



# 2023-2024 Membership Program Overview

## National & State Membership All American All State

Department of Idaho  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

Kenneth J. Babcock  
VFW State Commander  
Arco Post 7137, Idaho  
7 June 2023



## **Purpose:**

To recruit, retain and mentor a stable membership base including all generations of veterans.

To cultivate a membership that is well versed in institutional knowledge and actively involved at all levels of the organization and in the local community.

To establish Posts with an established vision of service, leadership, and community outreach.



**Duane Saremento**  
VFW Commander-in-Chief  
(Designate) July 2023

## National Membership Goals

1. Build a strong organization through recruiting new members while retaining our current membership, creating a solid baseline for the future.
2. Work together to achieve VFW's goals. The VFW National Headquarters staff is available to assist in coordinating programs, developing membership initiatives, and building awareness among our membership and the entire veteran community.

## National Membership Objectives

- Achieve 102% in Membership
- For everyone to recruit at least one new member and then mentor that member.
- Increase membership drives and/or events.
- Develop new Posts and/or revitalize existing Posts.
- Increase Life Membership and Legacy Life Membership



## National Recruiting Awards

### Individual Recruiters:

- 1,5, 10, 15 = Corresponding numbered member pin
- 25 = CIC coin and citation
- 50 = National Aide-De-Camp cap and citation
- 75 = CIC Medallion Set
- 100 = Century cap or \$50 VFW Store credit & citation
- 150 = CIC Custom Desk Name Plate

### Post Early Bird Award (VFW Legislative Conference, Washington D.C.)

The top three Post commanders and quartermasters in each division on Jan. 1, 2024, will receive a \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW Legislative Conference, Washington D.C.

### Post New & Reinstated Member Award

The top 10 Post Commanders and Quartermasters in each division who report more than 50 new and/or reinstated members by Jan. 1, 2024, will each be awarded a travel charger with the official VFW Commander-in-Chief logo.

### Meeting the Challenge Award

The top two Post commanders and the top two District commanders in each division who achieve 102% membership by April 1, 2024, will each be awarded five-night hotel accommodation at the National Convention in Louisville, KY.





## National Recruiting Drawings

### 102% Commander Drawing

Each Post and District commander that exceeds 102% in membership by June 1, 2024, will receive an entry in this drawing. Twenty Post commanders and Twelve District commanders will receive a \$1,000 stipend to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.

### Post Commander and Quartermaster Division Challenge

For every 10 new/reinstated members recruited between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024, Posts will earn one entry for both Post commander and quartermaster entered into a drawing. One Post per division will receive \$1,000 stipend each for commander and quartermaster to be used toward attending the VFW National Convention.



**Top Department Recruiter**

Navy Cutlass

## National Post & Recruiter Awards

**Legacy Society Post**

**Top Department Recruiter**

**Elite National Recruiter**

**National Recruiter of the Year**



## All American Post Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through All-American Dashboard
- Post-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - Hold a fundraiser with the proceeds going to Veterans & Military Support Programs Services, minimum of \$100.
  - National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to District judging
  - A Post must submit a community service report quarterly to their department for submission to the All-American Dashboard. The quarters are July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-March, and April-June.
  - Buddy Poppy- Purchase Three per member in the Post





## All American District Criteria

- Membership must be at least 102%
- Must conduct two Membership recruiting events, submit reports through All-American Dashboard
- District-Election Report must be submitted to National Headquarters
- Meet all the following Program Participation Criteria:
  - Voice of Democracy - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - Patriots Pen - minimum of one entry advanced to District judging
  - National Citizenship Education Teachers Award – one entry advanced to Department judging





## Buddy Poppy Program 2023-2024



- Posts required to purchase three buddy poppies per member
  - Post may donate cost of buddy poppies to National in lieu of an order
- Two designs – traditional and metal (metal available later this summer)
- Cost is \$125.00 per 500 (traditional) (metal – cost to be determined)
- Order through Department Headquarters
- Future availability through VFW Store







**Kenneth J. Babcock**  
Department of Idaho  
June 2023

## Department of Idaho Goals

- Involve Post members and grow local and national membership
- Maintain advocacy for our Veterans and their families and strengthen comradeship among members
- Posts remain consistently active within their communities
- Posts remain faithful to the national Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, and Ritual
- All members honor our Military Heritage

## Department of Idaho Objectives

- Each Post achieves 102% membership by June 30, 2024
- Each Post brings at least one new or inactive member into active participation
- 100% Post and District Inspection pass rate with an emphasis on recruiting/retention program and community activities
- Every Post nominates a PP, VOD, Teacher of the Year, Veteran of the Year and JROTC Cadet or Employer of the Year
- Every Post sends a representative delegate to the Department Convention in June 2024





## **DEPARTMENT /DISTRICT/POST RECRUITING MILESTONES:** (Aligns with National Recruiting Program Quarterly Milestones)

Department/District/Post achieve 87% by November 1, 2023.

