



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club  
 Est. 1982 Boylston Massachusetts  
 "Loyal To Our Duty"



## 2024 ABM BY-LAWS PROPOSALS

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\* "...” Indicates previous or following portions of the By-law that are not proposed for change.

# PROPOSAL #1: BY-LAW SECTION 1:05 CLUB BACK PATCH

*Submitted by: EU MAL Rep. Sven Coopman*

## (As written)

### SECTION 1:05 CLUB BACK PATCH

The back of the vest shall consist of:

- a. The Center Patch shall be the official Club Patch as shown (Sec 1:02).
- b. A single top rocker may be worn. If a top rocker is worn, it shall show membership status as listed in Section 2 of these By-Laws. In lieu of membership status, rocker options that are available are a rocker that reads "RED KNIGHTS" or a rocker that reads "FIREFIGHTER." A "FIREFIGHTER" top rocker may be worn only by a past or present firefighter.
- c. Members may wear a single bottom rocker. If a bottom rocker is worn by a Member from North America it shall show the chapter's State/Province abbreviation, the word "Chapter" and the number as assigned in Section 5:01. If a bottom rocker is worn by a member from outside North America it shall show country name and chapter number as assigned in section 5:01. A Member At Large may wear a bottom rocker reading "Member At Large."
- d. No 10 inch Club Patch or any 10 inch rocker available from the Red Knights Regalia may be worn on or attached to anything but the back of the vest.
- e. The wearing of 10" top and/or bottom rockers is prohibited by Australian members while in Australia. International Members traveling to Australia must receive written authorization from the Region 8 Director prior to wearing their vest in Australia.
- f. For the purposes of this section, "rocker" means any curved patch greater than 4".
- g. No member may wear a "Charter Member" rocker with the bottom rocker of any chapter they joined after its first year.

...

## (As proposed)

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- a. The Center Patch shall be the official Club Patch as shown (Sec 1:02).
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- d. No 10 inch Club Patch or any 10 inch rocker available from the Red Knights Regalia may be worn on or attached to anything but the back of the vest.
- e. The wearing of 10" top and/or bottom rockers is prohibited by Australian members while in Australia. International Members traveling to Australia must receive written authorization from the Region 8 Director prior to wearing their vest in Australia.
- f. For the purposes of this section, "rocker" means any curved patch greater than 4".
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- f. For the purposes of this section, "rocker" means any curved patch greater than 4".
- g. No member may wear a "Charter Member" rocker with the bottom rocker of any chapter they joined after its first year.

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**Rationale:**

As it is at the moment, the members at large can't show off their country pride like members of a chapter can. With this change the member at large could for example wear "FINLAND MAL" or any other country name as a bottom rocker.

**PROPOSAL #2: BY-LAW SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-050*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

- 1. Active membership shall be available to Past or Present Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Industrial, Military, On Call, Part Paid, Volunteer, or Wildland and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. An Active member, who can no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department.
- 2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive two thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. An Active member can if they so wish be a member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

- 1. Active membership shall be available to Past or Present Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Industrial, Military, On Call, Part Paid, Volunteer, or Wildland and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. An Active member, who can no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department.
- 2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two-thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. **An Active member can if they so wish be a**

member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

**(As proposed addition)**

#### **SECTION 2:20 ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS**

A member can be in multiple chapters at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of their classification in each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of a member in their classification in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. The home chapter designation of Junior Members and Social Members shall be the same as the home chapter of their sponsor.

**(Clean)**

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2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two-thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

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A member can be in multiple chapters at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of their classification in each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of a member in their classification in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. The home chapter designation of Junior Members and Social Members shall be the same as the home chapter of their sponsor.

**Rationale:**

To extend the privilege of multiple chapter membership to all member classifications, except Member-at-Large.

### **PROPOSAL #3: BY-LAW SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

*Submitted by: South Carolina Chapter 2*

**(As written)**

#### **SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

1. Active membership shall be available to Past or Present Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Industrial, Military, On Call, Part Paid, Volunteer, or Wildland and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. An Active member, who can no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department.
2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive two thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. An Active member can if they so wish be a member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in each chapter, except

that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 2:01 ACTIVE MEMBER**

1. Active membership shall be available to Past or Present Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Industrial, Military, On Call, Part Paid, Volunteer, or Wildland and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and ~~have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement~~ are able to legally operate a motorcycle (to include a three wheeled vehicle commonly referred to as a trike) in their registered State/Province/Country. An Active member, who can no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department.
2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive two thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. An Active member can if they so wish be a member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

**(Clean)**

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1. Active membership shall be available to Past or Present Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Industrial, Military, On Call, Part Paid, Volunteer, or Wildland and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and are able to legally operate a motorcycle (to include a three wheeled vehicle commonly referred to as a trike) in their registered State/Province/Country. An Active member, who can no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department.
2. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive two thirds (2/3) (66%) acceptance vote of members present with no probation period. An Active member can if they so wish be a member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of each chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in each chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the member's home chapter. Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement on 8/22/2009, shall be grandfathered as an Active member.

