

Department of New York

American Legion Riders

Motorcycle Association



Constitution & By-Laws

As Amended

(July 15, 2011)

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which *The American Legion* stands; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1. The name of this organization will be “New York American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association” (herein after referred to as NYALRMA).

Section 2. Generically the organization has been known as, and will continue to be referred to as *The American Legion Riders* or ALR.

ARTICLE II STATUS

Section 1. The NYALRMA shall be a non-profit organization.

Section 2. The NYALRMA shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles.

Section 3. *The American Legion* National Executive Committee has designated *The American Legion Riders* (ALR) as Program of *The American Legion* at the National, Department and Post levels only. Any official positions (ie: Vice Chairs) between the Post and Department levels (ie: County & District) shall be for the sole purposes of oversight, advice and promoting the flow of information between said entities. (re: Resolution 35, October 2007)

ARTICLE III PURPOSE

Section 1. The NYALRMA shall be the overarching organization to maintain continuity and communication between local ALR chapters within the state and *The American Legion* Department of New York.

Section 2. The NYALRMA shall provide a framework to assist in the forming of new local chapters of *The American Legion Riders*. Local chapters must be ‘sponsored’ or ‘hosted’ by an individual American Legion Post. *The American Legion Riders* is a National, Department and Post level program only.

Section 3. *The American Legion Riders* participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the Aims and Purposes of *The American Legion*.

Section 4. *The American Legion Riders* promote motorcycle safety programs.

Section 5. *The American Legion Riders* provides a social atmosphere for *The American Legion* (and “Legion Family”) members, who share a common interest in motorcycling.

Section 6. *The American Legion Riders* will also promote and support other programs of *The American Legion*.

ARTICLE IV ELIGIBILITY & MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in the NYALRMA shall be available to any member in good standing of *The American Legion*, Auxiliary, or Sons of *The American Legion* organizations that also owns a properly registered and insured, highway legal motorcycle.

Section 2. The legal (or surviving) spouse of a member in good standing will also be eligible for membership – provided the spouse meets the Legion-Family membership requirement outlined in Section 1 of this Article.

Section 3. Similar to the other ‘Legion Family’ organizations; members may only hold a membership in one (1) chapter of *The American Legion Riders*, at any given time.

ARTICLE V MEETINGS & REPRESENTATION

Section 1. The legislative body of the NYALRMA shall be the annual meeting, which shall be convened at the location where the annual Department of New York American Legion convention is held and at a time immediately prior to, during or immediately following said convention. There shall be at least one other meeting during the year, which shall be held in conjunction with the mid-year meeting of *The American Legion*, Department of New York.

Section 2. Any NYALRMA member in good standing at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting shall be eligible to vote at the annual meeting. Any NYALRMA member in good standing at the time of any other meeting shall be eligible to vote at said meeting. There shall be no voting by proxy.

Section 3. A quorum for the transaction of business of any regular or special meeting of the NYALRMA shall be twenty (20) members in good standing representing at least five (5) separate and distinct counties within the Department of New York.

Section 4. Written notice must be sent at least forty five (45) days prior to any regular and twenty one (21) days prior to any special meeting of the NYALRMA to all active chapters (via the District Chairs or active web page), informing them of the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Section 1. At each annual meeting, the NYALRMA shall elect a Director (the NYALRMA Director shall be a Veteran and member of *The American Legion*) and five (5) Vice Chairs (the Vice Chairs will each be responsible for a separate multi-district geographical area and must be Veterans and members of *The American Legion* – additionally, the Vice Chairs will have equal authority and will not be delineated as 1st, 2nd, etc...).)

Section 2. The Director will appoint a staff to include a minimum of a Secretary, Treasurer, Web-Master(s), Historian and Sergeant at Arms.

Section 3. The Director may further appoint a Chaplain, State Ride Captain, Public Relations Officer(s), Membership Chair, and additional Assistant Sergeants at Arms.

Section 4. All electees/appointees shall serve for a one-year term, commencing on the date of the annual meeting.

Section 5. All electees/appointees may serve multiple terms in office, with the exception of the Director – he/she may not serve more than three (3) consecutive terms (he/she may serve again after being out of the office of Director for two (2) or more terms).

Section 6. Any standing committee members shall serve for a period of one year. The term of office for a Special Committee shall be from the date of formation until such date as the said committee's work is completed and/or the committee is discharged.

Section 7. The Department Commander will appoint a Coordinator to act as a liaison between the NYALRMA and *The American Legion*, Department of New York.

