

# General Orders

SEPTEMBER 2025



## FALL COUNCIL

### HOMECOMING

Fall Council is October 3-5, 2025 at the SD Military Heritage Alliance Center in Sioux Falls. Please plan to attend and **bring your computer for training.**

## POW / MIA DAY

### POW / MIA DAY

The United States' National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of September each year. September 19<sup>th</sup>, please take the time to remember those who were POWs and those MIA, as well as their families.

## PATRIOT DAY

### PATRIOT DAY

September 11<sup>th</sup> is National Patriot Day, and the US Flag is to be flown at half-staff from sunrise until sunset to remember the victims of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania.



## BIG TEN CONFERENCE

The Big Ten Conference will be held in Bettendorf, IA October 17-19, 2025. If you would like to attend, registration forms can be found at the end of these General Orders.

## VOD / PP / Teachers Award

All entries for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, and Teachers Awards should be submitted to the Post level no later than October 31, 2025. All questions should be directed to Chairmen, Dale & Margaret Greenfield, [dale.greenfield@yahoo.com](mailto:dale.greenfield@yahoo.com) or 605-350-2319. VOD/PP must use the Scholar's App for entries.

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)



## DEPARTMENT AND NATIONAL DUES

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

The total sent to the Department is \$10.00 and National is \$21.50. This means, any amount charged at the Post level above \$31.50, is considered the Post Dues.

All Post, District, and Department Officers who have not paid their VFW membership dues for the Command Year are expected to pay their dues immediately, thereby setting a good example for other members.

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)

If you wish to publish something in the General Orders, please have it to Anna by the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month. Please send in a Microsoft Word document format to [anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com).

## ONLINE REPORTING SYSTEM

### DEPARTMENT DASHBOARD

For reporting online with the Department Dashboard system and you are having a hard time, please call Anna at the Department office 605-332-7441 or email [anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com) or Lonny Potts at 605-769-0385 or [xlobo54@yahoo.com](mailto:xlobo54@yahoo.com)

The Department no longer accepts the old Community Service and Hospital & Safety Reports. Everything is on the Department website and should be utilized. All paper forms turned in at the State office will not be used for All-State or All-American entries.

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)

*Together, we can do great things!*

**District Fall Meetings - District Commanders, please schedule visits for Post Inspections at this time.**

Dist 1, September 21, 2025, at 1 pm Brandon – Commander Christensen

Dist 4, October 12, 2025, at 2 pm, Watertown – SVC Vanden Hoek

Dist 6, September 28, 2025, at 1 pm, Redfield – Commander Christensen

Dist 7, October 12, 2025, at 2 pm, Chamberlain – JVC Greenfield

Dist 10, September 7, 2025, at 1 pm, VFW Memorial Park – Commander Christensen

All Posts are encouraged to publish a Post publication of some type to be entered into the contest at the end of the Command Year. There are 2 different categories that are judged, Category 1, Publications of 5 or more during the Command Year and Category 2, 4 or less Publications during the Command Year. The POC for this is Allan Ochsner, State Inspector.

**DESECRATION OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG** - Any member who has knowledge of any acts of desecration to the flag of the United States of America is asked to report the same to the State Commander or Department Headquarters.

\*\*\*\*Have you appointed your Veterans Day Chairperson yet? Try contacting your local Chamber of Commerce or another Organization to coordinate programs in observance of this important day!\*\*\*\*