**Rationale:**

Justification for proposed change: Numerous states in the USA do not require a motorcycle license to legally operate a motorcycle. South Carolina does not require a special endorsement or license to operate a three wheeled vehicle commonly referred to as a "trike" If a person has a full, non-provisional license, he or she is allowed to operate a "trike". There are multiple persons who have expressed interest in joining our organization, but due to health or physical issues are unable to ride a two-wheeled motorcycle and need to ride a three wheeled vehicle. These operators (and prospective members) are not required to hold a special endorsement

## PROPOSAL #4: BY-LAW SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

*Submitted by: England Chapter 4*

### **(As written)**

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate members shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the Chapters Active Members. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the 10% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### **(As proposed)**

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate members shall not exceed **ten twenty** percent (**120**%) of the Chapters Active Members. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the **120**% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### **(Clean as proposed)**

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate members shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the Chapters Active Members. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the 20% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### **Rationale:**

England 4 have been running a successful FORK (Friends of Red Knights) program almost since our inception in 2020. We have found that some of our FORKs regularly ride, support and promote our chapter and club as a whole, and especially during our fundraising efforts and during our memorial project. We believe that having the ability to recognise and reward more of our non-patched brothers and sisters would be beneficial to the club as a whole. As each chapter has the ability to vote for its own associate members, this would not cause any chapter wishing to keep to 10% Associate Membership to do so, whilst allowing other chapters the ability to have 20% if they so wanted.



## PROPOSAL #5: BY-LAW SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-052*

### (As written)

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate members shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the Chapters Active Members. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the 10% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### (As proposed)

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate **members membership** shall not **be offered if it results in the number of Associate Members exceeding exceed** ten percent (10%) of the Chapters Active Members. **At the discretion of the International Executive Board, the 10% rule may be waived if the number of Active Members in a chapter lowers after an Associate has already been accepted.** Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the 10% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### (Clean)

#### SECTION 2:03 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Club for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate membership shall not be offered if it results in the number of Associate Members exceeding ten percent (10%) of the Chapters Active Members. At the discretion of the International Executive Board, the 10% rule may be waived if the number of Active Members in a chapter lowers after an Associate has already been accepted. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

Associate membership may also be available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership. This type of associate membership shall not be included in the 10% restriction as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and rosters of the Organization.

### Rationale:

As written a long-standing Associate member would have to be removed if the number of active members decreased enough to affect the 10% rule.

## **PROPOSAL #6: BY-LAW SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-039*

### **(As written)**

#### **SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Brother or Sister, Father or Mother of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at- Large, including of deceased members. The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining.

### **(Proposal 1)**

#### **SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Brother or Sister, Father or Mother of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at- Large, including of deceased members. **The list of relations includes adopted, half, and step.** The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining. **Chapter Social members require a majority vote of eligible members present at a duly called meeting.**

### **(Proposal 2 (with additions))**

#### **SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Brother or Sister, Father or Mother of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at- Large, including of deceased members. **The list of relations includes adopted, half, and step, and in-law relatives** The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining. **Chapter Social members require a majority vote of eligible members present at a duly called meeting.**

### **(Proposal 1 Clean)**

#### **SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Brother or Sister, Father or Mother of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at- Large, including of deceased members. The list of relations includes adopted, half, and step. The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining. Chapter Social members require a majority vote of eligible members present at a duly called meeting.

### **(Proposal 2 clean (with additions))**

#### **SECTION 2:04 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP**

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boyfriend, Girlfriend, Son, Daughter, Grandchild, Brother or Sister, Father or Mother of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at- Large, including of deceased members. The list of relations includes adopted, half, and step, and in-law relatives. The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining. Chapter Social members require a majority vote of eligible members present at a duly called meeting.

### **Rationale:**

Proposal 1 expands the list of relatives but does not include in-law relatives. Proposal 2 adds in In-Laws. Both proposals clarify that Social Members require majority approval before becoming members.

## **PROPOSAL #7: BY-LAW SECTION 2:06 MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-052*

### **(As written)**

#### **SECTION 2:06 MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE**



Persons who qualify for membership in the Active membership category (Section 2:01) may be granted Member-at-Large (M.A.L.) status by the International Executive Board. Limitation of membership shall be at the discretion of the International Executive Board. M.A.L.'s are members who are not members of constituent Chapters. They shall be under the control of the International Executive Board and the designated officer appointed to communicate with them. M.A.L.s are entitled to run for an elected office and serve on Committees (Section 3:02).

1. Any Member-At-Large wishing to transfer membership to a designated chapter may do so upon the written request to the International Secretary from the Chapter President that the M.A.L. is transferring to. There shall be no refund of M.A.L. dues or will any International dues be payable by the chapter he/she transfers to for the calendar year of the transfer. The M.A.L. shall notify his/her International Board Representative of his/her transfer.

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### **(As proposed)**

#### SECTION 2:06 MEMBERSHIP-AT-LARGE

Persons who qualify for membership in the Active membership category (Section 2:01) may be granted Member-at-Large (M.A.L.) status by the International Executive Board. Limitation of membership shall be at the discretion of the International Executive Board. M.A.L.'s are members who are not members of constituent Chapters. They shall be under the control of the International Executive Board and the designated officer appointed to communicate with them. M.A.L.s are entitled to run for an elected office and serve on Committees (Section 3:02).

1. Any Member-At-Large wishing to transfer membership to a designated chapter may do so upon the written request to the International Secretary from the Chapter President that the M.A.L. is transferring to. There shall be no refund of M.A.L. dues, nor will any International dues be payable by the chapter he/she transfers to for the calendar year of the transfer. The M.A.L. shall notify his/her International Board Representative of his/her transfer.

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### **(Clean)**

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### **Rationale:**

To clarify intent and avoid misunderstandings.

