

# **American Legion Riders**

## **Motorcycle Association**

### **Attached to American Legion Post 49**

## **Pennsylvania**

### **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 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 250cc 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.
    - a. 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.
    - b. 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 executive committee 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. 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 the 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, such application shall be recorded as rejected.

### **III. Membership Duties**

- A. Members of other American Legion Posts may join Brooks Flick Post 49 Legion Riders Chapter at the discretion of the said Chapter, provided they meet membership requirements.
- B. Must be a current member in good standing of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion.
- C. May not, at any time, hold membership in more than 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, 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 organizations.

### **IV. Membership Dues**

- A. Membership dues are set at \$15.00
- B. 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 December each subsequent year.
- C. There will be no prorating of dues. The full amount will be paid regardless of when someone joins.
- D. The amount of dues for membership may be changed by a majority vote of the general membership present at a regular chapter meeting.

### **V. Elections**

- A. Election of chapter officers will be held annually.
- B. Nominations of chapter officers shall be made at the scheduled chapter meeting held in the months of April and May of each year.
- C. Election of chapter officers shall take place at the scheduled chapter meeting held in the month of June.
- D. The newly elected officers shall take charge of their respective offices at the scheduled chapter meeting held in the month of August.
- 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 are willing to serve, compliance is waived in favor of survival of the chapter.

### **VI. Officers of the Association Chapter**

- A. President
- B. Vice President

- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Road Captain
- F. Sgt. At Arms\*
- G. Membership Chairperson\*
- H. Chaplain\*
- I. Historian\*
- J. Quartermaster\*

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

## VII. Duties of Chapter Officers

- A. **President:** Will serve as Chief of Administrative Office 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 of all the chapters' 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 distributing 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. **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 Road Captain or take any other measures he/she may feel necessary to help insure the safety of the group during a run.
- F. **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.
- G. **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 send out a renewal notice to all members 45 days prior to January 31<sup>st</sup>. He/she must submit a membership roster containing members' name, address, phone number, email address, post affiliation and TAL, Aux or Son's membership ID number no later than August 1<sup>st</sup> to the state membership chairman.
- 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 the 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:** Is responsible to research product information, pricing and availability to meet the chapters' needs in the most time efficient and cost effective manner possible. The quartermaster will purchase most items through the American Legion Emblem Sales.

## VIII. Regalia

Members of the ALR shall conform to all rules governing the wearing and display of ALR regalia and American Legion name and emblem. Violations of any rule shall subject the violator to suspension and expulsion as provided for in the ALR Constitution and By-Laws. ALR patch sets are purchased thru the chapter for a price set by the membership. ALR patches must be returned to the chapter if a membership expires or is terminated, a refund will be provided. ALR patches must be affixed no later than 90 days from the date of acceptance.

1. The sleeveless black leather vest is the approved minimum article of clothing on which ALR regalia may be displayed, provided that rules applying to displays on the vest apply equally to sleeved garments including, but not limited to, jackets, t-shirts, sweaters, sweatshirts etc.
2. The American Flag patch must be displayed on the left side of the front of the vest providing that the stars on the patch are closest to the center of the chest and in the highest feasible position. No other patch or item shall be displayed above the American Flag.
3. The small ALR Patch must be displayed on the left breast under the American Flag.
4. POW/MIA patch will be worn on the right side of the vest in the highest possible position providing it does not go above the American Flag patch.
5. When displayed on the vest, the ALR emblem back patch will be displayed in the center of the back.
6. Below the ALR back patch a rocker listing Troy Post 49, as appearing to touch the back patch, must be displayed.
7. Vulgarity, profanity and provocative verbiage and imagery (being verbiage and imagery intended to threaten, harass, insult or frighten non-members) shall not be displayed on any items simultaneously bearing the ALR emblem or an emblem of the American Legion. No patches other than the ALR back patch and back rocker will be allowed on the back of the vest, questions concerning same shall be presented to and decided by the American Legion Riders Post 49 executive committee.
8. All regalia displayed in violation of Article VI, Sections 1-7, shall be deemed a violation of this Constitution and By-Laws and subject the offending member to suspension or expulsion at the discretion of the ALR Executive Committee.

## IX. Executive Committee

- A. Executive board members include, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Road Captain and Sgt. at Arms.
- B. Between chapter meetings, the administrative power of the chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive committee.

C. Immediate past chapter Presidents shall be members of the Executive Committee without a vote.

## **X. Meetings**

A. Meetings shall be held on the second Sunday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

- 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 appointee.

B. Executive Board meetings shall be held at a date and time prior to each regular membership meeting.

C. 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.

D. All meetings will be conducted under "Robert's 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.

- I. In the instance of a veto, the Executive Committee shall convene.
- II. The Executive Committee shall have the authority, with a majority vote of the members present, to uphold the veto.
- III. In the instance of a veto upheld by the Executive Committee, 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 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 keeping with all local, state and national laws regarding non-profit organizations.

C. Any expense, other than normal operating costs of the chapter, shall be approved by a majority vote of the members present at a scheduled chapter meeting.

D. The Treasurer will collect yearly dues.

E. All checks must have the signature of two officers.

F. The Quartermaster will have an operating budget of an amount voted on by the membership for chapter purchasing. The Quartermaster will make monthly financial reports to the chapter and turn over all proceeds to the Treasurer.

- I. Purchasable items: t-shirts, long sleeve t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats and license plates etc. from an approved vendor and required patches from emblem sales.

G. The chapter will submit \$50.00 to the ALR Pa. Inc. no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **XIII. Disciplinary Actions**

- A. Any conduct unbecoming of The American Legion Riders shall be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
- B. The Executive Committee 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. This chapter can elect to adopt a set of standing rules to govern its membership or, at the chapter's 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 conflict with the National Constitution and the by-laws of the American Legion Department or that of the sponsoring post.
- B. These standing rules, or amended by-laws, shall contain the stated purpose for the ALR as defined in the introductory language of these by-laws.
- C. These standing rules, or amended by-laws, must not be in conflict with the National Constitution, the by-laws of the American Legion Department, Sponsoring Post or with Federal, State and Local laws.
- D. All meetings shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order".

### **XV. Amendments**

- A. These by-laws are adopted, and 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 provisions hereof will be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying these provisions of these by-laws, to the extent of such conflict.
- B. These by-laws may be amended at any regular scheduled 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, and provided further, that written notice shall have been given to all members at least 5 days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members at such meeting a proposal to amend by-laws are to be voted upon.