**OFFICIAL:**



*Anna Arnold*

Quartermaster / Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW

**BY ORDER OF:**

*Martin Christensen*

Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW



## General Orders – September 2025

Doc Marty Christensen, Commander SD Dept VFW

1. Membership – each Post required to do a recruiting event each quarter and submit an After-Action Report on the state community service dashboard under **additional reporting** Membership goal is 101% for All-State and All-American. Dale Greenfield oversees membership this year.
2. Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen – All posts should have flyers specific to their posts with a QR code. Deadline for entry is Oct 31. We need to start talking to schools and students about these scholarship opportunities. If you have any questions, Dale and Margaret Greenfield are the Dept chairpersons for this program.
3. I attended the National VFW Convention in Columbus, Ohio August 9-14. All SD members in attendance participated in their required meetings. Carol Whitmore from Iowa is the new National Commander. Corey Geisler from Wisconsin is the new Sr Vice Commander. Baseball caps have been approved in place of garrison hats and will be available from the VFW Store in November.
4. I will attend CIC Whitmore's homecoming in Des Moines, IA 24-26 September 2025.
5. The State Fair began August 28, which was Veterans Day at the Fair. The Chet Sorenson award was presented to Douglas Starr.
6. Fall District meetings:
  - a. District 1
    - i. 9/21/2025 in Brandon at 1pm
  - b. District 4
    - i. 10/12/2-25 in Watertown at 2pm
  - c. District 6
    - i. 9/28/2025 in Redfield at 1pm
  - d. District 7
    - i. 10/12/2025 in Chamberlain at 2pm
  - e. District 10
    - i. 9/7/2025 at Sturgis Memorial Park – Picnic at 1pm (bring a dish), Meeting at 2pmI will attend and inspect Districts 1, 6 and 10 meetings. Rick VandenHoek will attend and inspect District 4 and Dale Greenfield will attend and inspect District 7.
7. Fall conference is at the Alliance Center in Sioux Falls Oct 3-5. Registration and room reservations can be found on the sdvfw.org website. Please bring your cell phones and laptops to the Fall Conference for the skills lab.

V/R

Martin Christensen, Commander  
SD Dept VFW

## General Orders

## Senior Vice Commander

What a crazy month. It has been busy on the VFW front. I cannot believe that August is over, and we are closing in on Fall.

First, the National Convention was very historic this year. What a great experience to see progress and how the parliamentary process works. The biggest take away was, the sitting Jr Vice Commander in Chief was challenged on the floor and lost the election. This was a monumental vote that shows that if you are not doing the job or surrounding yourself with a good team, you can be replaced. We also voted in the first female Commander in Chief. Another big item is that the VFW Riders is now a recognized entity like the Auxiliary and the Cooties.

Since we have a new Sr. Vice Commander in Chief, or Sr Vice class is probably going in a different direction. We have had a Zoom meeting with him, and I think he will do a great job. He is not as worried about pushing membership as he is pushing community service. His thoughts are that if we are out in the community and being seen, membership will come along with it. Another item that he wants to focus on is the Action Corp. We need to make sure our members are part of this and that they are responding to the Action Alerts to send our congressional delegation emails when critical votes that the VFW supports are going to happen. Social media is also being pushed. Every Department, District and Post should be using this to get their story out to the public. This is what our younger generation follows, and we need to get their attention.

With fall coming, that also means that we will be having District Meetings and our Fall Conference. There will be some good training and comradery. It is important that we send our post leaders to these events to learn what needs to be done.

Rick Vanden Hoek  
Senior Vice Commander

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## General Orders September 2025

## Junior Vice Commander

I don't want to sound like a broken record, but membership is very important. We need to be continuously working on recruiting new members and retaining continuous members. The goal is the same for post, district and department at 101%.

Schools have already started their 2025-2026 school year. Make sure that you get the flyers out for Patriot Pen and Voice of Democracy. The deadline for submission on Scholars Application is 31 October 2025. The program is accepting essays now.

If the post hasn't submitted your program chairmanship appointments yet, they need to do so. We are in the process of making sure the post/district chairs are correct in scholars' application

<https://scholarsapp.com/login> . There is going to be a training on the program during Fall Council.

Patriot Pen / Voice of Democracy dates:

31 October	All essays submitted on scholars' application to post.
21 November	Post judging done and forwarded (promoted) to district
5 December	District judging done and forwarded (promoted) to department (state)
15 December	Department (state) judging completed, and names forwarded

Teacher of the year nomination goes from the post to the department (State). The applications are due on 31 October 2025. Email is the preferred way to submit to department. Those are submitted to my email or can be mailed to: Dale Greenfield 20539 401<sup>st</sup> Ave, Huron, SD 57350.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me. My cell phone number is 605-350-2319 or email [dale.greenfield@yahoo.com](mailto:dale.greenfield@yahoo.com)

Dale Greenfield

Junior Vice Commander

PP / VOD Department of SD Chair

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Welcome to Month number three of the VFW year Comrades,

This past month I attended National Convention in Ohio. It was a great experience that I learned a lot from. One of the biggest take away for me was that once again this organization is led by its membership. We as individual members absolutely have the power to change things if we do not like them. All we have to do is show up and vote. With this we must remember that it is important to go to our District, and Department meetings to show people in charge that we as members will not stand for things we do not believe in. With that being said I can't wait to see everyone in Sioux Falls for our Fall Meeting.

