

The American Legion



For God and Country

94TH ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION
DEPARTMENT OF DELAWARE, THE AMERICAN LEGION, INC.
ASSEMBLED AT DOVER, DELAWARE
JULY 7-8, 2012

RESOLUTION

Resolution No: 2012-02
Title: American Legion Riders Guidelines and
Chapter Constitution & By-Laws
Origin: Department Executive Committee

Whereas, American Legion Riders (ALR) was established in 1993 as a Post level activity and exist in 54 Departments with more than 1,275 ALR Chapters and 106,000 members at the Post, District and Department levels with a purpose 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, ALR membership consists of members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of The American Legion who share a common interest in motorcycle ownership and pleasure riding for veterans' causes; 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 have supported those serving in uniform through participation in such activities as the Patriot Guard who provide escorts for our fallen heroes returning from war and taking care of the needs of the families left behind; and

Whereas, By Resolution 35 as voted on by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion on October 17-18, 2007 and amended by Resolution 32 by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion on May 4-5, 2011, guidelines for ALR Chapters were established and validated; and these guidelines serve as the standard under which all ALR groups are formed and operate with ongoing updates as needed; and

Whereas, Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc., also known as the "Department or the Department of Delaware," approved the ALR as a Post level program by resolution during the 87th Annual Department Convention on July 5, 2005; and subsequently, five Chapters have been established: Walter L. Fox Chapter #2, William T. Spooner Chapter #17, Richard C. DuPont Chapter #18, Dagsboro Chapter #24, and Oak Orchard/Riverdale Chapter #28 with a sixth Chapter under formation, Joseph B. Stahl Memorial Chapter #30; and

Whereas, As the number of ALR Chapters and Chapter membership continues to increase in the Department of Delaware, it is necessary and beneficial to the Department, Posts, and ALR Chapters to further clarify and establish basic Department guidelines and a Chapter Constitution and By-laws template for consistent application to the formation and operation of

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Chapters; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc., in Annual Convention assembled at Dover, Delaware on July 7-8, 2012, That Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc. reaffirms its adoption of American Legion Riders (ALR) as a Post level program; and, be it further

Resolved, That all Delaware American Legion Rider groups also known as Chapters shall be a program supported by a Post in the Department of Delaware 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 Department guidelines shall be adhered to, followed, and incorporated in the formation of any Chapter:

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 establish and maintain membership by owning, individually or through marriage, a motorcycle licensed and insured as required by state law.
3. ALR programs may allow for continued membership for those members who have given up motorcycle ownership because of age, illness, injury, or other reasons outside.
4. Posts shall confirm the Chapter officers either by accepting an elections' report at a regular Post meeting, or having newly elected Chapter officers be installed at an appropriate ceremony.
5. A Post officer shall be on all Chapter bank accounts. Bank statements shall be sent to the Post Finance Officer.
6. 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.
7. All The ALR groups shall avoid the perception of being a "motorcycle club" or biker club."
8. The only recognized The American Legion Rider logo is that which is copyrighted and sold through The American Legion National Emblem Sales.
9. All members will obey the motorcycle laws of their state.
10. No use of rockers with the ALR patch because touching the patch violates trademark laws of the ALR patch.
11. Sponsoring organization (Post) shall review liability insurance coverage to ensure that adequate coverage is available to cover the organization to include coverage for any specific special riding events.

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12. American Legion Rider groups shall abide by The American Legion Constitution and By-laws as well as the established Post and Department directives.

and the Department guidelines shall be revised from time to time by the Department Executive Committee of the Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc. and The American Legion National Headquarters; and, be it further

Resolved, That by approval of this resolution, a Department template for a Chapter Constitution & By-Laws shall be approved and provided as in Addendum 1; and any conflicting articles in any existing or future Chapter Constitution & By-Laws with the Department template for a Chapter Constitution & By-Laws shall be null and void to the extent of such conflict; and, be it further

Resolved, That The American Legion National Headquarters and the Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc. shall maintain limited, general oversight and administration 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 and Department Constitution and By-Laws; and, be it further

Resolved, That in their capacity of limited, general oversight and administration, The American Legion National Headquarters and the Department of Delaware, The American Legion, Inc. are not involved in any manner in the day-to-day operations of the sponsoring Post and/or Chapter; and, be it finally

Resolved, That this Resolution shall remain in effect until superseded by action of a future approved resolution.

Signature of Adjutant and Judge Advocate

Approved Date of Action:
July __, 2012

Rejected

Referred To _____

Other Action _____

Richard J. Santos, Adjutant

Dennis Dinneen, Judge Advo