Section 8. Officers and committee chair-persons will issue an annual report to the membership that will not exceed four (4) minutes.

Section 9. The Director and Secretary will ensure that meeting minutes are distributed to the Vice Chairs within thirty (30) days of each meeting. Posting the minutes to the NYALRMA website will satisfy this requirement.

ARTICLE VII FINANCES

Section 1. Since each officer and committee member of the NYALRMA will necessarily also be a “dues-paying” member of a local post supported chapter, there will be no dues collected from these individuals.

Section 2. The local chapters will assemble an annual consolidated report. Said reports will be submitted to the sponsoring Post and Department Headquarters annually, no later than the 1st of May.

Section 3. Said reports will also be collected and totaled by each respective Vice Chair and submitted to the Director for reporting at the annual meeting.

Section 4. No member of the NYALRMA shall be reimbursed for any personal expense or expenditures that may occur in carrying out his/her duties in this Association.

ARTICLE VIII DISCIPLINE

Section 1. The Team of Vice Chairs, in attendance, shall be the arbitrator in any differences of opinion as to eligibility of an applicant for membership as well as any other disputes that may arise during the course of NYALRMA business.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS & APPROVAL

Section 1. This Constitution may only be amended at the annual meeting of the NYALRMA by a two thirds (2/3rd) vote of the total membership present, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Secretary, Vice Chairs and the Director in writing, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting and transmitted to the individual chapters not less than thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.

Section 2. Further this Constitution may be amended at the annual meeting, without notice, by unanimous vote of those present.

Section 3. No amendments to this Constitution shall be introduced which shall be contrary to the spirit and policy of *The American Legion*.

Section 4. This Constitution shall become effective at the conclusion of the annual meeting where adopted and/or amended, and shall take immediate effect.

**ARTICLE X
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Section 1. The NYALRMA shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised” on all points not covered in this Constitution.

Section 2. It is important to realize that although the members of this association come from all components of the “Legion Family” – each and every member has the right to be heard and respect will be equally afforded to all.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. There are two requirements for membership in the New York American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association (herein after noted as NYALRMA):

- a. Must be a current 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 1(a) of this Article.

Section 2. It should be noted that “good standing” membership in a local post ALR chapter (within the Department of New York) automatically denotes the individual a member of the NYALRMA.

ARTICLE II OFFICERS

Section 1. Authority between meetings shall rest with the Director and the Vice Chairs in conjunction with the Department appointed coordinator.

Section 2. The NYALRMA Director shall preside at all regular, annual and special meetings. In his/her absence one of the Vice Chairs shall preside.

Section 3. Director: shall serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the NYALRMA and will preside over all meetings. He/she shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Association. He/she shall have the power to appoint committees to carry out the policies and programs of the NYALRMA. He/she shall fill vacant elected offices and appoint his/her staff. He/she shall have the right to call special meetings in accordance with the Constitution. The Director shall make a report at the annual meeting relative to the condition and activities of the NYALRMA. He/she shall perform such other duties as directed by the general membership. In the event the Director is unable/unwilling to serve his/her full term of office – the Vice Chairs shall collectively appoint an interim Director to finish the current term, through a majority vote. If agreed upon, one of the Vice Chairs may serve in the dual role of Vice Chair and Director for the remainder of the current term of office.

Section 4. Vice Chairs: shall serve as the Director’s representatives to a specific geographic area consisting of between 2 and 4 districts of *The American Legion* Department of New York. The Vice Chairs shall facilitate information flow between the NYALRMA and the individual chapters. These officers will also facilitate communication between chapters within his/her geographic area of responsibility – this will enable individual chapters to better schedule events as well as increase participation in nearby/local events.

Section 5. Secretary: shall keep a full and correct record of all proceeding at the meetings, keep all records of meeting attendance and other duties as may be required by the general membership. He/she will make an accurate accounting of business undertaken at regular and special meetings. Meeting minutes will be prepared and provided to the Director and Vice Chairs after each meeting – said minutes will be forwarded within thirty (30) days following each meeting and reviewed at the next meeting.

Section 6. Treasurer: shall assist the Director in consolidating and reconciling reports forwarded through the Vice Chairs and will provide the NYALRMA fundraising report at the annual meeting. He/she will also be responsible for any limited financial issues necessary by the NYALRMA (such as soliciting of funds from local chapters to defray any costs associated with holding regular or special meetings or web page management).