Once again I ask you all to please email or send post for Facebook for me to share on our Department Page. I realize I can just directly share but unfortunately I don't always see your great posts do to algorithms and just the amount of time it would take to go to all the different pages.

Once again thank you for all that you guys do to make this organization great!!

Kat Pyka

Department Judge Advocate

[adj@vfw1273.org](mailto:adj@vfw1273.org)

(719)661-9738

## General Orders, September 2025

Recruitment efforts have been a priority across District 7 with multiple events attended by members of the Posts and Auxiliaries. I am anticipating some good starting numbers from National along with our early goals from our Membership Recruiting Plans being met. Please continue your recruitment efforts by always having positive community service events and look towards possible social media platforms for future recruitment efforts.

The District has been doing very well with reporting to the Dashboard this year. Every Post had already been doing the community service. Now, we are seeing more of the results making it to the Dashboard. We will be doing a skills lab at Fall Council in Sioux Falls. Please bring your laptops and/or phones to work on Community Service reporting.

Please continue to post all recruitment events under Additional Reporting on the Dashboard. This is taking the place of a quarterly recruitment AAR requirement.

I will continue completing the Post Inspections as I am able to sit in on the regular scheduled meetings and visit with the Posts.

Thank you for all that you do. Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

V/R

Brent Jones

Commander

District 7, Dept. SD VFW

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## Our Dashboard.

Change is often misunderstood and hard to accept. It is now the third year that we have been operating on the dashboard. This was a major change for many of us. Most have adapted and although it seemed that the learning curve was slow, the dashboard is working quite well. It not only shows us what has been completed, it also shows us what is deficient, as well as where mentoring is needed.

With that in mind, Department Commander Dr. Martin Christensen has set up a skills lab during Fall Council in Sioux Falls on Friday Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be computers available to give your hands on practice and assistance in regard to navigating the dashboard. Your membership number and last name are all that is required to get you logged in.

Please bring your questions and concerns. If you have community service activities for your Post, we will be able to help you with those entries. It is not planned to be a classroom presentation, but rather one-on-one assistance.

Aide-de-Camp  
Lonny Potts



***A LEGACY OF SACRIFICE, A PROMISE TO REMEMBER***

***GOLD STAR FAMILY DAY***

***SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 AT 1:30 PM. CST***

Please join us for a time of remembrance and reflection, as we honor the men and women who have given so much in the name of freedom.

**Veterans Park**

**1021 W Bailey St**

**Sioux Falls SD**



**Please bring a lawn chair for your comfort.**

**In the event of rain, ceremony will take place at The Armory  
1700 W Russell St.**



VFW BASEBALL ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA  
HELD AT VFW Post 2638 Madison, SD  
Sunday 10 AM, 8/24/2025