## **PROPOSAL #8: BY-LAW SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

*Submitted by: New Jersey Chapter 23 and Switzerland Chapter 6*

### **(As written)**

#### SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that has been a due paying member for 25 or more years. Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service who may not have 25 (twenty-five) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, declining health or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER**

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that has been a due paying member for **25** or more years. Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service who may not have **25 (twenty-five)** **20 (twenty)** years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, declining health or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER**

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that has been a due paying member for 20 or more years. Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service who may not have 20 (twenty) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, declining health or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues.

**Rationale:**

20 years of dedicated membership is a significant achievement and should be sufficient to merit the status of life membership. A member in good standing for 20 years is presumably a distinguished member of the Chapter and the Club. 20 years of service is also a more attainable goal for members that joined the club in their later years. With over 9000 members worldwide, the Executive Boards of individual chapters know the qualities and character of their members better than the members of the international board. The Chapter will still maintain the responsibility for the member's dues. Since the International board has the option to hand out life memberships earlier than 25 years, and have, in the past, awarded the status to those with less than 20 years, the Chapters should have the ability to do so at 20 years.

**PROPOSAL #9: BY-LAW SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-044*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER**

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that has been a due paying member for 25 or more years. Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service who may not have 25 (twenty-five) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, declining health or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER**

**2:07.1 International**

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board **or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that has been a due paying member for 25 or more years. Life membership may also be**

granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service, who may not have 25 (twenty-five) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, declining health or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership The International Executive Board shall be responsible for international dues and the 10-inch "INTERNATIONAL LIFE MEMBER" rocker will be authorized.

#### 2:07.2 Chapter

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing that who has been a dues paying member for 25 or more years. Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Board, to a member for outstanding service who may not have 25 (twenty-five) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability, or declining health, or age no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level Chapter proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues and the Chapter "LIFE MEMBER" rocker will be authorized.

#### (Clean)

#### SECTION 2:07 LIFE MEMBER

##### 2:07.1 International

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board to a member for outstanding service. The International Executive Board shall be responsible for international dues and the 10-inch "INTERNATIONAL LIFE MEMBER" rocker will be authorized.

##### 2:07.2 Chapter

Life Membership may be granted by the Executive Board of a Chapter to a member in good standing who has been a dues paying member for 25 or more years. Life membership may also be granted to a member for outstanding service who may not have 25 (twenty-five) years of dues paying membership or to a member that, due to disability or declining health, no longer has the ability to ride a motorcycle. The Chapter proposing the member for Life Membership shall be responsible for international dues and the Chapter "LIFE MEMBER" rocker will be authorized.

#### Rationale:

There has been a lot of confusion on how and who presents these honors. The "INTERNATIONAL LIFE MEMBER" will now identify that it was awarded by the International Executive Board and the standard 10-inch "LIFE MEMBER" rocker may be issued by the Chapter Executive Board.

### PROPOSAL #10: BY-LAW SECTION 2:08 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-045*

#### (As written)

#### SECTION 2:08 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for junior membership, children or Grandchildren of Active and Associate members must be under the age of sixteen (16) years.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list such junior members on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, the junior member must switch membership and pay dues. A Junior Member shall not hold a Chapter Office or vote in Chapter affairs.

#### (As proposed)

#### SECTION 2:08 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for junior membership, children or Grandchildren of Active and Associate members must be under the age of sixteen (16) years.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list such junior members on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, the junior member must switch membership and pay dues. A Junior Member shall not hold a Chapter Office or be permitted to vote in Chapter affairs.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 2:08 JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP**

To qualify for junior membership, children or Grandchildren of Active and Associate members must be under the age of sixteen (16) years.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list such junior members on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, the junior member must switch membership and pay dues. A Junior Member shall not hold a Chapter Office or be permitted to vote.

**Rationale:**

When sending Tom the voting roster today I realized Junior MALs were included in the list. Restricting their inability to vote to just Chapter affairs was never in the cards. Second problem is that most email addresses for JR Members are their parent's which could result in one member receiving multiple ballots. I have deleted duplicate email addresses this time which means nobody gets two ballots.

**PROPOSAL #11: BY-LAW SECTION 2:09 SPECIAL COMPASSIONATE HONORARY MEMBER**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-019*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 2:09 SPECIAL COMPASSIONATE HONORARY MEMBER**

The Special Compassionate Honorary Member title will be given to an existing member who is the surviving spouse, partner, or junior member of any member of a Chapter that was an Active Member, Associate Member or Honorary Member. This membership would be presented by the Chapter for tenure of the Chapters desire. There shall be no dues payable by this category of membership to the International Corporation

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 2:09 SPECIAL COMPASSIONATE HONORARY MEMBER**

The Special Compassionate Honorary Member (SCHM) title will may be given to an existing member who is the surviving spouse, partner, or Junior Member of any member of a Chapter that was an Active Member, or Associate Member or Honorary Member. This membership would be in effect presented by the Chapter for a period of time as determined by the chapter, tenure of the Chapters desire. In the event of a SCHM chapter's dissolution, the State/Provincial/Country Representative may assist the SCHM with maintaining their status in another chapter. There shall be no dues payable by this category of membership to the International Corporation.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 2:09 SPECIAL COMPASSIONATE HONORARY MEMBER**

The Special Compassionate Honorary Member (SCHM) title may be given to an existing member who is the surviving spouse, partner, or Junior Member of any member of a Chapter that was an Active Member or Associate Member. This membership would be in effect for a period of time as determined by the chapter. In the event of a SCHM chapter's dissolution, the State/Provincial/Country Representative may assist the SCHM with maintaining their status in another chapter. There shall be no dues payable by this category of membership to the International Corporation.

