This is a revised edition of the Substantive Laws, prepared by the Law Revision Commissioner under the authority of the Law Revision Act, Chapter 3 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000.

This edition contains a consolidation of the following laws-

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

**BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE ACT**

BELIZE

BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE ACT
CHAPTER 341

REVISED EDITION 2003
SHOWING THE SUBSTANTIVE LAWS AS AT 31ST MAY, 2003

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE ACT</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHAPTER 341

BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.

2. Interpretation.

3. Establishment of the Ex-Services League.

4. Legal proceedings for and against the League.

5. League to be governed by its Constitution.


8. Obedience to the laws of Belize.


SCHEDULE
CHAPTER 341

BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE


Commencement. 

(23rd July, 2001.)

1. This Act may be cited as the Belize Ex-Services League Act.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires:-

“Ex-Services League” or “the League” means the Belize Ex-Services League constituted under section 3 of this Act;

“property” means property of every description, real or personal, movable or immovable.

3. (1) There shall be established a body to be called the “Belize Ex-Services League” which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal which may from time to time be altered, having capacity to purchase, take, hold and dispose of land and other property of whatever kind, to enter into contracts, and it may by its corporate name sue or be sued, plead or be impleaded in all courts of law, and do all other things necessary for the purposes of this Act.

(2) The Ex-Services League shall have a National Executive Council made up of:-

(a) the President of the League;

(b) the Vice-President of the League;
(c) the Chairman of the League;

(d) the Vice-Chairman of the League;

(e) the Secretary of the League;

(f) the Assistant Secretary of the League;

(g) the Treasurer of the League;

(h) the Assistant Treasurer of the League; and

(i) two representatives from each Branch of the League in each District or Area where the League has branch offices.

(3) The members of the Executive Committee referred to in subsection (2) above shall be elected by the members of the League at each biennial conference of the League in accordance with the Constitution of the League, a copy of which is set out in the Schedule to this Act.

(4) The League may establish branches in any District or Area of Belize for the protection of the interests of its members in that District or Area.

(5) The persons who were members of the Ex-Services League before the commencement of this Act, and such persons as shall thereafter from time to time be duly admitted members thereof, shall comprise the membership of the League.

4. Legal proceedings for and on behalf of the Ex-Services League may be brought by the Secretary for the time being, and, in any legal proceedings against the Ex-Services League, service of process on the Secretary shall be sufficient service.
5. (1) The Ex-Services League shall be governed by its Constitution and rules set out in the Schedule to this Act, which Schedule shall be read and construed as an integral part of this Act.

(2) The League may from time to time amend the Schedule by Order published in the Gazette and signed by its President.

6. The objectives of the Ex-Services League shall be:-

(a) to bring about unity in all persons who served in Her Majesty’s Navy, Army, Airforce and any other forces auxiliary thereto, and all those persons who served in the Belize Defence Force, the Belize Police Department, the Belize Prison Service and auxiliary forces, departments or services;

(b) to further the spirit of comradeship and close ties of active service in all of the persons referred to in paragraph (a) above;

(c) to ensure that the service of the persons referred to in paragraph (a) above is remembered by the present and future generations of Belizeans, and that due attention, financial or otherwise, is paid for their welfare by the Government and other interested organisations;

(d) to perpetuate the memory and deeds of ex-service personnel who are deceased or may die after the commencement of this Act;

(e) by charitable means and fundraising activities, to seek to ensure that no ex-service personnel shall be without help in times of need;
(f) to ensure that any ex-service personnel, whether a member of the Ex-Services League or not, is buried in a proper and dignified manner befitting an ex-service personnel, and not as a pauper.

7. In carrying out any of its goals and objectives, the Ex-Services League may exercise all or any of the following powers:

   (a) providing assistance to its members;
   
   (b) guaranteeing loans;
   
   (c) making funds available to its members by borrowing from sources either in Belize or abroad and giving security for any loans obtained;
   
   (d) opening and operating bank accounts;
   
   (e) investing funds of the Ex-Services League in securities which may be determined by the Ex-Services League;
   
   (f) acquiring, holding, taking or giving to any of its members or to any other person, on lease or hire, any immovable or movable property;
   
   (g) mortgaging, pledging and selling or otherwise disposing of, any immovable or movable property belonging to the Ex-Services League;
   
   (h) drawing, accepting or endorsing bills of exchange for the purposes of the affairs of the Ex-Services League.
League;

(i) giving any guarantee or indemnity to, and entering into any arrangements with, the Government, any local authority, body corporate or other person, in order to obtain any right, concessions, and privileges which may be conducive to the attainment of any of the objectives of the Ex-Services League;

(j) making appropriate provisions for the welfare of its members.

8. In conducting its affairs, the Ex-Services League shall obey the laws of Belize and the Belize Constitution.

9. The Ex-Services League and any Branch thereof may make by-laws for its own internal management and control.
SCHEDULE

(Sections 3 and 5)

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE
BELIZE EX-SERVICES LEAGUE

1. NAME

The Organization formed under this Constitution and these rules shall be known as the Belize Ex-Services League, hereinafter referred to as the B.Ex.L.

2. POLICY

The policy of the B.Ex.L. shall be in accordance with the principles of the British Commonwealth of Nations, non-sectarian, democratic and not connected or affiliated directly or indirectly with any political party or organization.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

(i) To bring about the unity of all who served in Her Majesty’s Navy, Army, Air Force and other auxiliary forces, and in Belize’s armed and auxiliary forces.