1. Call to Order
2. Opening Ceremony - Pledge of Allegiance
3. Introductions and Roll Call
  - 3.1. VFW Baseball Organizational Structure
  - 3.2. Roll Call/sign-in (Present: Chairman: Jason Brown, Director of Operations: Jesse Bien, Representative: Nolan Whiting, Executive Committee/IT: David Grantham, Immediate Past Chairman: Danny Frisby-Griffin)
4. 2024 Annotated Agenda Minutes are posted on website
5. Unfinished Business
  - 5.1. 2025 Tournament Report: **181** teams participated or registered for 2025 VFW Baseball Tournaments (**2722 Players -86**)
    - 5.1.1. **2025 (181 teams) (-4)**
      - 5.1.1.1. 17U: All Star Game: 42 players invited, delayed due to weather
      - 5.1.1.2. 17U: **26** teams: Alpha Division (**WC Royal**); Bravo Division (**MVP Titans**); Charlie Division (**Platte Geddes**) (+2)
      - 5.1.1.3. 14U: **50** teams: Alpha Division (**Madison**); Bravo Division (**Sisseton**); Charlie Division (**Volga White**); Delta Division (**Scotland/Menno**); Echo Division (**Tyndall Post 6895**) (+3)
      - 5.1.1.4. 12U: **39** teams: Alpha Division (**Madison Bulls**); Bravo Division (**Corsica/Stickney Jaguars**); Charlie Division (**Parkston**) (+1)
      - 5.1.1.5. 10U: **39** teams: Alpha Division (**Dell Rapids Light Blue**); Bravo Division (**Bruce Stingers**); Charlie Division (**Parkston**) (+4)
      - 5.1.1.6. 8U: Open Class **26** teams Alpha Division (**WC Rebels**); Bravo Division (**Platte-Geddes**); Charlie Division (**Bruce Stingers**); Delta Division (**Beresford**) (-4)
    - 5.1.2. **2024 (185 teams) (+6)**
      - 5.1.2.1. 16U: All Star Game: 49 players participated Game 1 Class B 4-0; Game 2 Class A 3-1
      - 5.1.2.2. 16U: Class A **13** teams (**Madison**); Class B **21** teams (**Canistota/Freeman**) (-1)
      - 5.1.2.3. 14U: Class A **21** teams (**Dakota Valley**); Class B **26** teams (**Freeman/Marion**) (-6)
      - 5.1.2.4. 12U: Class A **18** teams (**Lennox**); Class B **20** teams (**Winner**) (+2)
      - 5.1.2.5. 10U: Class A **15** teams (**Madison**); Class B **20** teams (**Corsica-Stickney**) (+2)
      - 5.1.2.6. 8U: Open Class **30** teams Red Division (**Avon**); White Division (**Madison 8U**); Blue Division (**Dells Mudcats**) (+8)
    - 5.1.3. **2023 (179 teams) (+4)**
      - 5.1.3.1. 16U: All Star Game: 49 players participated (+1) Class A won 5-1
      - 5.1.3.2. 16U: Class A **15** teams (**Dell Rapids**); Class B **20** teams (**Parkston**) (-1)
      - 5.1.3.3. 14U: Class A **26** teams (**West Central Trojans**); Class B **27** teams (**MVP**) (-3)
      - 5.1.3.4. 12U: Class A **16** teams (**Dell Rapids**); Class B **20** teams (**Platte Geddes**) (+2)
      - 5.1.3.5. 10U: Class A **16** teams (**Lennox Zens**); Class B **17** teams (**Bruce**) (+3)
      - 5.1.3.6. 8U: Open Class **22** teams Gold Division (**WC Rebels**); Silver Division (**Scotland/Menno**) (+3)
    - 5.1.4. **2022 (175 teams) (+16)**

- 5.1.4.1. 16U: All Star Game: 48 players participated (+9) Class B won 8-5
- 5.1.4.2. 16U: Class A **16** teams (**Tea Area**); Class B **20** teams (**Tyndall**) (-1)
- 5.1.4.3. 14U: Class A **28** teams (**Lennox 14s**); Class B **28** teams (**Parkston Blue**) (+4)
- 5.1.4.4. 12U: Class A **16** teams (**WC Hammers**); Class B **18** teams (**Canistota/Freeman**) (no change)

5.1.4.5. 10U: Class A **12** teams (**Madison**); Class B **18** teams (**Bon Homme**) (+2)

5.1.4.6. 8U: Open Class **19** teams (**Madison**) (+11)

#### 5.1.5. **2021 (159 teams)**

5.1.5.1. 16U: All Star Game: 39 players participated (first since 2004) Class B won

5.1.5.2. 16U: Class A **12** teams (**Dakota Valley**); Class B **25** teams (**Tyndall**) (no change)

5.1.5.3. 14U: Class A **22** teams (**Vermillion**); Class B **30** teams (**Canistota/Freeman**) (+4)

5.1.5.4. 12U: Class A **14** teams (**West Central Boltz**); Class B **20** teams (**Parkston**) (+7)

5.1.5.5. 10U: Class A **12** teams (**West Central Hammers**); Class B **16** teams (**Parkston**) (+18)

5.1.5.6. 8U: Open Class **8** teams (**Tea**) (+8)

#### 5.1.6. **2020 (146 teams)**

5.1.6.1. 19U: Class B **20** teams (+20)

