



YOUNG MARINES
1st Florida Regiment
3rd Young Marine Division
3049 Hickory Wind Rd, Tallahassee 32317
850-264-5414



Revised 26 November 2008
Revised 22 October 2016
Revised 3 November 2019

From: Regimental Commander
To: All Regimental Staff, Battalion and Unit Commanders
Ref: 1st Florida Regiment By-Laws
Subj: Florida Tag Money Distribution Rules and Regulations

1. **Purpose:** To establish regulations governing the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the U. S. Marine Corps (USMC) license plates in Florida. This policy is to ensure that all 1st Florida Regiment Young Marines are benefiting from the proceeds of the Scholarship funds.
2. **Background:** The State of Florida passed Florida Statute 320.08058(28) stating that the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation (MCSF) would receive funds collected from sale of Marine Corps license plates. Every year the MCSF distributes the funds as follows: \$50,000 to scholarship recipients under the MCSF's own programs; 35% of the remaining funds go to the State Homes for Veterans and 65% to be divided by the MCSF between the Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) and the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League programs in Florida. Every year the State of Florida sends the revenue from the sale of the USMC license plates to the MCSF. Annually the foundation calculates the percentage it will provide to the Young Marines and issues a check to the 1st Florida Regiment, Young Marines.

After the Regiment receives the payout, the money is distributed:

- A. 1st Florida Regiment receives 20% of total;
- B. The remaining balance is distributed:
 1. to extraordinary or non-recurring expenses such as National, Division and Regimental encampments, Regimental and Battalion travel, Cpl Gionet Scholarship Fund, regimental t-shirts, etc.
 2. to units on a Young Marine per capita basis with each unit receiving the same amount for each qualified YM.
 3. on 31 May unspent line items as established in Section 2, B. 1. will become available for distribution to units on the Young Marine per capita basis established in Section 2, B. 2.
3. **Requirements:** The 1st Florida Regiment established the following rules to ensure that all units which are in compliance would receive the funds. Those units not in compliance might not be eligible to receive their share of the proceeds. A unit must meet the following requirements from 1 June through 31 May in order to get its share of the proceeds.

A. **Regiment Payout:** The Regiment receives 20 percent before payout is calculated. The money received is used to offset leadership schools, summer encampments, purchase awards, supplies and other items as approved by the Unit and Battalion Commanding Officers and Regimental Staff.

B. **Unit Payout:** The following requirements must be met in order to receive any monies:

1. Units must attend a majority of all Regimental activities including, but not limited to, summer encampment, leadership schools and adult leadership conference.
2. Units that live beyond a 250-mile radius from the activity site are exempt but must notify the Regimental Commander or Executive Officer by email to 1stflareg@gmail.com of intended absence 30 days prior to the activity as required in the 1st Florida Regiment bylaws, Article V, Section H, number 7 of the bylaws. All units are encouraged to attend all events.
3. Units must have either their Commander or Executive Officer or a designated representative at each of the Unit Commander's meetings as recorded in the official minutes as approved. Unit Commanders must email 1stflareg@gmail.com to designate any other representative no fewer than three days prior to date of meeting. It is the responsibility of the Unit Commander to request minutes be amended before they are approved for all corrections, including attendance.
4. Units must answer all requests either by email, phone call or US mail in a reasonable time. A reasonable time is established as the due date requested by sender. If no date is indicated, three days after an email or voice message is sent shall be considered reasonable. An extension of time can be granted if the request for extension is received within the reasonable time as established.
5. Units must be registered and in good standing. If a Unit is not registered, it forfeits its right to receive any monies. To be considered "in good standing" Units must remain in compliance with the National requirements of submitting a monthly financial, paying invoices within 60 days, holding elections, current commander and executive officer letters on file, annual re-registration in a timely manner and maintaining at least three registered adult volunteers.
6. Units must conduct unit activities for a minimum of 4 hours each month as evidenced in the National database no later than 31 May. Unit activities are defined as Young Marine training set forth in the Basic, Junior, Senior and Advanced guidebooks. Unit activities do not include community service, fundraising or encampments.
7. Units must support 3rd Division leadership schools hosted by the Regiment or National leadership schools every two years. Support is considered 1) enrolling Young Marines as students, 2) registered Adult Volunteers selected as school staff, or 3) Young Marines selected as instructors and Regimental Young Marines staff.
8. Units must pay any debt to the Regiment within 30 days.
9. As required in the bylaws, Article VII, Section C., Units must submit a copy of their financial statement to 1stflareg@gmail.com and to their battalion commanders in addition to the National accounting firm on a monthly basis. Units are also required to copy the 3rd Division Commander and Associate Commander.
10. Failure to meet the aforementioned requirements, as decided by majority vote by the Unit Commanders or their delegates on the conference call, will result in a 25% decrease in the Unit's share for one infraction, 50% decrease for the second, 75% for the third and forfeit all monies for a fourth. Monies not paid to one unit will increase the payout to the remaining units.

4. **Action:**

A. **Regimental Staff**

1. The Regimental Paymaster will deposit the tag check from MCSF within seven days of receipt.
2. On 1 June the Regimental Adjutant will verify unit strength using the National database.
3. The Regimental Adjutant will draft a report showing the disbursement of monies.
4. The Regimental Adjutant will forward a copy of the proposed payout to the Regimental CO and XO for approval at the next Unit Commander's meeting.
5. The Regimental Paymaster will send checks within 15 days to those units as approved by the Unit Commanders.

B. **Regimental CO or XO**

1. Will add "Distribution of Tag Money" to the agenda for the next scheduled conference call.
2. Will bring attention to "failure to comply" explanations received from Unit Commanders during this call for vote.

C. **Unit Commanders:**

1. Must be on the conference call at which fair distribution will be discussed and agreed upon, or designate a representative as specified in the Regimental bylaws.
2. Verify their unit's strength. Maximum payout will not exceed 75 Young Marines.
3. Show proof and/or written justification why you or your unit did not meet some or all of the requirements. Proof should be emailed to 1stflareg@gmail.com no later than 21 May.
4. A Unit will not vote if it is not registered or is not meeting the required minimum of 4 hours a month.

JOHN GIONET, 1st Florida Regimental Commander, 2006

JOHN GIONET, 1st Florida Regimental Commander, 2008

JAMES F. BURKE, 1st Florida Regimental Commander, 2016

JAMES F. BURKE, 1st Florida Regimental Commander, 2019