(ii) To further the spirit of comradeship and close ties of active service.

(iii) To see that their services shall not be forgotten and due attention is paid to their welfare.

(iv) To perpetuate the memory and deeds of those who have fallen or may die in the future.
(v) By charitable means, seek to ensure that no ex-service personnel shall be without help in time of need.

(vi) To ensure that any ex-service personnel, whether member of the League or not, is not buried as a pauper.

4. ORGANIZATION

The Belize Ex-Services League shall be organized into: The Executive Council and Branches.

The Executive Council shall be a central administrative body consisting of a President, Vice President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer elected at the biennial conference, and two (2) representatives from each Branch elected or nominated by their respective Branch.

Any six (6) members of the Executive Council duly assembled at any such meeting and entitled to vote thereat shall form a quorum.

The Executive Council shall acquire and hold such property in the nature of clubrooms, office and equipment, and any materials as may be necessary for the administration of the League and its authorized Branches in pursuit of its aims and objectives.

5. MANAGEMENT

(1) The affairs of the League shall be managed and administered by the Executive Council whose duty it shall be to decide and administrate business connected with the League, and to determine any question whereto the rules of the B.Ex.L. do not apply.
(2) It will be the duty of the Executive Council to instruct and advise the Branches in all matters of organization.

(3) The Executive Council shall have the power to authorize any person or persons whether members of the League or not to examine any or all of the books of a Branch and to audit accounts.

(4) The Executive Council shall have the power to expel a Branch of the League if it:

   (a) refuses to obey the rules of the League or passes by-laws contrary to this Constitution and the rules or adopts a policy opposed to the principle of the League as laid down by this Constitution and the rules; or

   (b) refuses to obey the Executive Council when requested in writing to do so.

(5) (a) Any Branch Officer may be suspended or removed from the performance of his office if in the opinion of not fewer than two-thirds of the members of the Branch such course is necessary for the protection of the Branch.

   (b) Any officer suspended or removed shall be entitled to appeal against the action of the Branch to the Executive Council.

6. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to:-
Men and Women who have served in the Navy, Army, Air Force or any Force of the British Commonwealth, and have been honorably discharged.

Members of the Volunteer Guard and Armed Forces of Belize and Persons of the Auxiliary Forces (e.g. Merchant Navy, Forestry Unit) who accept and support the policies, aims and objectives, by joining a Branch. However, Branches may offer Associate membership.

Application for Membership shall be on a form approved by the Executive Council and shall be signed by the Applicant together with the signatures of his Proposer and Seconder, who must be members in good standing.

Any person who advocates the destruction by force of the duly constituted Government of Belize, or any persons proven to advocate, encourage or participate in subversive activities or propaganda, shall not be permitted to become a Member.

Any person prohibited by this Article from being a Member of the League, and who is now a member of the League, shall upon this fact being proven to the satisfaction of the Executive Council, forthwith, and without further process, cease to be a Member.

Any Member leaving, suspended, expelled or dismissed from Membership of the League, shall have no claim upon the League or against any of its Officials or Officers.

7. BRANCHES

“Branch” means a body of persons fulfilling the qualifications for membership, who made application to the Executive Council.

Any area wishing to form a Branch shall obtain permission from the Executive Council provided there are not less than twelve (12) Ex-Service
Personnel present in that Area.

Every Branch shall be managed by a Committee made up of: A Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Trustees.

Every Branch shall be under the discipline of this Committee.

Branches may draw up By-laws for their administration, but such by-laws shall not become operative until they have been submitted to and approved by the Executive Council. Approval shall not be given unless such by-laws are consistent with the Constitution of the League.

No Branch member shall have power, expressed or implied, to pledge the credit of the League or any Office of the League; or to incur any financial liability whatsoever on behalf of the League or any Office of the League. Nor shall the League or any officer of the League be liable for any act, neglect or default done or committed by any Branch or any Officer thereof.

When any Branch fails to maintain the minimum required Membership, the Branch shall be dissolved. In the event the Branch is expelled or ceases to exist, that Branch fund shall be transferred to the fund of the Executive Council.

8. BENEVOLENT FUND

(1) A fund shall be established for the relief of distress or any kindred subject, and shall be called the Benevolent Fund. The fund shall be the property of the Belize Ex-Service League and vested in the Executive Council.

(2) Funds from the following sources shall be credited to the Benevolent Fund:

(a) Proceeds from the sale of the Flower of Remembrance, the Scarlet Poppy.
(b) All gifts of monies or property of whatever kind, whether arising from public or private subscription or otherwise, which shall at any time come into the hands of the Belize Ex-Services League in promoting and effecting the objectives of the Belize Ex-Services League.

(3) The Executive Council shall be responsible for the control and preparation of charitable appeals for the Benevolent Fund and for the allocation, distribution and management of the Fund.

9. CONFERENCE

There shall be a biennial conference for the purpose of electing the Executive Council, and for reviewing reports from Branch representatives of audited Branch accounts.

The election of officers shall be conducted by the Chairman of the outgoing Council, or his representative, who shall call for nominations for the posts of President, Vice-President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer from amongst the two members of each Branch elected or nominated for this purpose, as well as from members of the retiring council.

The quorum for the conference shall be any six members including members of the outgoing council and members nominated or elected to attend the conference.

Members of the incoming Executive Council shall take office immediately on election.

Motions and notices of amendments to this Constitution and rules should be sent in one (1) month in advance.