5.1.6.2. 16U: Class A **16** teams (**Beresford**); Class B **21** teams (**Tyndall**) (+2)

5.1.6.3. 14U: Class A **18** teams (**West Central**); Class B **30** teams (**Canova**) (-6)

5.1.6.4. 12U: Class A **10** teams (**West Central Boltz**); Class B **17** teams (**Parkston 12s**) (-4)

5.1.6.5. 10U: Open Class **10** teams (**Canistota/Freeman**) (-15)

#### 5.1.7. **2019 (145 teams)**

5.1.7.1. 16U: Class A **15** teams; Class B **20** teams (-2)

5.1.7.2. 14U: Class A **24** teams; Class B **30** teams (+3)

5.1.7.3. 12U: Class A **11** teams; Class B **20** teams (-1)

5.1.7.4. 10U: Class A **11** teams; Class B **14** teams (-3)

#### 5.1.8. **2018 (148 teams)**

5.1.8.1. 16U: Class A **16** teams; Class B **21** teams (+3)

5.1.8.2. 14U: Class A **19** teams; Class B **32** teams (-2)

5.1.8.3. 12U: Class A **14** teams; Class B **18** teams (-1)

5.1.8.4. 10U: Class A **12** teams; Class B **16** teams (+3)

#### 5.1.9. **2017 (146 teams)**

5.1.9.1. 16U: Class A **16** teams; Class B **19** teams

5.1.9.2. 14U: Class A **27** teams; Class B **26** teams

5.1.9.3. 12U: Class A **15** teams; Class B **18** teams

5.1.9.4. 10U: Class A **13** teams; Class B **12** teams

### 5.2. Registration and Website [www.sdvfwbaseball.com](http://www.sdvfwbaseball.com)

#### 5.2.1. 2026 Tournament Registration

5.2.1.1. **2026 No Fee Structure or timing (deadline) changes.**

5.2.2. Insurance: [Sadler Sports and Recreation](#): No Change

## 6. New Business

6.1. **Discussed and determined to have been overcome by other actions thus not required:** Discussion and decision on also changing 14U to 15U. **Decision was to table until the 2025 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting to see how the change to 17U goes. The age change will be unnecessary when the 17U and 14U structure is changed to Varsity (Grade 12 and below), Junior Varsity (Grade 11 and below, with exceptions by petition), C Team or Freshman (Grades 7, 8 and 9, with exceptions by petition). The 12U, 10U and 8U age structure would remain the same.**

6.2. **Discussion:** Allow the SD VFW Baseball Executive Committee to expand to all divisions to conduct a three to five division tournament process if an age division total team benchmark is achieved to allow teams to play a maximum of 5 games over 3 consecutive day tournament. **Discussion:** 5 games should be the maximum played by teams during a tournament weekend due to pitching quality and availability. **Recommend (DFG):** SD VFW Baseball should make every effort to have a single elimination

championship team bracket when an age group older 12U or older has 4 or more divisions to determine the ultimate champion for that particular age group (V, JV, Frosh (14U), 12U).

