



**AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
Motorcycle Association
New York Chapter
Post 1700, West Endicott, NY**

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: Rev. G – Jan 10, 2019

I Membership: There are two requirements for membership.

- A) Must be a member of the American Legion, Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion.
- B) Must own a properly licensed and insured, highway-legal motorcycle or be the spouse (or surviving spouse) of the owner who is an association member. The spouse must also meet the requirement of section Ia of this article
- C) Members in good standing may continue to retain full membership if they have given up motorcycle ownership involuntarily because of age, injury, or health issues. They will continue to be active members and dues shall be paid as required by the chapter or by the department. There are no national dues.
- 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 bylaws this Chapter has chosen to adopt.

- E) Potential members will be given a copy of the by-laws or directed to a website to read the by-laws and sign the waiver prior to the vote at the next meeting. If they agree and sign, a vote will be taken.
- F) Using a blind vote, at a meeting with the required quorum of one third of current membership, consisting of at least two(2) officers will decide on any potential members. Vote will be private and must be unanimous. Any nay vote must be taken up by the Sgt. At Arms for discussion and resolution.

II Officers of the Association Chapter

- A) Director
- B) Vice Director
- C) Secretary
- D) Treasurer
- E) Road Captain
- F) Sgt. At Arms
- G) Historian/Web Coordinator
- H) Web Master
- I) Membership Officer
- J) Chaplain

III Elections:

- A) Elections of the Chapter officers will be held annually in May. Nominations will be accepted at the monthly meeting in March, announced in the meeting minutes, and sent to every member prior to the April meeting. All candidates must be in agreement with the nomination.
- B) 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. He/She will also have the duty of Public Relations Officer.
- 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. Maintain an

annual record of events and contributions to be sent to the supporting Post Commander at the end of every year.

- 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. Give detailed financial reports at each regular meeting. A hardcopy of the previous months transactions must be furnished to the ALR director. (copies will be furnished to the sponsoring Post if requested.) Checks over \$50.⁰⁰ will require two (2) signatures. The treasurer and the Director or other elected officer as decided by the membership. The treasurer will maintain a financial record and maintain receipts to match the checking account records and provide all records to be audited in February of every year. All purchases by check or money order will require a receipt.
- E) **Road Captain:** 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) **Sgt. At Arms:** He/She will help maintain order during Chapter meeting and take charge of investigating all disciplinary issues, (See section VII)
- G) **Historian/Web Coordinator:** He/She will take and, or, catalog pictures of events. Setup and maintain web pages and internet communications. Be responsible for e-mail communications between the members and other contacts as needed.
- H) **Membership Officer:** He/She will keep all membership records as may be required by the general membership.
- I) **Chaplain:** The chaplain shall be charged with the spiritual welfare of the Chapter comrades and will offer divine but nonsectarian service in the event of dedications, funerals, public functions, etc., adhere to such ceremonial rituals as are recommended by the National or Department headquarters from time to time.

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, one third of current membership 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 required to be paid by the second meeting of each year. Prorated dues will be required of new voted in members.

VII Disciplinary Action

- A) The American Legion Riders are held to the same standards of conduct as those of the American Legion. Members of the American Legion Riders Post 1700 shall at all times conduct themselves in a manner that brings respect to the American Legion and the American Legion Riders (ALR).
- B) Any member of Post 1700 ALR may be suspended or expelled from the association for disloyalty, dishonesty, or conduct unbecoming a member of the American Legion Riders:
 - A. Written complaint must be delivered to the Sgt-at-arms for action by the accuser.
 - 1) Sgt-at-arms will meet with both members to resolve the dispute. If not resolved the Sgt-at-arms will notify the secretary to proceed with notification to ALR members.
 - 2) The written notice will be delivered to both parties and all active members of ALR 1700.(Notice may be made via mail or electronically) no later than 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting.
 - 3) Both the accused and accuser will be allowed to explain/defend there actions at the next regular meeting
 - 4) Both members after explaining/defending their actions to the membership in attendance, will be required to leave the meeting with the Sgt-at-Arms,
 - 5) ALR members will then vote by secret paper ballot to decide IF disciplinary action is warranted with a 2/3 majority vote need to proceed.
 - 6) Suspensions from Post 1700 ALR will be progressive:
 - First suspension -30 days
 - Second suspension – 60 days
 - Third suspension – expulsion
 - 7) Voting members
 - The spouse or immediate relative of the member shall be excluded from any vote to avoid a possible family conflict or bias on relationship.
 - Only members in good standing will be allowed to vote.
 - Parties involved in the dispute and the Sgt-at-arms will not vote.

VIII Governing Rules

- A) Each Post 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 the State 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.

IX Disbursement of funds

- A) Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter or an emergency meeting/conference of at least four(4) officers. Emergency disbursement of funds is limited to \$100.⁰⁰. 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.

X Order

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

XI Apparel

- A) All Association members will be required to display Association patch on blue denim vest/jacket or black leather vest/jacket.
- B) It is recommended that members attending meetings or events must wear black patch, t-shirt or Ball cap with the Association logo.
- 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.

XII Revision History

- A) 08/2012: Section I.C – Eliminate “supporting” members, allow continued membership for those who can no longer ride for reasons of age, injury, or health.
- B) 12/2012: Section II.H and IV.H – Add Chaplain to list of Officers
- C) 04/2013: Overall – General clean up of by laws and clarification of officer duties.
- D) 12/2013: Section VII- Clarify disciplinary action procedures
- E) 11/2017: Section ID – Reinstate Supporting Members; Section IF – Web site as a source for by-laws.
- F) 12/2017: Section ID -Officer limitations for supporting members.
- G) 01/2019: Rewrite to conform to new State By-Laws