**Rationale:**

To clarify the criteria for obtaining SCHM status. To allow for the transfer of Compassionate Honorary Status to another chapter without penalty in the event of a chapter dissolution.

## **PROPOSAL #12: BY-LAW SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-009*

### **(As written)**

#### **SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Club's Annual Convention will be held on third (3rd) week of August. Any request to change this date shall be submitted to the International Board 36 months prior to the year of the convention in question. The International Board will review and discuss the request and reply back after the date of the next scheduled Executive meeting at which the request will be discussed.

The Annual Meeting of the International Executive Board (The Annual Corporation Meeting) shall be held at the convention site as designated by the International Executive Board for hearing and action upon the reports of elected officers and transacting such other business as has properly come before the International Executive Board. The place and time of such meeting may, however, be fixed by consent of a majority of the International Executive Board.

The Annual Convention locations shall be accepted up to five (5) years in advance. Chapters or Associations shall present their intentions to host a convention at the Club's Annual Meeting. Delegates at this meeting shall vote for the location in question. The successful bidder may withdraw their request up to three (3) years prior to the awarded convention date, after which they are required to honor their request to host the convention in the year they have requested.

During the five (5) year period, they will give status reports to the membership. Three (3) years from their convention, they will make a full report as to the status of their conventions plans. The reports shall be made in writing to the International President at least thirty (30) days prior to the Club's Annual Meeting.

Any Chapter that has not progressed to a level that the International Executive Board feels appropriate three (3) years prior to their convention will be cautioned that the Annual Convention may be reassigned if progression is not in evidence. At two (2) years prior to the convention, if the International Executive Board does not believe that the Chapter or Association can successfully meet the requirements for the Annual Convention, it will be reassigned. At one (1) year prior to the convention, a final report will be presented with the agenda and activities of the convention to the International Executive Board. The total membership shall have details and registration available no later than November 1st of the convention's previous year.

Any hosting chapter that doesn't comply with and meet the requirements of the Report submissions required as outlined in the Procedures Manual for the hosting of the Annual Convention shall put at risk their entitlement to any or all funding from the International as per Section 10:05 of the International SOG's. The funding allowance to maintain the \$75.00 or lower registration for a convention will only be issued after the above mention reports have been filed within the stated time frame.

### **(As proposed)**

#### **SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Club's Annual Convention will be held on third (3rd) week of August. Any request to change this date shall be submitted to the International Board 36 months prior to the year of the convention in question. The International Board will review and discuss the request and reply back after the date of the next scheduled Executive meeting at which the request will be discussed.

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Any hosting chapter that doesn't comply with and meet the requirements of the Report submissions required as outlined in the Procedures Manual for the hosting of the Annual Convention shall put at risk their entitlement to any or all funding from the International as per Section 10:05 of the International SOG's. The funding allowance to maintain the \$75.00 \$100.00 or lower registration for a convention will only be issued after the above mention reports have been filed within the stated time frame.

## **(Clean)**

### **SECTION 2:11 ANNUAL MEETING**

The Club's Annual Convention will be held on third (3rd) week of August. Any request to change this date shall be submitted to the International Board 36 months prior to the year of the convention in question. The International Board will review and discuss the request and reply back after the date of the next scheduled Executive meeting at which the request will be discussed.

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Any hosting chapter that doesn't comply with and meet the requirements of the Report submissions required as outlined in the Procedures Manual for the hosting of the Annual Convention shall put at risk their entitlement to any or all funding from the International as per Section 10:05 of the International SOG's. The funding allowance to maintain the \$100.00 or lower registration for a convention will only be issued after the above mention reports have been filed within the stated time frame.

## **Rationale:**

Inflation has risen to a point where the \$75.00 has become a burden, increasing registration to \$100.00 will help combat this current inflation.



## **PROPOSAL #13: BY-LAW SECTION 3:05 VACANCY**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-006*

### **(As written revision 9/9/2023 update)**

#### **SECTION 3:05 VACANCY**

Any vacancy in the International Executive Board occurring during the year will be filled as outlined below via the electronic voting process as outlined in Section 2:19 of these By-Laws. This includes positions deemed vacated by a sitting International Executive Board member running uncontested for a different position, for vacancies occurring within 180 days of normal completion of the term the International Executive Board may nominate a qualified candidate for the position.

...

### **(Marked- Proposed revision reverting from 9/9/2023 update to 8/19/2023 version)**

#### **SECTION 3:05 VACANCY**

Any vacancy in the International Executive Board occurring during the year will be filled as outlined below via the electronic voting process as outlined in Section 2:19 of these By-Laws. ~~This includes positions deemed vacated by a sitting International Executive Board member running uncontested for a different position.~~ **with the exception of For** vacancies occurring within 180 days of normal completion of the term the International Executive Board may nominate a qualified candidate for the position.

...

### **(Clean- Proposed revision reverting from 9/9/2023 update to 8/19/2023 version)**

#### **SECTION 3:05 VACANCY**

Any vacancy in the International Executive Board occurring during the year will be filled as outlined below via the electronic voting process as outlined in Section 2:19 of these By-Laws, with the exception of vacancies occurring within 180 days of normal completion of the term. The International Executive Board may nominate a qualified candidate for the position.