6.3. VFW Youth Baseball Sponsor/Partnership Program No Change

6.4. Rule Changes Submitted and items to be discussed (bold items below to be voted on)

- 6.4.1. **Approved unanimously - Delete Rule 2.4:** A local baseball association or community attempting to register with the VFW for postseason play must register their oldest team (16U, 14U, 12U, 10U, 8U), if the community has that team. If the association chooses not to do so, the VFW baseball administration will not recognize them as a governing body of local baseball in their specific area. This may void any and all registrations from said community/association. Exceptions and extenuating circumstances will be ruled on by the SD VFW Executive Committee. (*renumber and connect the rule ties in subsequent rules*)
- 6.4.2. **Administrative Modification to Rule 2.6:** A **notice of verification of team eligibility** must be included from the local governing body with registration. The entry form and fee must be presented by the local governing unit. For the purposes of clarification, the mailing address of the governing body and registering team shall be used as the point of origin. There will be only one recognized baseball/softball association/governing body per independent school district. The established/long standing baseball association will take precedent over other organizations in the priority order stated in 2.7. The youth baseball association nearest to a team's "point of origin" will be designated as the local governing body and must verify eligibility. The local governing body/team should assess and understand their team's potential ADM during the verification of eligibility process.
- 6.4.3. **Approved - Modify Rule 2.7:** A team seeking entrance into a South Dakota VFW State Baseball Tournament (Regional & State Tournaments) must be verified eligible by their local governing body as defined in 2.6. A team seeking to participate in a South Dakota VFW Baseball Regional, sanctioned/sponsored League play and/or State Tournament must be verified eligible by the local governing organization in the following priority order:
- 6.4.3.1.1. Recognized local Youth Baseball/Softball Association [within their independent school district](#)
  - 6.4.3.1.2. [High School Activities Director](#)
  - 6.4.3.1.3. City Recreation Department
  - 6.4.3.1.4. Highest Ranking City Official
- 6.4.4. **Approved - Modify Rule 2.8:** If a player attempts to play for another team outside of his or her local governing baseball association **where he or she attended school the previous year**, he or she is required to petition SD VFW Baseball Executive Committee to be released. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered. Otherwise, the player is expected to play for their local/home team, [within their independent school district](#), from their previous baseball association.
- 6.4.5. **Approved - Modify Rule 2.11.2:** The South Dakota High School Activities Association [Alphabetical Listing](#) web page for **MALE Only** ADMs will be used to determine team total ADM. Your VFW Baseball team Co-op must be listed on the SDHSBA website or the [SDHSAA Cooperative](#) page under the Baseball listing to be a valid for a sanctioning organization. (*random thought, what is the process of dealing with teams/schools that don't play or coop for baseball?*)
- 6.4.6. **Administrative Modification - Rule 2.11.5:** Definition of a Pickup Player: A team will be allowed two release/pickup players without adding all ADM numbers.
- 6.4.6.1. Any team is allowed two pick-up players from other towns/schools if those towns/schools do not have a SD VFW Baseball team at that age division (petition for release not required). *Not sure we talked about the following verbiage:* If the player does not have an appropriate aged team within their independent school district, playing within any recognized organization, i.e., VFW, Legion (both senior and junior), Sanford, etc. will not have their



ADM added to the team's total ADM. The pick-up player will count against the team 70% requirement.

6.4.6.2. No out of state pick-up player (unless a member of the sanctioning organization's SDHSAA sports co-op) ~~or class AA~~ pick-up players unless there are extenuating circumstances and approved by SD VFW Baseball Executive Committee.

6.4.6.3. A team with more than two release or pickup players from another town/school on a roster will result in all schools' ADM numbers being added to the registering team's ADM based on the verifying organization. The addition of ADMs to a team may or may not reclassify the team into a higher class or result in **forfeit without refund**. The local governing body/team should assess and understand their team's potential ADM during the verification of eligibility process.

6.4.6.4. **Discussion:** Need to assess division ADM distribution due to using SDHSAA Male Only ADM ([Bound | Schedules, scores, news, rosters, stats for the South Dakota High School Activities Association High School sports](#)) and communicate the assignment decision making process. Here is the current verbiage for Total ADM: As a **general rule**, an ADM of 150 and below will be considered Class B and above 150 will be Class A. VFW Baseball may be required to move higher ADM Class B schools to Class A tournaments to facilitate region and state competition. (As a **general rule**, an ADM of highest SDHSAA Class A school (currently approx. **450**) and above will be considered Class AA.) (All schools could be allowed to play!!! The largest male only ADM belongs to Harrisburg with 668, Washington 613, Roosevelt 595, BV 524, ABD Central 498, Watertown 431, Brookings 360, Mitchell 296, etc. Need to remove all references to Class AA, A and B? Still need to meet the 70% rule.)

6.4.7. **Approved with modification - Rule 3.3:** For all purposes, the first game of your team's 14U, JV and Varsity (17U) age group regional tournaments or 2 of 3 series will be considered as the first half of their VFW Baseball season. A team's post season (second half) begins the first day of the state tournament and ends after their final game of the state tournament.

6.4.8. **Administrative Modification - Rule 3.4:** For all other age divisions, the start of their team's season/~~state~~ tournament play is the beginning of the 8U/10U/12U state tournament and ends after their final game of the state tournament.