Section 7. Department Coordinator: shall be appointed by the Department Commander and will be a member of *The American Legion*. This individual may or may not be a member of the NYALRMA, he/she will act as a liaison between the NYALRMA and *The American Legion* Department of New York.

Section 8. Sergeant at Arms: shall be charged and entrusted to maintain order at meetings – the Director may appoint assistants or may utilize additional Sergeants from local chapters.

Section 9. Membership Chair: shall assist the Director in keeping an active tally of ALR chapters and members within the Department of New York. He/she may further promote the ALR at Department meetings through the use of leaflets, brochures and/or an information table.

Section 10. Chaplain: shall offer a non-denominational prayer and/or benediction at each meeting and perform other duties as requested by the Director.

Section 11. Historian/Photographer: shall maintain a running history of the NYALRMA, and keep DVDs, photos, videos, etc... of events.

Section 12. Public Relations Officer: shall coordinate any media/press releases and will endeavor to aid in creating a favorable image of the ALR and *The American Legion*, within the public square.

Section 13. Webmaster: shall coordinate posting of Department and Post level ALR information to *The American Legion* Department of New York's website.

Section 14. State Ride Captain: shall mentor and assist local chapter Ride Captains, as needed. (This could be a duty performed by the Sergeant at Arms – if the Director deems it appropriate).

ARTICLE III ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. The Director and Vice Chairs shall administer any business affairs of the NYALRMA between meetings. The same group shall formulate policies subject to the Constitution and By-Laws for approval of the majority of members in attendance at a regular or special meeting.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Director and the Vice Chairs. Non-voting members may include Past Directors and the current Secretary & Treasurer. Three (3) voting members shall constitute a quorum. A record of Executive Committee meetings shall be kept and a written report shall be submitted at the next regular meeting of the NYALRMA.

Section 3. Failure of an officer to attend a regular or special meeting of the NYALRMA may constitute cause for removal from office, by a quorum vote of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will have discretion to entertain, approve and accept a reasonable excuse for an absence.

Section 4. *The American Legion* National Headquarters Legion Riders Resolution no. 35 (see Appendix A), is NOT NEGOTIABLE and is our roadmap!

Section 5. *The American Legion* Department of New York Post compliance manual must be available and remain on Post property at all times. The manual was revised Dec 2009, updated June 2010 (page 18) and replaces any and all previous compliance manuals.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be at least two (2) regular meetings, of the NYALRMA, each year. One meeting shall be held during the mid-winter conference of *The American Legion* Department of New York, in Albany. A second meeting shall take place in conjunction with (immediately preceding, during or following) *The American Legion* Department of New York annual convention (at a place and time convenient to a majority of NYALRMA members).

Section 2. Published notice must be sent at least forty five (45) days prior to any regular meeting of the NYALRMA to all active chapters (via the Vice Chairs or active web page), informing them of the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting.

Section 3. Published notice must be sent at least twenty one (21) days prior to any special meeting of the NYALRMA to all active chapters (via the Vice Chairs or active web page), informing them of the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting.

Section 4. A quorum for the transaction of business of any regular or special meeting of the NYALRMA shall be twenty (20) members in good standing representing at least five (5) separate and distinct counties within the Department of New York.

Section 5. It shall be the option of the NYALRMA Director to convene an executive session prior to the general session of the annual meeting.

Section 6. All meetings of the NYALRMA shall be opened with a non-denominational blessing and the Pledge of Allegiance (this will necessitate the presence of the National Colors).

ARTICLE V NOMINATIONS

Section 1. The Director shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) members to identify a slate of officers (Director and Vice Chairs) for the next membership year. The committee will make its report at the annual meeting and take further nominations from the floor. Nominators and Nominees must both be members (of the NYALRMA) in good standing. No one will be nominated who has not formally agreed to serve.

Section 2. No one shall be nominated for the position of Director or Vice Chair, unless they are also a Veteran and member of *The American Legion* Department of New York.

Section 3. Candidates for elected office of Director must be a member (of the NYALRMA) in good standing for at least two (2) full years prior to assuming their tour of duty.

Section 4. Candidates for elected office of Vice Chair must be a member (of the NYALRMA) in good standing for at least one (1) full year prior to assuming their tour of duty.

ARTICLE VI ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The election of officers shall be held during the annual meeting of the NYALRMA, only after all other business has been conducted.

Section 2. The new officers will be sworn in and assume their duties at the close of said meeting.