Department/District/Post achieve 94% by February 1, 2024.

Department/District/Post achieve 98% by May 31, 2024.

Department/District/Post achieve least **102%** by June 30, 2024.

### **Department of Idaho Recruiting Awards**

#### **Individual Recruiters:**

3 new/reinstated = Golden Eagle Pin

5 new/reinstated = Membership Medal with Certificate

7 new/reinstated = Commendation Medal with Certificate

10 new/reinstated = Department of Idaho Ballcap with Certificate (first 10)

12 new/reinstated = Eagle Statue with Certificate and \$100 VFW Store Credit

Top Department Recruiter (25+) = Bulvoa Watch with Certificate with a National Convention Stipend or a Legacy Life Membership





## Department of Idaho Recruiting Awards



**Individual Early Bird Recruiters:** Top recruiter on 31 December 2023 will receive:

- Two complimentary tickets to the Department Mid-Winter Awards Banquet
- “Early Bird Recruiter of the Year” Plaque
- \$50.00 VFW Store gift certificate

### Post Recruiting Awards

**Top Post in each Division with membership above 102% will receive:**

- Certificate of Achievement
- Plaque
- Post Commander’s Membership Hat Pin



**First Post to achieve 102% will receive:**

- Certificate of Achievement
- VFW Membership Recruiting Kit or a VFW Legacy Citation of Merit



## Department of Idaho Recruiting Awards

### District Recruiting Awards



**Each District with membership above 102% will receive**

- Certificate of Achievement
- Plaque

### **New Life/Legacy Member Incentive Award**

Each new, Installment Life and Legacy Life Member in attendance at the Department Mid-Winter Convention will be entered into an award drawing as follows:

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| ➤ Installment Life:   | 1 Entry    |
| ➤ Paid Life:          | 2 Entries  |
| ➤ Bronze Legacy Life: | 4 Entries  |
| ➤ Silver Legacy Life: | 8 Entries  |
| ➤ Gold Legacy Life:   | 12 Entries |

Current continuous members who convert to Life or Installment Life will be included. One entry will be drawn at the Department Mid-Winter Convention and awarded the prize. Prize: Upgrade to the next Membership Level. For Gold Legacy Life, a \$100 VFW Store certificate for their home Post.



## All State Post Criteria

- Post meets or exceeds 102% membership for the program year.
- The Post is designated an Inspection Ready Post through a successful annual Post Inspection with no outstanding deficiencies.
- Post is not in arrears at the District, Department, or National level.
- Post exceeds community service total impact from prior year as of May 31st.
- Participate in a minimum of three community programs including Patriots Pen, Voice of Democracy, Teacher of the Year, or Scout of the Year by referring a Post winner to a District or State competition as appropriate. (A donation of \$150.00 to Department Programs will substitute for one program.)
- Nominate a candidate directly to the Department of Idaho for JROTC Cadet of the Year and Veteran of the Year. Posts without a JROTC program in their Post area may substitute a nomination for community Employer the Year
- Donate a minimum of \$50.00 to Veterans and Military Support (VMS) program.
- Sell all initial allotments of Department Raffle Tickets
- Post Commander or designated representative must have attended all District meetings.
- Register a delegate for the Department Convention and pay the delegate fee and register a Post delegate for the National Convention and pay the delegate fee.
- Recommended by the District Commander.





## All State District Criteria



- District overall membership meets or exceeds 102%.
- All Posts in the District are designated an Inspection Ready Post through a successful annual Post Inspection without any annotated deficiencies.
- District is designated as an Inspection Ready District through a successful annual District Inspection without any annotated deficiencies.
- The Districts must sponsor a contestant in the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year program.
- The District Commander or designated representative must attend all scheduled Department Council of Administration meetings.
- Have an appointed Membership Chairman and a District Service Officer.
- All Department Raffle Tickets distributed to Posts throughout the District must be sold prior to Midwinter Convention.
- Recommended by the Area Commander

Awards include an All-State cap or jacket.





## Reimbursement for Recruiting Events

The VFW National Membership Department is authorized to assist Posts and Districts with the costs for Department recruiting events.

Department of Idaho Quartermaster must submit a formal request to National and provide an after action review after the event.

National Membership Director will determine eligible reimbursement amount.





**Questions?**