...

### **Rationale:**

#### **Nominations Chair Tom Caisse**

As brought to the attention of the International Executive Board on 10/16/2023 by Nomination Chair Tom Caisse.

“I am writing to the International Board of Directors to inform them of a point of order that should have been called at the ABM as respects the International Constitution and By-Laws change to section 3:05 Vacancy.”

“The untended consequence would then be the board operating for 90 days without one of it's members and the extra cost and confusion of running potentially non-concurrent electronic elections with multiple ballots. Non-concurrency and confusion were the points of the current 180-day period wording of the original section 3:05 Vacancy which underwent several reviews by the IBOD before it was presented to the membership in the package of By-law changes that were necessary to transition to electronic voting.

if the intent is to expedite the process of filling what would become an open position when the incumbent is sworn into their position, then a lot more wording needs to be considered and the cost and confusion factor also taken into consideration.

As written, the Nominating Committee is putting the IBOD on notice that they cannot execute on the current Section 3:05 Vacancy and would suggest this be addressed prior to the situation arising.

I went back through the Nominating Committee history and found that this has only happened once since electronic voting was implemented in 2011. In 2014 we had a resignation at the ABM in PEI but the change suggested would not have impacted that.” *Tom Caisse Nominations Chair 10/16/2023*

**By-Laws Committee Chair Rasmus Lillemose:**

“The bylaws committee has worked on the discrepancy and agrees with the International Board and that the 3.05 must be reviewed once more. It is the Bylaws Committees opinion that a reverting to the last revision would be in the best interests of the organization.” *Rasmus Lillemose By-Laws Chair 2/26/2024*

**International Board of Directors:**

The International Board of Directors has reviewed the “Point of Order” and by majority vote concurs with Nomination Chair Tom Caisse and By-law Chair Rasmus Lillemose. The Board feels that reverting to the last revision would be in the best interests of the organization. While we do understand and recognize the good intent that was intended by this revision, without further consideration of the effects caused, this cannot be enforced.

**PROPOSAL #14: BY-LAW SECTION 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-051*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

The duties and power of the By-Laws Committee will be responsible for maintaining the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations that govern the operations of the Club This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and updating all changes submitted to the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations. All changes shall be submitted to the International Executive Board for their majority approval prior to being presented to the membership. Changes and additions sponsored by Chartered Chapters will be presented to the By-Laws Committee for review, duplication and wording prior to being advanced to the International Executive Board.

The Committee shall have the authority to make necessary changes in grammar, spelling, punctuation and wording that will not alter or change the intent of the By-Laws or Rules & Regulations, without the voting approval of the International Executive Board or the Membership.

All Chapter Presidents shall be notified of all Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations changes or additions within forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Corporation Meeting.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

The ~~duties and power of the~~ By-Laws Committee will be responsible for maintaining the Constitution, ~~and~~ By-Laws ~~and Rules & Regulations~~ that govern the operations of the Club. This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and updating all changes submitted to the ~~Constitution and~~ By-Laws ~~and the Rules and Regulations~~. All changes shall be submitted to the International Executive Board ~~no less than 60 days before the Annual Corporation Meeting~~ for their majority approval prior to being presented to the membership. Changes and additions sponsored by Chartered Chapters will be presented to the By-Laws Committee for review, duplication, and wording prior to being advanced to the International Executive Board.

The Committee shall have the authority to make necessary changes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and wording that will not alter or change the intent of the By-Laws ~~or Rules & Regulations~~, without the voting approval of the International Executive Board or the Membership.

All Chapter Presidents shall be notified of all Constitution, By-Laws ~~and Rules & Regulations~~ changes, or additions ~~within~~ ~~no less than~~ forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Corporation Meeting.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 3:24 BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

The By-Laws Committee will be responsible for maintaining the Constitution and By-Laws that govern the operations of the Club. This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and updating all changes submitted to the Constitution and By-Laws. All changes shall be submitted to the International Executive Board no less than 60 days before the Annual Corporation Meeting for their majority approval prior to being presented to the membership. Changes and additions sponsored by Chartered Chapters will be presented to the By-Laws Committee for review, duplication, and wording prior to being advanced to the International Executive Board.

The Committee shall have the authority to make necessary changes in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and wording

that will not alter or change the intent of the By-Laws, without the voting approval of the International Executive Board or the Membership.

All Chapter Presidents shall be notified of all Constitution, By-Laws changes, or additions no less than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual Corporation Meeting.

**Rationale:**

“Within” forty-five (45) days is a presumed typo from the beginning which is now amended to ensure members have the changes at least forty-five (45) days. The process for amending the Rules and Regulations within that document itself, conflicts with this section as it was written.