ARTICLE VII FINANCE

Section 1. Since *The American Legion Riders* is a Post level program, the NYALRMA will not be in the business of collecting dues. (All officers are required to maintain their membership in good standing at their home/sponsoring Post).

Section 2. Any required revenue for meeting costs or other incidentals will be solicited, by the aforementioned elected officers along with the appointed Treasurer, from the local chapters in the form of donations. Any excess amounts will not be retained – but will be donated to the Legacy Scholarship Fund or another worthy American Legion cause, decided upon by a majority of the membership in attendance at the annual meeting.

Section 3. A financial report will be given at the NYALRMA annual meeting and will include; any balances, fundraising totals, Legacy Run proceeds, charity event totals, other donations and any additional pertinent data.

ARTICLE VIII WEB PAGE

Section 1. The Web-Master will maintain an open line of communication with his/her counterpart at *The American Legion* Department of New York. The Department has provided the NYALRMA with a web-page on the Department web-site.

Section 2. It is imperative that this new technology be leveraged to provide a means of smooth, quick and reliable communication of information from *The American Legion* Department of New York, to the NYALRMA, to the geographic Vice Chairs and ultimately to the local/Post chapters/members of the ALR (and vice-versa).

ARTICLE IX PENALTIES & DISCIPLINE

Section 1. After a fair and impartial hearing, a member may be expelled or suspended from the Association by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular or special meeting for disloyalty, dishonesty and conduct unbecoming of a member of the American Legion Riders or their affiliated organization.

Section 2. The allegedly offending member must be notified in writing of the action at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, at which the vote will be taken.

Section 3. Suspension – temporary measure, suspended members may attend functions but will not be authorized to wear ALR insignia.

Section 4. Expulsion – permanent measure, *The American Legion* Department of New York and *The American Legion* National Headquarters will be advised. The former member will be advised that he/she is no longer authorized to wear ALR insignia.

ARTICLE X APPAREL & UNIFORMITY

Section 1. NYALRMA members will procure (from *The American Legion* Emblem Sales) and display *The American Legion* Riders patch on a vest or jacket, of his/her choice.

Section 2. Members attending meetings or events must wear back patch, shirt or cover with *The American Legion Riders* logo or pay a \$1.00 fine. (*The American Legion Riders* logo apparel is available to members from *The American Legion Emblem Sales*)

Section 3. It is important to note that *The American Legion* emblem is embedded into our ALR logo – this makes it imperative that we be good ambassadors for, and conduct ourselves in a manner that will reflect favorably on, our parent organization. *The American Legion Riders* Logo cannot be reproduced due to copyright laws and must be purchased through Emblem Sales. (Web-site: www.emblem.legion.org)

Section 4. It is recommended that a tasteful display of the American flag be part of the ALR ‘uniform’ and be the highest patch displayed on the front left side or top of left sleeve of the Rider’s garment. This applies to the flag as a patch itself; if it is only part of a patch this rule does not apply.

Section 5. Absolutely no “Property Of”, “property-type”, other “M/C” patches or support patches of any other motorcycle organization will be worn on a garment also displaying the ALR logo – this is both mandated by **Resolution 35** (see Appendix A) and essential to maintaining our “neutral” status within the motorcycle culture.

Section 6. Auxiliary and Sons, to represent your family - you may opt to purchase a smaller patch through emblem sales and wear this on the front of your vest/jacket, below the American flag or on the right side of the vest/jacket and/or on the back of your vest/jacket near the ALR large patch.

ARTICLE XI RULES & ORDER

Section 1. All meetings will be conducted under “Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.”

Section 2. An orderly and efficient meeting is the mark of a quality organization – and honors the military personnel and Veterans from whence our Association came.

Section 3. It must be understood that all member voices are important and have the right to be heard – every member of the NYALRMA will be treated with respect.

Section 4. The Sergeant at Arms and any designated assistants will have full authority to maintain order during meetings of the NYALRMA.

Section 5. Loyalty is expected of all members – the elected and/or appointed leaders have a **duty** to make wise decisions to guide the NYALRMA...members have the **right** to initiate a constructive discussion about issues, but ultimately have the **responsibility** to support the decisions made through a majority vote.

ARTICLE XII LIMITATION OF LIABILITIES

Section 1. The NYALRMA (including all Post level Chapters within *The American Legion*, Department of New York) shall not incur nor cause to be incurred, any liability or obligation whatsoever - which shall subject any; members of *The American Legion*, Department, District, Post, other Post ALR, subdivision, or other individuals, corporations or organizations to a liability of any fashion.

