

EXTENSION, REVITALIZATION & MENTORING

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A strong Auxiliary is like a successful hockey team.

We need to recruit new talent, reignite the passion of our existing auxiliary members and develop our rookies into the next group of leaders.

We must be “Simply the Best for Our Veterans” while “Serving America’s Heroes.”

EXTENSION is recruiting and drafting new members.

A hockey team is always looking to grow and diversify the roster and so are we as Auxiliaries. We need fresh members who can contribute to our organization. Extension means reaching out to new people, inviting them to join our team and helping them understand the value of joining and why what we do is so important.

Just like the NHL creating new teams, we too must create new Auxiliaries. We can accomplish this by reaching out to unaffiliated posts and explaining the benefits of having an Auxiliary and encouraging them to start their own.

REVITALIZATION is bringing the energy back to our existing Auxiliary members and working to maintain that level.

Sometimes we hit a slump – our meeting attendance drops; morale fades and our Auxiliary members lose their spark. The same plays and strategies can stop being effective. Good coaches reignite passion through new ideas, leadership and team enthusiasm. We need to reengage with disconnected members so they feel excited and involved again. We can do this by changing up the same old routines and asking for new ideas.

Recognition is another way to boost the spirit of your members by making them feel valued and appreciated. There are many templates and resources in MALTA you can utilize during your meetings to accomplish this, such as the “Good Job” certificate.

EXTENSION, REVITALIZATION

MENTORING is when leadership and existing members take new members under their wing to share their knowledge and help them learn the ropes.

Mentoring creates connection, confidence and helps new members grow into active members and future leaders. It cultivates a welcoming environment and allows the new members to feel comfortable and accepted. New friendships can be formed by working hand in hand with new and long-term members to create a strong and successful organization.

The Auxiliary offers a program you are encouraged to adopt and implement called the CARE concept. You can review the document “Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future” to help you get started. This document can be found on the VFW Auxiliary website.

The CARE Concept stands for:

- C – CATCH the member when they join.
- A – ASK them to participate
- R – REMEMBER what it felt like to be new.
- E – ENGAGE them in a program that fits them.



CHIEF OF STAFF – your main duty is to be aware of issues or problems with troubled Auxiliaries and keep the Department President informed. You are also a coach, counselor and mentor to all members.

We need all Auxiliaries to be in working order so we can score goals and win the game of serving our veterans. If your Auxiliary needs help, please do not hesitate to reach out and ask!

We have implemented an identification plan for struggling Auxiliaries. This plan utilizes green light, yellow light and red light system.



- **GREEN LIGHT** – Healthy Auxiliaries, Membership Programs and Officers.
- **YELLOW LIGHT** – Auxiliaries are exhibiting troubling warning signs. As soon as these warning signs start appearing the District President will notify the Department President so assistance can be given.
- **RED LIGHT** – Auxiliaries will be put on suspension to take a step back and regroup. The hope is that they will recover and come back stronger and better than before.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS

The national organization has 5 requirements to be considered in working order:

1. Hold 10 meetings per year with at least 5 members present.
2. Dues paid by at least 10 members on or before February 1st of the current year.
3. Quarterly audits by Trustees and submitted to Department Headquarters.
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters by June 30th.
5. The offices of President and Treasurer are bonded by August 31st.

SUSPENSION, CANCELLATIONS AND CONSOLIDATIONS

Suspensions do not label your auxiliary as a bad auxiliary. In hockey terms, you are put on the injured reserve list – out of play until you are returned to working order. During your suspension, the Department President will appoint a team to MENTOR your auxiliary back to health. Your auxiliary is not removed from the league; you just cannot take the ice until reinstated.

The National President is the only one with the authority to order cancellations with or without the recommendation of the Department President.

Auxiliaries cannot consolidate without first receiving a notice from National Headquarters. The notices will allow time for the auxiliary to close, move members to their desired working auxiliary or consolidate with the auxiliary where the post goes. Please wait for directions from National Headquarters before taking any action.

Resources

- Build on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation
- Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit
- MALTA – Extension & Revitalization
- The current year's National Program Book
- "Understanding Auxiliary Traditions" Video
- <http://vfwaux.org>



THERE IS NO YEAR END REPORT FOR EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION

NATIONAL EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION AWARDS

Awards for Members:

- Citation to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff in establishing a new VFW Auxiliary with the approval of the VFW Auxiliary Department President.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

The VFW Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff must sign and send a copy of the completed Department nomination form to the VFW Auxiliary National Chief of Staff by April 30, 2027 for judging.

Awards for District Presidents:

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary District President or Official Representative in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the VFW Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff with a struggling VFW Auxiliary by mentoring and maintaining a close relationship until the VFW Auxiliary becomes healthy, with the approval of the VFW Auxiliary Department President. Use of MALTA Healthy Auxiliary tools and mentor training is required.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

The VFW Auxiliary Department Chief of Staff must sign and send a copy of the completed Department nomination form to the VFW Auxiliary National Chief of Staff by April 30, 2027 for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to winners from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Department account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention for disbursement to the winning VFW Auxiliary District President or official representative.

DEPARTMENT EXTENSION, REVITALIZATION PROGRAM AWARDS

Awards for Auxiliary Members:

1. Citation to an authorized member that institutes a new VFW Auxiliary between July 1, 2026 & February 28, 2027.

Awards for Auxiliaries:

Extension & Revitalization

1. Citation to each new VFW Auxiliary instituted from July 1, 2026 & February 28th, 2027.
 - All paperwork must be received at National Headquarters by February 28th, 2027.
2. Citation to the Auxiliary who presents the most "Good Job" Certificates.
 - Documentation must be sent to the Department Program Chairman.

Mentoring

3. Citation to the District with the best mentor recognition program.
 - Programs must be submitted to Department Program Chairman for entry.
4. Citation to the Auxiliary presenting the best activity or best ways to utilize mentors effectively.
 - Documentation must be sent to the Department Program Chairman.