



SABERS CIRCLE STRUCTURE & POLICY

Revision Date: 01.09.2024

Sabers Circle - Informal Alumni Committee

The Sabers Circle is an informal committee responsible for overseeing various alumni centric opportunities that foster an inclusive and ever-expanding community through fundraising projects, reunions and events that also contribute to the overall support of the Troopers organization, and most notably, the Troopers "A" corps.

I. Mission Statement: To provide an environment for the former members of the Troopers "A" Corps, the Trooper Cadets, and the Troopers Legacy Corps to gather, meet and share experiences; support and encourage continued excellence of the Troopers organization through volunteer and financial support efforts; and further foster the ideals of Honor, Loyalty and Dedication for future members of the Troopers organization.

II. Definition of Alumni Marching Member: An alumni is defined as a former marching member of an official Troopers program, which may include individuals who have participated in any of the following Troopers programs:

- Troopers "A" Corps
- Troopers Cadets
- Troopers Legacy Corps

This definition clarifies that the alumni committee is open to individuals who have participated in these specific Troopers programs, ensuring inclusivity and a clear understanding of who is eligible to become a member.

III. Definition of Honorary Troopers Alumni: Honorary Troopers Alumni are individuals who have not marched as a member of an official Troopers program but have made significant, lasting contributions to the Troopers organization or have a special, profound connection to the corps. These individuals are recognized and granted Honorary Troopers Alumni status as a tribute to their exceptional support, dedication, and impact the Troopers community.

IV. Inclusion of Honorary Troopers Alumni in Sabers Circle Leadership: Honorary Troopers Alumni are welcome to participate on the Sabers Circle committee and are eligible to hold leadership positions within the Sabers Circle alumni committee, provided they express their interest and are elected or appointed to these roles by the committee membership. Their unique perspectives and significant contributions to the Troopers



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organization make them valuable candidates for leadership positions, and their inclusion in the leadership team further strengthens the committee's ability to fulfill its mission and objectives.

V. **Structure:** The Sabers Circle operates with a flexible and inclusive structure. All alumni, as defined in sections II & III, who share our mission and values are welcome to participate. The structure includes:

- **Members:** All alumni of the Troopers organization are welcome to be members of the Sabers Circle, provided they express their interest in participating. An interest form is on the Trooper website under Alumni. Once filled out it is sent to the Alumni email. Then an invitation to the next meeting will be sent to the interested alumni. Becoming a member is committing to participate and contribute to one or more of the projects that are part of the Sabers Circle mission.
- **Executive Committee:** Open seats on the executive committee are filled through elections at the annual October meeting, with attendees actively participating in the selection process to guide and facilitate Sabers Circle's mission. Members of the Executive Committee will serve a two-year term. The executive committee consists of the following positions:
 - **President:** The President provides leadership, sets the committee's direction, and ensures the execution of its mission. They also represent Sabers Circle to the broader alumni community and the Troopers organization.
 - **Vice President:** The Vice President supports the President in their duties and may assume leadership responsibilities when necessary.
 - **Treasurer:** The Treasurer manages financial matters, including budgeting and fundraising efforts for Troopers-related projects.
 - **Secretary:** The Secretary is responsible for keeping records of meetings and communications and ensuring transparency within the committee. They are also tasked with maintaining a current roster of active Sabers Circle members.
- **Executive Committee Authority:** In emergency or time sensitive situations, the Executive Committee may be convened at the request of the President, CEO, or Executive Director. The committee has the authority to fast-track decisions so long as they are doing so in conjunction with the CEO or Executive Director of the Organization.

VI. Election Process:

- Annually, during the October meeting, members of the Sabers Circle in attendance will have the opportunity to elect the executive committee for a two-year term. Any member interested in running for a position may nominate themselves.



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- In the event of open seats on the executive committee, members may submit nominations to fill the vacant positions. These nominations will be considered during a special election or as part of the regular election process, depending on the circumstances. The elected individuals will serve the remainder of the two-year term for the specific position they are filling.
- Elections will be conducted through a democratic process, which may include a majority vote or a show of hands. All alumni members and Honorary Trooper Alumni are eligible to vote.

VII. Removal from the Sabers Circle

A member of the Sabers Circle may resign at any time. If they do not resign, and fail to attend three consecutive meetings in a row without notice, the Sabers Circle may vote them off the committee with a simple majority vote of those in attendance.

If a member resigns or is voted off the committee and is an Executive Officer, a new member will be elected to finish the term of the vacant executive position.

- Elections will be conducted through a democratic process, which may include a majority vote or a show of hands. All alumni members and Honorary Trooper Alumni are eligible to vote.

VIII. Scope of Operation: The Sabers Circle focuses on a range of activities and projects, including but not limited to:

- Organizing reunions and special events that bring Troopers alumni together. Some events may be orchestrated to service the entire Troopers family as a whole or focused on specific segments such as the Troopers "A" Corps or Troopers Legacy Corps.
- Conducting fundraisers to benefit the Troopers "A" Corps.
- Leading special projects that contribute to the Troopers organization's mission and legacy.
- Creating volunteer opportunities that allow alumni to give back to the Troopers community.
- Develop and manage other projects and events to benefit the Troopers "A" Corps.
- Work with vendors to produce a line of Alumni Jackets. Jackets must be differentiated with the program that an individual marched.
- Working with the Troopers Executive Director to maintain and manage applicable organizational policies, and to monitor rules concerning the official Troopers Alumni social media platforms, alumni email and website.



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The scope of operation may expand or evolve based on the interests and initiatives of Sabers Circle members. It should also be noted that some projects may be specific to one program. The Sabers Circle has the ability to alter this eligibility but should be very clear in the project charter and applicable marketing.

The Sabers Circle DOES NOT manage any marching program. For example, the Troopers Legacy Corps is not governed by the Saber Circle and is considered an official program under the umbrella of the Troopers Organization.

IX. Official Troopers Alumni Social Media Platforms

Official Troopers Alumni social media platforms may be moderated by non-Sabers Circle members. However, they must abide by any rules or policy requests made by the Sabers Circle.

X. Alumni Eligibility Policy as of 10/14/2023 - Updated by Michael Gough, Executive Director

The Troopers Alumni Family - also known as the Long Blue Line - is made up of all former members of the Casper, Wyoming-based Troopers Drum and Bugle "A" Corps, Troopers Cadets, and Troopers Legacy Corps who have marched over the years. We also welcome those that have been officially recognized as Honorary Troopers Alumni throughout the years. No membership fee is required.

We do ask that to join, you are able to verify the following:

- 1) That you are an alumni of an official Troopers program, meaning you marched at any point with the "A" corps, the Cadet corps, or the Legacy corps and were considered a member in good standing.
- 2) Were named an Honorary Trooper by founder Jim Jones, the former Troopers Alumni Association Committee, or the Sabers Circle.
- 3) That you are above the age limit of eligibility to participate in World, Open, or international class Drum Corps as defined by Drum Corps International. This means that you are over the age of 21.



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4) If you are/were a non-alumni staff member or volunteer with one of the official Trooper programs, applications will be accepted on a case-by-case basis. We want those who had a significant positive impact on the organization to be admitted as well.

We do not allow family or friends of members/alumni to join unless they meet the above criteria. We ask that you join one of the many family and friends groups that have been created instead!

The Long Blue Line Shall Never Bend - HLD