



American Legion Riders

Motorcycle Association

Bettendorf Post 154 Chapter

December 1, 2008

Purpose

To participate in parades and other ceremonies which are in keeping with the Aims and Purposes 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 three requirements for membership (You must meet A, B or C).

- A. You must be a current member in good standing of the American Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion.
- B. You must own a street legal motorcycle of at least 350cc in size, have a current motorcycle license and have the proper insurance coverage required by law.
- C. Or you must be the Legal spouse of an American Legion Rider member in good standing within the chapter of application.

(In the event that any member or his/her legal spouse, that is in good standing with the chapter, becomes disabled or deceased, may continue full membership with all rights and privileges.

Any member that is in good standing with the chapter may, upon loss of ownership of his/her motorcycle, continue full membership for a period of 6 months, at which time the status will be reevaluated by the E-Board to determine the membership status. If after 6 months and reevaluation, if membership status has not changed then a legacy member patch will be required to be worn.)

II. Supporting Membership:

- A. The Chapter, at its own discretion, may allow “*supporting members*” or “*chapter supporters*.” The supporting type memberships do not constitute actual membership in the American Legion Riders. These memberships are of a nature as to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the American Legion Riders Chapter. These supporting members must still meet the requirements of Section 1A and be current members in good standing of the American Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion. Furthermore all articles of clothing that contain the American Legion Riders emblem should contain the words “*Supporter*.”
- B. Supporting members will be allowed to participate on committees, and attend all of the chapters’ functions. Supporting members will not be allowed to hold any office, nor shall they carry any voting privileges.

III. Application For Membership

- A. Every application for admission to membership in the chapter shall be in writing, and shall state in detail the applicant’s name, address, age, and proof of membership in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion.
- B. Proof of valid insurance for the applicant’s motorcycle shall be provided to the Membership Chairperson at time of application.
- C. The application for membership shall be presented at a regular meeting and be recommended by a member of the chapter, who shall vouch for the applicant’s eligibility.
- D. All applications for membership shall be acted upon at the next chapter meeting, and shall at such meeting, be accepted, rejected or referred for further investigation and consideration. If the majority of the members present show a valid reason and cast their vote against the acceptance of said application, then such application shall be recorded as rejected.

IV. Membership Duties

- A. Members of other American Legion Posts may join Bettendorf Post 154 Chapter at the discretion of the said Chapter, provided they meet membership requirements.

- B. Must be a current member in good standing in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion.
- C. Must not at any time hold membership in more than one Post-level Chapter of the ALR. This provision does not preclude a member from holding office in any Governing or Guiding Chapter organized from amongst groupings of Post-level Chapters, including County, District, Department, Regional, or National Chapters, as seen fit by any commensurate organizational level within the American Legion. This is in keeping with the constitution and structure of the American Legion and its family of organizations.
- D. Any member refusing to relinquish membership pursuant to Paragraph III - C, shall be expelled from the discovering Chapter. Such expulsion does not preclude the member from remaining at any other Chapter at which they hold membership.

V. Membership Dues

- A. Membership dues are set at \$20.00 for the initial membership and \$10.00 for each subsequent year of membership.
- B. Of the initial membership dues, \$10.00 shall be used to purchase an American Legion Riders patch (shoulder patch).
- C. Membership dues shall be collected at the time of initial sign up into the chapter. Renewal will be set for the last day of the month of January each subsequent year.
- D. There will be no prorating of dues. The full amount will be paid regardless of when someone joins.
- E. The amount of dues for membership may be changed by a majority vote of the general membership present at a regular Chapter meeting.

VI. Elections

- A. Election of chapter officers will be held annually.
- B. Nominations of chapter officers shall be made at the scheduled chapter meetings held in the months of October and November of each year.
- C. Election of chapter officers shall take place at the scheduled chapter meeting held in the month of December.
- D. The newly elected officers shall take charge of their respective offices at the

scheduled chapter meeting held in the month of January.

- E. To ensure that prospective members are fully aware of the personality of, and issues at their Chapter, no member having been so for less than one calendar year shall be considered for any office of their Chapter, unless the Chapter itself has been in existence for less than one calendar year. In the event that no members fulfilling this requirement are available or willing to serve, compliance is waived in favor of survival of the Chapter.
- F. When two or more Chapters exist in a State (Department) the practices of that Department will prevail for the naming of state officers. If the Department wishes to impose no practice, then State Officers will be named by a manner that is in agreement between the involved Chapters.

VII. Officers of the Association Chapter

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Sgt. at Arms
- F. Membership
- G. Road Captain*
- H. Chaplin*
- I. Historian*
- J. Quartermaster*
- K. JAG*
- L. Webmaster*
- M. "State" Advisory Board Member*

(The positions designated with an asterisk shall be appointed by the President).

VIII. Duties of Chapter Officers

- A. **President:** 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. Shall have the authority to create or appoint positions within the chapter as deemed necessary. He/she shall perform such other duties as directed by the general membership.
- B. **Vice President:** Will assume the duties of the President in his/her absence. Will assist the President in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the President.
- C. **Secretary:** To keep a full and correct record of all proceeds at the meetings. He/she shall be responsible for handling all of the chapter's correspondence. The Secretary should also give detailed minutes at each regular meeting.
- D. **Treasurer:** To have charge of all finances of the Association. To have charge of

disbursing funds as directed by the general membership. He/she shall give a detailed financial report at each regular meeting. (Copies of the report will be furnished to the sponsoring Post if requested). He/she shall be in charge of and conduct an annual audit of the chapter funds. The Treasurer has the authority to address normal operating expenditures of the chapter.

