

# As Listed in the FMA26 (64-1) Chapter Newsletter

## Proposed Chapter Bylaw Dues Increase

**Purpose & Rationale:** The board of directors of the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc., IWLA, are proposing a dues increase starting in calendar year 2027.

Motion made and approved at the board of directors' meeting on September 2, 2025, to approve the proposed 2027 dues increase.

**NOTE: The proposed bylaw changes to increase the Chapter dues will be voted on by the membership at the March 17, 2026, general membership meeting.**

### Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc., IWLA

#### Dues Payment Breakdown as of September 2, 2025

#### Proposed Chapter Dues Increase for 2027: Increase by \$145 Individual / \$212 Family

Type	National	Division	Current Chapter	Proposed Chapter	Current Total Dues	Proposed Total Dues
Individual	\$ 50.00	\$ 7.00	\$154.00	\$299.00	\$211.00	\$356.00
Individual (Senior, Remote, Disabled)	\$ 50.00	\$ 7.00	\$114.00	\$259.00	\$171.00	\$316.00
National Life	\$ —	\$ 7.00	\$154.00	\$299.00	\$161.00	\$306.00
National Life (Senior, Remote, Disabled)	\$ —	\$ 7.00	\$114.00	\$259.00	\$121.00	\$266.00
Life Benefactor	\$ —	\$ 7.00	\$154.00	\$299.00	\$161.00	\$306.00
Family	\$ 75.00	\$ 11.00	\$225.00	\$437.00	\$311.00	\$523.00
Family (Senior, Remote, Disabled)	\$ 75.00	\$ 11.00	\$150.00	\$362.00	\$236.00	\$448.00
Family National Life Regular	\$ —	\$ 11.00	\$225.00	\$437.00	\$236.00	\$448.00
Family National Life (Senior, Remote, Disabled)	\$ —	\$ 11.00	\$150.00	\$362.00	\$161.00	\$373.00
Life Family Benefactor	\$ —	\$ 11.00	\$225.00	\$437.00	\$236.00	\$448.00
National Life Family Benefactor (Senior, Remote, Disabled)	\$ —	\$ 11.00	\$150.00	\$362.00	\$161.00	\$373.00

Remote – Residence is over 50 miles from the Chapter.

Senior – Age 60 or over as of 12/31/26

### Proposed Bylaw Change: Dues Increase

The proposed Chapter dues increase is due to operational expenses that have risen significantly over the years, while specialized volunteerism has declined, and the dues themselves have remained unchanged since 2011.

#### Key reasons for the increase include:

- Inflation and Rising Costs:** The cost of essential services such as power, insurance, water, and trash has increased substantially over the past 16 years, much like personal household bills.
- Decline in Specialized Volunteerism:** The Chapter has lost many members who previously volunteered their time, skills, and equipment for maintenance tasks (e.g., cutting grass, repairing plumbing, painting buildings). The Chapter is now forced to hire outside contractors for these jobs, which increases cash expenses.
- Income vs. Expenses Discrepancy:** Since 2019, Chapter expenses have grown at a much faster rate

(15% increase by 2026) than revenue (3.8% increase by 2026), creating a budget shortfall that the dues increase aims to address.

- Major Upcoming Expenses:** The cost of installation and upkeep of the new access and security system. The Chapter also faces a significant expense for replacing the baffles and upgrading the Rifle-Pistol range.

Despite the financial pressures, the Chapter has invested in several improvements over the last few years to enhance member value, including remodeling clubhouses, rebuilding the archery shed, adding a parking lot to lift membership limitations, and keeping the ranges open.

**Board Oversight:** The board acknowledges its role in delaying the dues increase, hoping that specialized volunteer rates would improve, but they have not. The board is now addressing the problem as a necessity to cover costs and maintain operations.

Please review the information on the proposed bylaw changes.

### Proposed Bylaw Changes

## ARTICLE II

### Initiation Fees and Dues

#### 2. CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP AND ANNUAL DUES

**a. Regular Membership.** This is an individual membership with one membership card issued. The annual dues for a Regular Membership shall be ~~\$154.00~~ **\$299.00** per year, plus assessed National and State Division dues. (However, an additional adult living in the same residence and all dependents under eighteen (18) years of age may use the Chapter facilities when accompanied by the Regular Member.)

**b. Family Membership.** This is a membership for two adults living in the same residence with two membership cards issued. The annual dues for a

Family Membership shall be ~~\$225.00~~ **\$437.00** per year, plus assessed National and State Division dues. (All dependents under 18 years of age may use the Chapter facilities when accompanied by either Family Member.)

**d. Exceptions.** Members who are sixty (60) years of age or older on January 1st of the current year, or members who are disabled, or members whose immediate residence is greater than fifty (50) miles from the Centreville, Virginia, Chapter property shall pay the following annual dues:

**Regular Membership:** ~~\$114.00~~ **\$259.00** per year, plus assessed National and State Division dues.

**Family Membership:** ~~\$150.00~~ **\$362.00** per year, plus assessed National and State Division dues.