ARTICLE XIII OVERSIGHT

Section 1. *The American Legion* Department of New York shall have complete and total oversight of all actions of the NYALRMA and no member shall take any action, speak on behalf of *The American Legion* or the Department of New York or utilize *The American Legion* family of emblems without first receiving approval from the Department Adjutant or an appointed segregate.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These By-Laws may only be amended at the annual meeting of the NYALRMA by a two thirds (2/3rd) vote of the membership present, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted to the secretary and elected officers, in writing, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the annual meeting and transmitted to the individual chapters not less than thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.

Section 2. Further these By-Laws may be amended at the annual meeting, without notice, by unanimous vote of those present.

Section 3. The Department Judge Advocate will review the Constitution and By-Laws, along with any appendices and amendments, to ensure they do not conflict with the Department and National Constitution and By-Laws of *The American Legion* and they will not become official until approved.

APPENDIX A

Legion Riders Resolution No. 35 American Legion Riders as a National Program

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
October 17-18, 2007

WHEREAS, American Legion Riders (ALR) was established in 1993 as a Post level activity at Garden City American Legion Post 396, Department of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Today there are more than 700 The ALR groups at the Post, District and Department levels whose membership consists of members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion who share a common interest in motorcycle ownership and pleasure riding for veterans causes; and

WHEREAS, The ALR groups exist in at least 48 states and three foreign countries and evidence a growth pattern over the last five years that reflects a genuine interest in ALR for both current and potential members of The American Legion Family; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of ALR is to use their common interest and association to promote the aims and purposes of The American Legion as well as the promotion of motorcycle safety and awareness; and

WHEREAS, During the 2006 and 2007 calendar years, ALR raised more than \$500,000 for The American Legion Legacy Scholarship while at the local level ALR groups contributions were valued at more than \$75,000 in contribution or volunteer hours to support the programs of The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, Membership growth in The American Legion has increased in many Posts that have supported ALR and in some cases these members now serve in leadership positions within The American Legion; and

WHEREAS, ALR support those serving in uniform today through participation in such activities as the Patriot Guard, which was founded by the Department of Kansas ALR to provide escorts for our fallen heroes returning from war and taking care of the needs of the families left behind; and

WHEREAS, Many Posts and Departments of The American Legion have already acknowledged their ALR groups as a program and have established guidelines for ALR to follow; and

WHEREAS, In April 2007 an Ad-Hoc Committee appointed by the National Commander met in Indianapolis to discuss the future of ALR as a program based on guidelines developed by the Internal Affairs Commission in 2003; and

WHEREAS, These guidelines, which were validated with minor additions by the Ad-Hoc Committee, will serve as the standard under which all current and future The ALR groups will operate; and

WHEREAS, As The ALR groups continue to increase in number it would be beneficial to both The American Legion and ALR to establish basic guidelines for consistency in all aspects of The ALR groups; and

WHEREAS, The ALR status has been reviewed by the Internal Affairs Commission, which recommends the ALR become a National program; and

WHEREAS, National Finance Commission has reviewed ALR and the need for funding and insurance for the National organization for this program, recommends this program to the National Executive Committee; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By The National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 17-18, 2007, That The American Legion adopt American Legion Riders (ALR) as a national program; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all The American Legion Rider groups must be a program supported by a Post or Department of The American Legion and shall uphold the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conform to and abide by the regulations and decisions of the Department, Post or other duly constituted Department governing body; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the following guidelines are recommended for The ALR program of The American Legion:

1. All members of The American Legion Riders shall be current members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion
2. Each ALR member shall own a motorcycle
3. Each ALR member shall be properly licensed and insured as required by state law
4. All ALR members shall strive to maintain the image of The American Legion, at all times upholding The American Legion name and emblem, which symbolizes the integrity and principles of this great organization.
5. All ALR groups shall avoid the perception of being a motorcycle club or biker club.
6. The only recognized The American Legion Rider logo is that which is copyrighted and sold through The American Legion National Emblem sales.
7. All Members will obey the motorcycle laws of their state.
8. No use of rockers with the ALR patch because touching the patch violates trademark laws of the ALR patch.
9. Sponsoring organization (Post and Department) will review liability insurance coverage to ensure that adequate coverage is available to cover the organization to include coverage for any specific special riding events; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That American Legion Rider groups shall abide by The American Legion Constitution and By-laws as well as the established Post and Department directives; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That The American Legion National Headquarters and the respective Departments shall maintain general oversight of ALR Program as regards to proper use of the name and emblem of The American Legion, ALR and The American Legion Legacy Run, and compliance with the National Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion.