- E. **Sgt at Arms:** Will maintain order during chapter meetings and events. Should prepare the meeting hall and assist the President and Vice President in the arrangements of the meeting. The Sergeant-at-Arms must make certain new members are welcomed, introduced, and made to feel they are important to the Chapter.
- F. **Membership Chairperson:** Shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate listing of all membership records. He/she shall produce and maintain membership cards for the chapter. He/she shall keep all documents pertaining to the membership. And shall send out a renewal notice to all members 45 days prior to January 31.
- G. **Road Captain:** 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 his/her discretion, appoint an assistant Run Coordinator, Road Captain, or take any other measures he/she may feel necessary to help insure the safety of the group during a run.
- H. **Chaplain:** The Chaplain shall perform such divine and non-sectarian service as may be necessary; adhering to such ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed by National, Department, Membership, and the Chapter.
- I. **Historian:** The Historian shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest to the American Legion Riders and the American Legion, and shall compile during his/her term of office a complete history of the year's activities.
- J. **Quartermaster:** It is your responsibility to research product information, pricing, availability, and to meet your Chapters needs in the most time efficient and cost-effective manner possible. The Quartermaster will purchase most items through the American Legion Emblem Sales.
- K. **Judge Advocate:** Shall advise the officers on legal matters including the interpretation of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- L. **Webmaster:** Shall be responsible for designing and maintaining the Chapter website.

M. **“State” Advisory Board Member (s):** Shall represent the Chapter at all State Advisory Board meetings, District and County meetings and vote in accordance with the wishes of the general membership of the Chapter.

IX. Executive Committee

- A. Between Chapter meetings, the administrative power of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee, which shall consist of all elective and appointed officers for the current year and in addition the immediate Past President.
- B. Immediate past Chapter Presidents shall be members of the Executive Committee without a vote.

X. Meetings

- A. Meetings will be held on the Second Sunday of every month at 1:00 P.M.
- B.
 - I. Special meetings shall be called upon by the President, a majority vote of the Executive Committee, or upon written request of ten Chapter members with a minimum of a 3-day notice.
 - II. Notice of special meetings of the Chapter shall be handled in the most time efficient manner possible.
 - III. Notification of membership for special meetings shall be handled by the President and/or his/her appointees.
- C. Executive Board meetings shall be held at a date and time prior to each regular membership meeting.
- D. The attendance of 7 members and one presiding officer or 4 chapter officers in good standing with the chapter shall constitute a quorum for all meetings.
- E. All meetings will be conducted under, “Roberts Rules of Order.”

XI. Veto

- A. The President has authority to veto any decisions made by any chapter vote, and table discussion of the vote until the next scheduled chapter meeting.
- B.
 - I. In the instance of a veto, the Executive Board shall convene.

- II. The Executive Board shall have the authority, with a majority vote of the members present, to uphold the veto.
- C. In the instance of a veto upheld by the Executive Board, the chapter will have the authority to override the veto with a majority vote of the members present.

XII. Finances

- A. Finances of each Association Chapter will be from Association membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the membership.
- B. The chapter is a non-profit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner that is in keeping with all local, state and national laws regarding non-profit organizations.
- C. The President will have a discretionary fund of \$200 available to spend as he/she deems necessary to support the Chapter and its functions. These funds are available to the President without the need of a Chapter vote on their spending.
- D. Any expense, other than normal operating cost of the chapter, shall be approved by a majority vote of the members present at a scheduled chapter meeting.
- E. The President and/or Vice President will oversee the Treasurer and approve or disapprove any expenditure in excess of \$50.00.
- F. The Chaplin is authorized up to \$50.00 expenditure to send flowers to members or their immediate family members that are seriously ill or have passed away. A receipt will be submitted to finance for reimbursement.

XIII. Disciplinary Actions

- A. Any conduct unbecoming The American Legion Riders shall be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.
- B. The Executive Board has the ability to carry such matters to chapter membership.
- C. Any member may be suspended or expelled from the chapter by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting.
- D. Any member under disciplinary review shall have no vote on the outcome of that disciplinary action.

XIV. Governing Rules

- A. Each State Chapter may elect to adopt a set of standing rules to govern its Membership or, at the Chapters discretion, amend these by-laws. These standing rules, or by-law amendments, shall be no less stringent than those contained in these by-laws nor can they be in any conflict with the National Constitution and by-laws of the American Legion, Department or that of the Sponsoring Post.
- B. These standing rules or amended bylaws shall contain the stated purpose for the ALR, as defined in the introductory language of these bylaws.
- C. These standing rules or amended bylaws must not be in conflict with the National Constitution, or with the bylaws of the American Legion, Department, Sponsoring Post, or with Federal, State, and local laws.
- D. All meetings shall be governed by, "Robert's Rule of Order".

XV. Amendments

- A. These By-Laws are adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution/By-Laws and the Department Constitution/ By-Laws of which this Chapter is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National Constitution/By-Laws or Department Constitution/By-Laws which is in conflict with any provision hereof will be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these By-Laws, to the extent of such conflict.
- B. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a majority vote 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, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least 5 days in advanced of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend the By-Laws are to be voted upon.

Approved By:

President _____

Vice President _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Sgt at Arms _____

Membership _____