**PROPOSAL #15: BY-LAW SECTION 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

*Submitted by: Germany Chapter 31*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, bring charges in violation of the International Bylaws, Standard Operating Guidelines or Rules and Regulations against any Chapter and/or Member(s) for cause. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapter or Member(s) of these charges by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board’s action to the Chapter and/or Member(s) last known address. Charges filed by the International Board against a Chapter and/or Member(s) will be forwarded to the Investigation Committee for investigation, hearing, and, if found in violation, ruling of discipline. Discipline shall be either Suspension or Removal. The Investigation Committee will forward this decision to the International Executive Board for record purposes and notice to be made to the Chapter and/or Member(s), via Certified Mail. Any Chapter and/or Member(s) so removed or suspended shall be granted an appeal hearing before the International Executive Board if such a hearing is requested in writing by Certified Mail to the International Secretary within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter and/or Member(s) suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation, appear before the International Executive Board, and present witnesses at the appeal hearing. During such time between the ruling of the Investigation Committee and the appeal hearing, the Chapter and/or Member(s) shall be suspended. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, bring charges in violation of the International Bylaws, Standard Operating Guidelines or Rules and Regulations against any Chapter and/or Member(s) for cause. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapter or Member(s) of these charges by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board’s action to the Chapter and/or Member(s) last known address. Charges filed by the International Board against a Chapter and/or Member(s) will be forwarded to the Investigation Committee for investigation, hearing, and, if found in violation, ruling of discipline. Discipline shall be either Suspension or Removal. The Investigation Committee will forward this decision to the International Executive Board for record purposes and notice to be made to the Chapter and/or Member(s), via Certified Mail. Any Chapter and/or Member(s) so removed or suspended shall be granted an appeal hearing before the International Executive Board if such a hearing is requested in writing by Certified Mail to the International Secretary within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter and/or Member(s) suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation, appear before the International Executive Board, and present witnesses at the appeal hearing. During such time between the ruling of the Investigation Committee and the appeal hearing, the Chapter and/or Member(s) shall be suspended. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

2. Any International Board member has the authority to suspend a member and/or Chapter for just cause. Charges filed by the International Board Member against a Chapter and/or Member(s) will be forwarded to the International Board for immediate review. If just cause is found the International Board will move the charges. If the International Board should come to the conclusion that the International Board member suspended a member and/or chapter in a fraudulent or malicious manner, a charge may be filed against the Board member.

**(Clean)**

#### SECTION 3:25 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, bring charges in violation of the International Bylaws, Standard Operating Guidelines or Rules and Regulations against any Chapter and/or Member(s) for cause. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapter or Member(s) of these charges by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board's action to the Chapter and/or Member(s) last known address. Charges filed by the International Board against a Chapter and/or Member(s) will be forwarded to the Investigation Committee for investigation, hearing, and, if found in violation, ruling of discipline. Discipline shall be either Suspension or Removal. The Investigation Committee will forward this decision to the International Executive Board for record purposes and notice to be made to the Chapter and/or Member(s), via Certified Mail. Any Chapter and/or Member(s) so removed or suspended shall be granted an appeal hearing before the International Executive Board if such a hearing is requested in writing by Certified Mail to the International Secretary within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter and/or Member(s) suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation, appear before the International Executive Board, and present witnesses at the appeal hearing. During such time between the ruling of the Investigation Committee and the appeal hearing, the Chapter and/or Member(s) shall be suspended. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.
2. Any International Board member has the authority to suspend a member and/or Chapter for just cause. Charges filed by the International Board Member against a Chapter and/or Member(s) will be forwarded to the International Board for immediate review. If just cause is found the International Board will move the charges. If the International Board should come to the conclusion that the International Board member suspended a member and/or chapter in a fraudulent or malicious manner, a charge may be filed against the Board member.

**Rationale:**

A Chapter can suspend any member just by cause. Any member of the International Board should have the authority to suspend a member/or chapter if he sees any violation of the ByLaws, SOG's or COC. The International Board members are supposed to enforce and control that all rules are followed, but can not interact if anything happens.

### **PROPOSAL #16: SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATIONS**

*Submitted by: Australia Chapter 5 and Chapter 6*

**(As written)**

#### SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATIONS

A State/Province/Region body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Chapters can be formed under the direction of the State/Province Representative or Regional Director. It shall be called "The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. State/Province/Region Association of "

A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. Outside of North America, Regional Associations may be formed by chapters in two or more countries (ie: European Union). Australia, due to their laws, may form a National Association for all chapters in Australia. It shall be called "The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. National Association of Australia. The Associations shall adopt the International Constitution and By-Laws and adopt their own set of SOG (Standard

Operating Guidelines) to the extent that the transaction of State/Province/Region business SOGs are consistent with the International By-Laws.

They shall elect their own State/Province Representative and State/Province/Region Executive Board as defined in the International By-Laws, Section 4:02. The State/Province Representative or Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the State/Province/Region Association. The State/Province/Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a State/Province/Region Association upon written request of a Chapter President, Chapter Representative or State/Province Representative. The Regional Director shall assist in forming an Association. When State/Province/Region SOGs do not include a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATIONS**

A State/Province/Region body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Chapters can be formed under the direction of the State/Province Representative or Regional Director. It shall be called “The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. State/Province/Region Association of “  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. Outside of North America, Regional Associations may be formed by chapters in two or more countries (ie: European Union). ~~Australia, due to their laws, may form a National Association for all chapters in Australia. It shall be called “The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. National Association of Australia.~~ The Associations shall adopt the International Constitution and By-Laws and adopt their own set of SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines) to the extent that the transaction of State/Province/Region business SOGs are consistent with the International By-Laws.

They shall elect their own State/Province Representative and State/Province/Region Executive Board as defined in the International By-Laws, Section 4:02. The State/Province Representative or Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the State/Province/Region Association. The State/Province/Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a State/Province/Region Association upon written request of a Chapter President, Chapter Representative or State/Province Representative. The Regional Director shall assist in forming an Association. When State/Province/Region SOGs do not include a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATIONS**

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\_\_\_\_\_.”