6.5. 2026 State and Region Tournament Checklists will be updated accordingly

6.6. 2026 Bid packages will open approximately **10/1** on the SD VFW Baseball website homepage and need to be uploaded by **11/15** for SD VFW Baseball Executive Committee Review. The bid packages this year must be completed on our website. Tournament Host Sites Reveal should be posted by 1/31/2026.

**6.7. Requested to relook at the timing of the age group weekends** - Discussion on rearranging the weekends.

6.1.1. **2026 Tournament Dates (DRAFT)**

6.1.1.1. **8U: 7/10-12/2026**

6.1.1.2. **10U and Varsity: 7/17-19/2026 (Varsity 2 of 3/regions should be completed by 7/9)**

6.1.1.3. **12U and JV: 7/24-26/2026 (JV 2 of 3/regions should be completed by 7/16)**

6.1.1.4. **14U and JV/Varsity Team Championship: 7/31-8/2/2026** (Regions should be completed by 7/23)

6.1.1.5. **14U Team Championship: 8/8/2026**

6.1.1.6. **Varsity Showcase and All-Star Game: 8/9 2-7 PM**

6.1.1.7. **2026 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting: 8/23 (Location TBD 10 AM)**

6.1.2. **2026 Tournament Dates (OLD)**

- 6.1.2.1. Class A and B 8U and 12U: **7/10-12/2026**
- 6.1.2.2. Class A and B 10U: **7/17-19/2026**
- 6.1.2.3. **Class A and B 17U: 7/24-26/2026** (Regions should be completed by **7/16**)
- 6.1.2.4. **Class A and B 14U: 8/7-9/2026** (Regions should be completed by **7/31**)
- 6.1.2.5. 17U Showcase and All Star Game: **8/16 2-7 PM**
- 6.1.2.6. 2026 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting: **8/23 (Location TBD 10 AM)**
- 6.1.3. **2027 Tournament Dates**
  - 6.1.3.1. Class A and B 8U and 12U: **7/9-11/2027**
  - 6.1.3.2. Class A and B 10U: **7/16-18/2027**
  - 6.1.3.3. **Class A and B 17U: 7/23-25/2027** (Regions should be completed by **7/16**)
  - 6.1.3.4. **Class A and B 14U: 8/6-8/2027** (Regions should be completed by **7/31**)
  - 6.1.3.5. 17U Showcase and All Star Game: **8/15 2-7 PM**
  - 6.1.3.6. 2027 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting: **8/22 (Location TBD 10 AM)**
- 6.1.4. **2028 Tournament Dates**
  - 6.1.4.1. Class A and B 8U and 12U: **7/7-9/2028**
  - 6.1.4.2. Class A and B 10U: **7/14-16/2028**
  - 6.1.4.3. **Class A and B 17U: 7/21-23/2028** (Regions should be completed by **7/14**)
  - 6.1.4.4. **Class A and B 14U: 8/4-6/2028** (Regions should be completed by **7/28**)
  - 6.1.4.5. 17U Showcase and All Star Game: **8/13 2-6 PM**
  - 6.1.4.6. 2027 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting: **8/20 (Location TBD 10 AM)**
- 6.1.5. **2028 Tournament Dates**
  - 6.1.5.1. Class A and B 8U and 12U: **7/7-9/2028**
  - 6.1.5.2. Class A and B 10U: **7/14-16/2028**
  - 6.1.5.3. **Class A and B 17U: 7/21-23/2028** (Regions should be completed by **7/14**)
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  - 6.1.5.5. 17U Showcase and All Star Game: **8/13 2-6 PM**
  - 6.1.5.6. 2027 SD VFW Baseball Annual Meeting: **8/20 (Location TBD 10 AM)**

6.2. VFW Youth Baseball Grant Program Update:

6.3. VFW Youth Baseball Community of the Year Recognition Update: **2025**—TBD

6.4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Recipient of VFW Youth Baseball Scholarship (\$500): Luke Koepsel, Howard (Canova)

6.5. VFW Youth Baseball Veterans Program Donation Program Update: **2025-26**—TBD

6.6. 2024 Canaries Future Stars Program –

7. For the Good of VFW Youth Baseball: discussion on the necessity to communicate the changes earlier. The little things matter.

