



## AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Motorcycle Association

New York Chapter

### PURPOSE

*To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the Aims and Purpose of the American Legion. To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interest. To use our Association to promote and support programs of the American Legion.*

### **BY LAWS:**

#### **I. Membership: There are two requirements for membership.**

- A. A current member of the American Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion with an honorable discharge.
- B. You must own a motorcycle of at least 500cc in size or be the spouse of the owner who is an Association member.
- C. Chapters, at their own discretion, may allow "supporting members" or "chapter supporters". The supporting type members do not constitute actual membership in the American Legion Riders. These members will be non-voting members. These memberships are of a nature as to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the individual American Legion Riders Chapter. These supporting members must still meet the requirements of Section 1.A. and be current members of the American Legion, Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion. Furthermore, all article of clothing that contains the American Legion Riders emblem must contain the words "support" or "supporter".
- D. To ensure fairness and consistency for all members, all new members will be required to sign a waiver which states they have both read and understand the by-laws this Chapter has chosen to adopt.

- E. Potential members will be given a copy of the by-laws to contemplate for one month (next meeting). If they agree and sign, a vote will be taken.
- F. Using a blind vote, a quorum, consisting of two(2) officers and three(3) members of the general membership will decide on any potential members. Vote must be unanimous.

## II. Officers of the Association Chapter

- A. Director
- B. Vice Director
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Sgt. at Arms/Run Coordinator
- F. Historian/Web Coordinator
- G. Membership officer

## III. Elections

- A. Elections of the Chapter officers will be held annually in accordance with the sponsoring post. Date will be posted one month prior to the election.
- B. When two or more Chapters exist in a State (Department) the practices of the department will prevail for the naming of the state officers. If the department wishes to impose no practice state officers will be named by a manner that is in agreement between the involved Chapters.
- C. Only members in attendance at the meeting on the day of voting will vote.

## IV. Duties of Association Chapter Officers

- A. *Director:* He/She will serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and will preside over all meetings. He/She shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Association. He/She shall perform such duties as directed by the general membership.
- B. *Vice Director:* He/She will assume the duties of the director in his/her absence. He/She will assist the director in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the director.
- C. *Secretary:* He/She will keep a full and correct outline of all proceedings at the meeting. He/She will give a brief summary at each regular meeting.

- D. *Treasurer:* He/She will have charge of all finances of the Association. Also in charge of distributing funds as directed by the general membership. Also give detailed financial reports at each regular meeting... (copies will be furnished to the sponsoring Post if requested.) Checks over \$50.<sup>00</sup> will require two (2) signatures. The treasurer and the Director or other elected officer as decided by the membership.
- E. *Sgt. at Arms/Run Coordinator:* He/She will be the logistics person in charge of organized runs of the Association. He/She will determine dates, times, routes and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity. He/She may, at their discretion, appoint assistant road captains or take other measures they may feel necessary to help ensure the safety of the group during a run. He/She will also help maintain order during Chapter meetings.
- F. *Historian/Web Coordinator:* He/She will take and , or, catalog pictures of events. Setup and maintain web pages. Be responsible for e-mail communications between the members and other contacts as needed.
- G. *Membership Officer:* He/She will keep all membership records as may be required by the general membership.

## V. Meetings

- A. Meetings will be held at a date, time, and place as voted on by a majority of the members. At any regular meeting, seven members will constitute a quorum.
- B. A year-end 'All Hands' meeting will be held at the last month of each year to review current membership and financial status of the Association Chapter.

## VI. Finances

- A. Finances of each Association Chapter will be from Association membership dues or such other sources as approved by the membership.
- B. Dues will be \$1.<sup>00</sup> a month or \$12.<sup>00</sup> per year for officers, and both general and Supporting members.
- C. Dues will be required to be paid by the second meeting of each year. Prorated dues will be required of new voted in members.

## VII. Expulsion

- A. Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Association by a vote, of the quorum, (3 members of the general membership and 2 members of the executive board) for disloyalty, dishonesty, or conduct unbecoming of a member of the American Legion Riders. The vote must be unanimous.

## **VIII. Chapter Membership**

- A. Each state Chapter may determine eligibility for Charter membership in its own state Chapter.

## **IX. Residency**

- A. Each Chapter will be known by the state in which its majority of members reside. Chapters may be further broken down into District and Post (i.e. New York Chapter, 6 District, Post 268).

## **X. Governing Rules**

- A. Each State Chapter may elect to adopt a set of standing rules to govern its membership or, at the Chapter discretion, amends these by-laws. The standing rules or by-laws shall be no less stringent than those contained in these by-laws nor can they be in conflict with National constitution of the American Legion or that of the sponsoring post.
- B. Proposed amendments to by-laws shall occur as follows: a motion must be made specifying the amendment. the proposed amendment must be posted, available for consideration by the membership for thirty(30) days. A vote is taken for the amendment. Majority vote wins.
- C. All issues, discrepancies, and complaints must be brought to the elected officers, for consideration. Officers will consider the issue at hand and address the issue at the next meeting. No rash/forced decisions.

## **XI. Disbursement of funds**

- A. Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter. Or emergency meeting/conference of at least four(4) officers. Emergency disbursement of funds is limited to \$100.<sup>00</sup>. Majority vote wins. Each Chapter will be a non-profit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner that is in keeping with all the local, state and national laws regarding non-profit organizations.

## **XII. Order**

- A. All meetings will be conducted under "Roberts Rule of Order".

### **XIII. Apparel**

- A. All Association members will be required to display Association patch on blue denim vest/jacket or black leather vest/jacket.
- B. Members attending meetings or events must wear black patch, t-shirt, Ball cap with the Association logo or pay \$1.<sup>00</sup> fine.
- C. The back patch designed by Diane Kaledas is the only back patch recognized by the ALR.
- D. The American flag must be the highest patch on the left side. This applies to the flag as a patch itself, if it is only part of a patch, this rule does not apply.
- E. If you wear a vest, the right side front should be reserved for memory patches (i.e. POW, MIA)
- F. Absolutely no "Property" patches.