A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. Outside of North America, Regional Associations may be formed by chapters in two or more countries (ie: European Union). The Associations shall adopt the International Constitution and By-Laws and adopt their own set of SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines) to the extent that the transaction of State/Province/Region business SOGs are consistent with the International By-Laws.

They shall elect their own State/Province Representative and State/Province/Region Executive Board as defined in the International By-Laws, Section 4:02. The State/Province Representative or Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the State/Province/Region Association. The State/Province/Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a State/Province/Region Association upon written request of a Chapter President, Chapter Representative or State/Province Representative. The Regional



Director shall assist in forming an Association. When State/Province/Region SOGs do not include a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

**Rationale:**

The Australian Association has collapsed effective 28/8/16 when control of the existing Association funds and records passed to the then Australian Ambassador Jason Collins.

The notation in the bylaws regarding Australian Law has never been adequately proven to the membership, even when requested of multiple Association Presidents. The authors are unaware of ANY Australian Law that precludes the creation of multiple State Based associations if requested by the constituent chapters.

**PROPOSAL #17: BY-LAW SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-017*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Associations shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Road Captain (Optional) and Chapter Representatives. The Chapter Representatives shall be the President of a Constituent State/Province/Country Chapter or an annually elected/appointed Representative plus one Member-at- Large. The Association Executive Board shall be elected in alternate years at the Association’s annual meeting: The President and Secretary in even years, the Vice-President and Treasurer in odd years. To be eligible to be an Officer of the Association, one must be a currently paid member of a Constituent Chapter and International. President shall be elected to two -year terms as outlined in this Section and referred to in the International Constitution and By-Laws. All communications from the International Executive Board concerning the Associations shall be directed to the President and/or State/Province/Region Representative. It shall be his/her responsibility to forward the information to the concerned member.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Associations shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Road Captain (Optional) and Chapter Representatives. The Chapter Representatives shall be the President of a Constituent State/Province/Country Chapter or an annually elected/appointed Representative plus one Member-at-Large. The Association Executive Board shall be elected in alternate years at the Association’s annual meeting: The President and Secretary in even years, the Vice-President and Treasurer in odd years. To be eligible to be an Officer of the Association, one must be a currently paid member of a Constituent Chapter and International. **The Offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Road Captain may be held by an adult Associate or Social member, provided that there are no Active Members available to hold the title.** President shall be elected to two -year terms as outlined in this Section and referred to in the International Constitution and By-Laws. All communications from the International Executive Board concerning the Associations shall be directed to the President and/or State/Province/Region Representative. It shall be his/her responsibility to forward the information to the concerned member.

**(Clean)**

**SECTION 4:02 STATE/PROVINCE/REGION ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

The Officers of the Associations shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Road Captain (Optional) and Chapter Representatives. The Chapter Representatives shall be the President of a Constituent State/Province/Country Chapter or an annually elected/appointed Representative plus one Member-at-Large. The Association Executive Board shall be elected in alternate years at the Association’s annual meeting: The President and Secretary in even years, the Vice-President and Treasurer in odd years. To be eligible to be an Officer of the Association, one must be a currently paid member of a Constituent Chapter and International. The Offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Road Captain may be held by an adult Associate or Social member, provided that there are no Active Members available to hold the title. President shall be elected to two -year terms as outlined in this Section



and referred to in the International Constitution and By-Laws. All communications from the International Executive Board concerning the Associations shall be directed to the President and/or State/Province/Region Representative. It shall be his/her responsibility to forward the information to the concerned member.

**Rationale:**

This will bring the State Association By-law in line with the Chapter By-Law pertaining to the Officers.

**PROPOSAL #18: BY-LAW SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-013*

**(As written)**

SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

...

5. Road Captain (Optional)
6. The Road Captain shall coordinate and safely lead any trips or rides that my take place during an Association activity. In addition:
  - a. Shall work with the Association Executive Board in keeping statistics of accidents of members of the Association.
  - b. Shall keep current with changes in the State/Province/Region Government
  - c. Legislative Branch concerning motorcycle activities.
  - d. May establish riding procedures as to how the Association rides in a group with the approval of the Association Executive Board.
  - e. Shall check motorcycles for safety violations prior to any Association rides or trips.
  - f. May be a member of the Association Executive Board as the Board directs but will be appointed only by the Association President annually.

**(As proposed)**

SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

...

5. Road Captain (Optional)
- 6.a. The Road Captain or designated person shall coordinate and safely lead any trips or rides that my may take place during an Association activity. In addition:
  - a.i. Shall work with the Association Executive Board in keeping statistics of accidents of members of the Association.
  - b.ii. Shall keep current with changes in the applicable State/Province/Federal Region Government
  - c. Legislative Branch legislation concerning motorcycle safety activities.
  - d.iii. May establish riding procedures as to how the Association rides in a group with the approval of the Association Executive Board.
  - e. Shall check motorcycles for safety violations prior to any Association rides or trips.
  - iv. Will have the authority to not allow a guest or club member to ride on a ride if it is found that they, their vehicle, or their documentation does not meet the area's standards.
  - f.v. May be a member of the Association Executive Board as the Board directs but will be appointed only by the Association President annually.

**(Clean)**

SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

...