8. Close: annotated agenda and updated rules: hopefully posted by 10/1/2025

9. Next annual meeting: **8/23/2026 10 AM Location TBD**

10. Update Sign-in/Contact list before leaving

Official:

By Order of:

Jason Brown,  
Baseball Chairman  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW of the United States

Jesse Bien,  
Director of VFW Baseball Operations  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW of the United States

# RECONNECT!

The DAV and Women of the Armed Forces

Invite you to join us at the:



## WOMEN VETERAN CONFERENCE

Join us in *Reconnecting* with other sisters of the military.

Enjoy connections through meeting veteran organizations in the community, opportunities of learning available services, listening to the stories cherished and valued, and meeting new and old friends over lunch.



20 September 2025 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**\$5 Entry Fee – includes Lunch**

**First 100 receive Event Gift Bags**

**Challenge all Military Sisters to Join and Enjoy Reconnecting at  
The Alliance - South Dakota Military Heritage Alliance, Inc.  
1600 W. Russell St. Sioux Falls, SD 57104**



# Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars & Auxiliary



## Fall Council

SD Military Heritage Alliance Center in Sioux Falls  
1600 W Russell St, Sioux Falls, SD 57104

 **October 3–5, 2025**



**Registration Fee:** \$105 (Includes Friday & Saturday breaks, Saturday lunch, banquet, and band)

After September 3, 2025, registration price will be \$130

**Banquet Only Ticket:** \$40

### Sheraton Sioux Falls & Convention Center

Room Rate: **\$110/night**

Reserve your room online:

 [Click here to book](https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1751320909249&key=GRP&app=resvlink) or go to <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1751320909249&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

Or Call 605-331-0100

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VFW or Auxiliary:** ☐ VFW ☐ Auxiliary **Post Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

#### **Make checks payable to:**

Department of South Dakota VFW  
1600 W Russell St, Ste 135  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104

### **Use QR Code or Pay online:**

[https://www.zeffy.com/  
ticketing/department-of-  
south-dakota-vfw-and-  
auxiliary-fall-council](https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/department-of-south-dakota-vfw-and-auxiliary-fall-council)



☒ **Return this form and payment by mail or email by September 20, 2025** to confirm your registration.

Questions? Contact us at  [anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com) or  (605) 332-7441



# FALL COUNCIL HOMECOMING

## Alliance Center

1600 West Russell, Sioux Falls SD 57104 605-271-1582

October 3-5, 2025

**"Strength Through Unity"**

### Friday October 3

1:00-5:00 pm

5:00-7:00 pm

7:00-10:00 pm

### Early registration

Skills Lab- Lonny Potts, Shooting skills-Alliance staff  
VFW Committee Meetings (Audit, Budget, Membership & Publications Committees) Assigned Meeting Room  
Hospitality Social

### Saturday October 4

8:00-8:15 am

8:20-9:00 am

9:00-9:50 am

9:50-10:00 am

10:00-10:30 am

10:30 am-11:30 am

11:30-1:00 pm

11:30-1:00 pm

1:00-2:00 pm

2:00-3:00 pm

3:00-3:15 pm

3:15-3:45 pm

3:45-4:00 pm

5:00-5:30 pm

5:30-7:30 pm

7:30-10:30

### Registration

Opening Remarks – Main Room  
Leadership Updates – CMDR Christensen, NCM McKean, NLM Williamson  
Quartermaster Training- Trustee, District CDR-QM Arnold, Inspector Ochsner  
Break (snack included in Hallway)  
Baseball Update from Director Jason Brown  
VOD/PP Training – Dale & Margaret Greenfield (Auxiliary will be sitting in)  
Past Commanders/Current & Past District Commanders (In Board room)  
Lunch for all registered members (upstairs, must have name badges)  
Membership & Recruiting Events Training-JVC -Greenfield & SRC-VandenHoek & CDR Christensen  
VSO Training-Dave Huntimer  
Break  
District Commanders, Judge Advocate, Surgeon  
Closing Remarks-Vendors, Candidates, and CMDR  
Social Hour (cash bar)  
Banquet – (Sports Jerseys) Hospitality Room immediately following Banquet  
Nolan Clark Band (All Veterans Service Organizations invited)

### Sunday October 5

9:00-11:00 am

VFW Council of Administration



**venmo**