Advisory Committee afterword:

The remainder of the resolution is as you would expect for a program of The American Legion: the Chapter, sponsored by a Post is beholden to that Post's rules and requirements - this is unchanged from before this Resolution. The Post is the atomic level of the ALR, and the Post holds sway over the existence of their Chapter. Added is the passage regarding the Department. Frankly, though poorly expressed, this was implied in the Internal Affairs Position as well - simply put: the Chapters of the ALR within any Department are also subject to any rules and regulation put forth by the Department. Under the pre-Resolution ALR, this was exercised through the Posts; post-Resolution ALR allows the Department to direct the ALR Chapters operating within its borders directly.

The National American Legion Riders Advisory Committee (*NALRAC*)

"Polka" Bill Kaledas, Director
Keith "Dawg" Jones, Assistant Director
Bernie "Stonz" Dare, Secretary
Chuck "Tramp" Dare, Member At Large
Pat "Bobcat" Babcock, Communications Officer

Internal Affairs Division
The American Legion

APPENDIX B

National Judge Advocate's Rules for all Subsidiary Corporations, SAL, ALR and other Programs

- 1. All officers, directors, trustees, etc...must be named by the Department (usually nominated by the Department Commander and confirmed by the Department Executive Committee).**
- 2. All vacancies in the subsidiary corporation must be filled by the Department.**
- 3. The subsidiary corporation must report to the Department, no less frequently than monthly. These reports must include financial reports.**
- 4. The Department Treasurer or Finance Officer or Department fiscal officer must be a signatory on all accounts.**
- 5. All amendments to articles of incorporation or by-laws must be approved by the Department. (If the current text has not been approved by the Department, it too must be so approved).**

APPENDIX C

Riding Guidelines

- A. Our conduct on the highway, whether in a group or solo, is a direct reflection of our organization. We will ride within the limits of the law and in such a manner as to ensure we present a good image to the rest of the motoring public.
- B. Any time we ride in or as a group, we will use a staggered formation (roadway permitting). This formation allows for increased safety of all riders, while still protecting the riding lane and making the riders visible to other traffic.
- C. Following distance will be a *minimum* of two (2) seconds – this means 2 seconds from the rider directly to your front (and rear) and 1 second from the next ‘staggered’ rider to the front and rear. Following distances will be increased as road/riding conditions dictate.
- D. The Ride Captain will determine and dictate routes, speeds and procedures for group rides. Individual riders should always feel free to address the Ride Captain(s) with concerns about speed, rest stop frequency or anything else concerning the ride.
- E. The universal signal for a rider needing to stop, for any reason, is for the rider to point at the gas tank.
- F. Newer riders will be positioned near the back of the pack, they should be following (and observing) a few experienced riders and have other experienced riders directly to their rear (these individuals will be responsible to coach and critique the new riders, during rest stops).
- G. Pack members are responsible to periodically check mirrors for riders to their rear. A good rule of thumb is to make sure you can see the next rider (to your rear) in formation, prior to proceeding through an intersection.
- H. If a member of the pack has mechanical (or other) trouble and pulls off...the rest of the riders shall reform and continue on. The rear “Tail-gunner” rider (aka: Drag or Sweep Rider) along with any “chase-vehicle” will stop to assess the situation and relay information to the Ride Captain.
- I. Horseplay and illegal activities will not be permitted while participating in an ALR group ride, this includes but is not limited to:
 - 1. Passing of other riders (especially on the right).
 - 2. Any form of motorcycle “acrobatics” – wheelies, etc...
 - 3. Blocking intersections – unless specifically directed by the Ride Captain(s).
 - 4. Riding impaired or under the influence of alcohol or substances (includes prescriptions).
- J. Parade procedures are an important part of our charter, as ambassadors for *The American Legion* and for all motorcyclists, it is imperative that we present a good and disciplined image during these operations. Keep in mind that for every kid that loves a loud engine rev or a burnout – there are hundreds of adults

that will dismiss us all as ruffians and just another biker gang, if one of our members succumbs to the temptation.

- K. Common Sense, Good Order and Discipline will always be the rules of the day, when riding as a group or solo.

DATE FIRST APPROVED: July 15, 2011

AMENDED:
