLM. The HLM committee should be composed of both HLM and general membership members. The HLM chairman will schedule the annual meeting to be held no later than the **third Tues of April** to consider all newly submitted nominations.
  - 2) Not later than the **April GMM** any member of Post 176 may submit to the committee chairman, in writing, the name of a prospective HLM along with a narrative as to why the individual should be given this high honor. The HLM Committee will consider all nominees and make recommendations to the General Membership for or against granting honorary life memberships. Supporting justification for or against a recommendation by the HLM committee will be read to the general membership. Selection criteria will include, but not be limited to:
    - a) Length of membership in the American Legion and the post and,
    - b) National, Department, District and Post offices held, years held and/or,
    - c) Honors and recognition the member has brought to the post and to The American Legion and,
    - d) Special contributions the nominee may have made to the post, The American Legion or community and,
    - e) Community activities, including positions of authority on charitable organizations.
  - 3) Election to Honorary Life Membership will be by majority vote of the general membership present at the **May GMM**. Nothing shall preclude the nomination for Honorary Life Membership from the floor at the **May GMM** of any post member in good standing, whom the committee has declined to recommend; however, no name shall be presented from the floor that has not first been presented to the committee.

- 4) Upon confirmation by the members at the membership meeting, the Honoree(s) will be formally awarded the title of American Legion, Post 176 “Honorary Life Member” at the **June GMM**.
- 5) The Post Membership Chairman will obtain a Brass Life Member Card from the American Legion Emblem Sales for the Honoree(s). The Post will obligate itself to fund the HLM’s annual dues, however, this obligation is not to be construed as a right of the HLM, or obligation of the Post, to a Paid-Up-For- Life membership. This obligation, on behalf of the Post, to fund the member’s annual dues, pertains only so long as the member:
  - a) Remains a member of Post 176 in good standing,
  - b) Continues to participate in Post 176 activities as outlined in Sec.3.b.2 above and,
  - c) Attends at a minimum six (6) General Membership meetings per year, either in person or via zoom.
- 6) Honorary Life Members unable to meet the selection criteria outlined in Sec.3.b.2 will have their membership re-evaluated. If the HLM transfers from Post 176 and subsequently returns to Post 176, his/her status as an HLM will be re-evaluated by HLM Committee and voted on by the General Members. It is not an automatic reinstalment process.
- 7) The Post Commander, Adjutant or Finance Officer will process a “Report of Honorary Life Membership Award” to the American Legion National Headquarters.

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Commander

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Date

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Adjutant

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Date