5. Road Captain (Optional)
  - a. The Road Captain or designated person shall coordinate and safely lead any trips or rides that may take place during an Association activity. In addition:
    - i. Shall work with the Association Executive Board in keeping statistics of accidents of members of the Association.
    - ii. Shall keep current with applicable State/Province/Federal legislation concerning motorcycle safety.
    - iii. May establish riding procedures as to how the Association rides in a group with the approval of the Association Executive Board.
    - iv. Will have the authority to not allow a guest or club member to ride on a ride if it is found that they, their vehicle, or their documentation does not meet the area's standards.
    - v. May be a member of the Association Executive Board as the Board directs but will be appointed only by the Association President annually.

**Rationale:**

To allow for alternate Road Captains. To clarify responsibilities surrounding legislation. To grant a Road Captain the right to refuse participation for safety or statutory compliance reasons.

**PROPOSAL #19: BY-LAW SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2024-027*

**(As written)**

**SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT**

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt the By-Laws and the Constitution of the International for the administration of its business or for the purpose of the incorporation of their chapter in their governmental area, may develop Chapter By-laws that are consistent with the International Constitution and By-Laws.

A Chartered Chapter, so established, may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business SOG (Standard Operating Guideline) to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business SOG is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing Chapter membership and compliance of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State, Province or Country applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Club will be designated under a State, Province or Country identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. A chapter number that has been inactive for five (5) years or more may be reissued with the exception of the number 1.

**(As proposed)**

**SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT**

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution, and By-Laws, International Standard Operating Guidelines, and Rules & Regulations. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt the By-Laws and the Constitution of the International for the administration of its business or for the purpose of the incorporation of their chapter in their governmental area, may develop Chapter By-laws that are consistent with the International Constitution and By-Laws.

A Chartered Chapter, so established, may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business SOG (Standard Operating Guideline) to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business SOG is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing Chapter membership and compliance of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State, Province, or Country applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Club will be designated under a State, Province, or Country identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. A chapter number that has been inactive for five (5) years or more may be reissued with the exception of the number 1.

The local chapter may, at its own will, develop a set of Standard Operating Guidelines for the operation of the chapter. These guidelines must conform to the intent of the International Constitution and By-Laws, International SOGs, and International Rules & Regulations. No chapter shall require mandatory attendance of chapter members at meetings, rides, or events in order to be in good standing, nor limit the member's voting privilege. Any disagreement because of the meaning of the Chapter's SOG must follow Section 12:02 Grievance Procedure of the International SOGs.

**(Clean)**

#### SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution and By-Laws, International Standard Operating Guidelines, and Rules & Regulations. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt the By-Laws and the Constitution of the International for the administration of its business or for the purpose of the incorporation of their chapter in their governmental area, may develop Chapter By-laws that are consistent with the International Constitution and By-Laws.

A Chartered Chapter, so established, may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business SOG (Standard Operating Guideline) to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business SOG is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing Chapter membership and compliance of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State, Province, or Country applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Club will be designated under a State, Province, or Country identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. A chapter number that has been inactive for five (5) years or more may be reissued with the exception of the number 1.

The local chapter may, at its own will, develop a set of Standard Operating Guidelines for the operation of the chapter. These guidelines must conform to the intent of the International Constitution and By-Laws, International SOGs, and International Rules & Regulations. No chapter shall require mandatory attendance of chapter members at meetings, rides, or events in order to be in good standing, nor limit the member's voting privilege. Any disagreement because of the meaning of the Chapter's SOG must follow Section 12:02 Grievance Procedure of the International SOGs.

#### **Rationale:**

To move SOG 12:01 to the By-law to clarify that Chapters may create their own Standard Operating Guidelines but must be in line with International By-laws and SOGs. And to also indicate that members are not required to mandatory attendance to be in good standing with the Chapter.

### **PROPOSAL #20: BY-LAW SECTION 6:01 GENERAL**

*Submitted by: International Board with Motion 2023-047*

**(As written)**

#### **ARTICLE VI: DISCRIMINATION**

##### SECTION 6:01 GENERAL

All references herein to the masculine gender shall include to the feminine gender where appropriate. The captions appearing in this document are for purposes of easy reference and shall not be considered a part thereof, or in any way to modify, amend or affect the provision hereof.

No one shall be denied membership because of race, religion, national origin, sex, political affiliation, sexual orientation or disability. All brands of street legal motorcycles shall be accepted by the International Corporation.

**(As proposed)**

#### **ARTICLE VI: DISCRIMINATION GENERAL**

##### SECTION 6:01 GENERAL

All references herein to the masculine gender shall include to the feminine gender where appropriate. The captions appearing in this document are for purposes of easy reference and shall not be considered a part thereof, or in any way to modify, amend or affect the provision hereof.

No one shall be denied membership because of race, religion, national origin, sex, political affiliation, sexual orientation or disability. All brands of street legal motorcycles shall be accepted by the International Corporation.

Within these By-Laws the word “shall” is used as an imperative command, indicating that certain actions are mandatory, and not permissive.

**(Clean)**

## **ARTICLE VI: GENERAL**

### **SECTION 6:01 GENERAL**

All references herein to the masculine gender shall include to the feminine gender where appropriate. The captions appearing in this document are for purposes of easy reference and shall not be considered a part thereof, or in any way to modify, amend or affect the provision hereof.

No one shall be denied membership because of race, religion, national origin, sex, political affiliation, sexual orientation or disability. All brands of street legal motorcycles shall be accepted by the International Corporation.

Within these By-Laws the word “shall” is used as an imperative command, indicating that certain actions are mandatory, and not permissive.

### **Rationale:**

To clarify the word “shall” means “must”.