



Constitution
The American Legion Rider
Post 259

Preamble

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To demonstrate the principles of responsible motorcycling as set forth in the Rider's Response: "We, The American Legion Riders, ride for God and Country, The American Legion family, and Allied Veterans everywhere, protect those that protect us. Amen". To serve as examples of responsible American Patriotism; to uphold and defend the Constitution of The United States of America; to serve our comrades as set forth in the Preamble to The Constitution of The American Legion.

Purpose

The American Legion Riders is formed to promote the aims and purposes of The American Legion as a family oriented motorcycling activity for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion.

Article I—Name

The name of the organization shall be the American Legion Riders (ALR). The location of this chapter shall be the American Legion Post 259, 9122 Piscataway Road, Clinton, Md. 20735

Article II—Nature

Section 1. The American Legion Riders (ALR) is a program for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion members, collectively "The Legion Family," who share an interest in motorcycling.

Section 2. The American Legion Riders upholds the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conforms to and abides by the regulations and decisions of the department, post, or other duly constituted governing body.

Section 3. The ALR maintains and protects the image of The American Legion at all times through appropriate wearing of The American Legion Emblem. The emblem of The American Legion demands "that the wearer shall ever guard the sanctity of home and country and free institutions."

Section 4. Members of the ALR avoid any perception of being a motorcycle or "biker" club or gang. Rather, the focus of membership is for the enjoyment of motorcycles and comradeship and furthering Legion programs in the community.

Section 5. The ALR strives to improve the public's perception of the motorcycling community by promoting the honorable nature of service to one's community, state and nation through the sport of motorcycling.

Section 6. Members of the ALR comply at all times with the motor vehicle safety, licensing, and insurance laws or regulations of the state or province in which operating.

Article III—Organization

The American Legion Riders is organized at the Post. The chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring post. The Chapter officers and executive committee are responsible and accountable to the sponsoring post executive committee.

Article IV—Membership Eligibility

Section 1. Eligibility for basic membership in The American Legion Riders shall be as prescribed by the national constitutions of The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of The American Legion.

Section 2. All members of The American Legion Riders must further demonstrate current individual membership in The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of The American Legion.

Section 3. Members will not at any time hold membership in more than one chapter of The American Legion Riders.

Section 4. In addition to sections 1-3 above, members must be the legally registered owner of a motorcycle or be the spouse of the legally registered owner within the state of registration.

Section 5. All operators must be properly licensed and insured per state (or District of Columbia) laws.

Section 6. All members will obey the motor vehicle laws in any state or province in which they are operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger.

Section 7. Members motorcycles size or its displacement must be 750cc or greater.

Section 8. Any member of the chapter may be suspended or expelled for just cause by a two-thirds vote of the Chapter Executive Committee after charges are preferred under oath in writing, and a fair trial had upon the same.

Section 9. A member who has been expelled or suspended from the Chapter for any cause may be reinstated to membership by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee present in an EC meeting, and payment of current dues for the year in which the reinstatement occurs.

Section 10. No person who has been expelled by any American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion organization shall be admitted to membership in post 259 ALR without the consent of the expelling organization.

Section 11. Membership applications must be approved by two-thirds of the membership to be eligible for membership.

Article V—Wear of American Legion Emblem on Vest

Section 1. The American Legion Riders back patch is authorized for wear by all current members of the ALR.

Section 2. No other back patch design is authorized for wear.

Section 3. The United States Flag patch should be placed on the upper front left breast area.

(1) Nothing may be displayed above the US flag

Section 4. The POW/MIA patch should be placed on the upper front right breast area.

(1) Nothing may be displayed above the POW/MIA patch

Section 5. The Maryland State Flag patch should be placed on the left breast area below the United State flag

Section 6. It should be clear to all members that the American Legion, American Legion Rider Emblems, may not be displayed on any article connected to a MC.

Section 7. It is at the Chapter approval and discretion if any additional smaller patches be designed or worn such as a charter members patch, military affiliation, motorcycle brand or model owner association patches.

Section 8. Members who joined the post ALR on **January 2011** shall be known as **charter members** an authorized to wear the charter member patch below the ALR back patch.

Section 9. Under no circumstances may any obscene or offensive patch, pin, or other devise which conveys a negative message be displayed on an American Legion vest.

Article VI— Officers

Section 1. The elected Executive officers of the Chapter are Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. Positions appointed by the Director are Sergeant-at-Arms, Road Captain, Chaplain, Quartermaster, Historian, Safety Officer and Web Master. Elections shall be held annually as determined by the Chapter membership and approved by its sponsoring Post. The positions of Director and Assistant Director must be held by Post home members.

Section 2. Between Chapter meetings, the administrative power of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee, whose voting members shall consist of all elective officers for the current year and the immediate Past Chapter Director.

Section 3. All other Past Chapter Directors shall be members of the Executive Committee with voice but no vote.

Article VII—Finance

Section 1. The revenue of the Chapter shall be derived from membership dues and other sources approved by the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 2. The chapter dues shall be established for the ensuing year at the first annual meeting upon recommendation of the Treasurer and concurred in by two-thirds of the members present to vote.

Section 3. The Chapter finances shall be under the control of Post 259 and subject to audit by the American Legion Department of Maryland.

Section 4. The Chapter may provide a financial report to the sponsoring post executive committee if requested.

Section 5. The Chapter may authorize the treasurer to spend up to \$200.00 without prior approval from the membership. Expenditures of this type must be reported immediately to the Executive Committee by email and reported to the membership at the next scheduled Chapter meeting. The Chapter treasury balance shall never go below \$100.00.

Article VIII—Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the membership attending such regular meeting provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediate preceding Chapter meeting. Further, that traditional mail or electronic mail notice shall have been sent to all members' addresses of record at least 5 days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted

upon, notifying said members that at such meeting there will be a proposal to amend the Constitution

Approved and effective as of January 22, 2015

Lawrence V. McBean
ALR 259 Director