



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



Spring 2026 RKIFMC Non-Executive Board Minutes  
 April 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> in Baltimore, MD.

1. Meeting Schedule and General Information:
  - a. RKR and RKM meetings on Thursday at 7:00 pm EDT.
  - b. Meetings will start at 8:00 a.m. EDT and end when complete.
  - c. Shirt colors for each day: Thursday-Gray, Friday-Red, and Saturday - Black.
  - d. Special Guest:
    - i. International Chaplain, Matthew Mattera, reports in person.
    - ii. "Zoom" Nomination Chair, Tom Caisse, 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm EDT
    - iii. "Zoom" Communication Chair, Sara-Lynn, 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am EDT
  
2. Call to order at 8:01 am EDT.
  
3. Opening greeting by President Spike.
  - a. International Chaplain Matthew Mattera led in a Prayer and a moment of silence for the 24 members who passed since the Fall Board Meeting.
  
4. Moment of Silence for those who have passed:

808	STEPHEN CLIPPERTON	MN 9	2025(11/2/25)
809	HEIKE FRIEDRICHS	GER 8	2025(11/23/25)
810	SUE LAST	MI 8	2025(12/7/25)
811	KEN LUBY	NY 33	2025(12/24/25)
812	JOHM BRENNAN	NZL 2	2026(1/1/26)
813	JOHN LAWRENCE III	VT 4	2026(1/5/26)
814	CHUCK CARTER	IL 5	2026(1/5/26)
815	JOHN LEE GRAY JR.	MD 2	2026(1/11/26)
816	ROY BAKEN SR.	NC 27	2026(1/12/26)
817	ANDREW RUSH	NZL 3	2026(1/17/26)
818	TONY MAILLET	NY 33	2026(1/19/26)
819	GARY LEE TRADER	MD 3	2026(1/27/26)
820	JACK SQUIRE	NJ 13	2026(1/27/26)
821	LUC MAES	BEL 2	2026(2/9/26)
822	MERCEDES VAN DEN BOSSCHE	BEL 2	2026(2/4/26)
823	ROGER WENTZELL	MA 1	2026(2/22/26)
824	ROBERT FOURNIER	QC 3	2026(2/19/26)
825	THOMAS MCCABE	NB 8	2025(12/9/25)
826	JANET LYNN CAPO	PA 13	2026(3/6/26)
827	MARTIN RAY JONES	OK 4	2026(3/1/26)
828	DARREN CRAYS	ID 1	2026(3/8/26)
829	JERRY FORSTATER	LA 1	2026(3/28/26)
830	JEAN BORYSZEWSKI	CT 2	2022(4/4/22)
831	LOAN GECZI-MEHESZ	ROU 1	2026(4/4/26)



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### 5. Roll Call:

President Spike Ostiguy: Present	Vice President Norm Beausoleil: Present
Secretary Michael Woods: Present	Treasurer Scott Ryan: Present
Region 1 Dir. Ken May: Present	Region 2 Dir. Randy Smith: Present
Region 3 Dir. Mark Mullen: Present	Region 4 Dir. Chuck Marks: Present
Region 5 Dir. Joel Nelson: Present	Region 6 Dir. Brian Singleton: Present
Region 7 Dir. Tom Van Der Kley: Present	Region 8 Dir. Andrew Young: Present
Director Emeritus: Leo Patry: Not required	Guest: International Chaplain Matthew Mattera
Guest: Via Zoom, Tom Caisse	Guest: Via Zoom, Sara-Lynn Hickam

### 6. Rules of meeting:

- a. All cell phones in polite mode, remain courteous and professional, raise hands to be addressed, keep sidebars down, and only speak 3x on a topic.

### 7. Adjustments or additions to the Agenda:

- a. RKI:
  - i. Requested to Table:
    1. 9.g indefinitely
      - a. Approved
  - ii. Requested to move:
    1. 10.j to after board reports
      - a. Approved
  - iii. Requested to move to Executive:
    1. 9.o and 9.p
      - a. Approved
  - iv. Additions:
    1. 11.a-i
      - a. Approved

### 8. Reports:

- a. Officer's activity reports:
  - i. Region 1: Ken May
    1. 95 Chapters, 2507 Chapter members, 26 MALs, and 4 were transferred to Heaven 1 Chapter.
    2. Attended the 2026 New Jersey After Christmas Party, where the 2025 Life Saving Award from the International was presented to Dean Gramazio, along with the New Jersey Red Knight of the Year Barry Stires award, which was also presented to Dean.
    3. Held the Region 1 State Reps' bi-annual in-person meeting at the Memorial Hall in Boylston.
    4. Region 1 Mayday fund has less than 100 coins left to sell, with a balance of \$2,715.85 in the fund.
    5. This year's RK Steak Night is May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
    6. Issued 21 Reservations this year for Memorial Hall.



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7. This year's Yankee Rally is in Geneva, NY, from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026. The 2027 Yankee Rally is slated for Mystic, Connecticut. The 2028 will be in Jay's Park, Vermont.
- ii. Region 2: Randy Smith
  1. 39 Chapters, 826 Chapter members, and 22 MALs.
  2. Working on getting the Provisional reps in place, with 3 out of 4 in place.
  3. Working on the 2027 Convention, which has taken a lot of time.
  4. Working on The Red Knights have become quite involved in the Canadian Fall Firefighter Memorial. This has been well received by their foundation.
- iii. Region 3: Mark Mullen
  1. 64 Chapters, 1228 Chapter members, and 21 MALs.
  2. Attended 2 RKMC Heaven 1 presentations for Chuck Carter, IL 5, and Sue Last, MI 5.
  3. Illinois held its first contested election of State President, with Zack "Cowboy" Arnold being elected as the new State President.
  4. Pennsylvania held its elections with all positions being unopposed. Don Brandt is the State President.
  5. Monroeville Fire Expo was held on March 7th and 8th. The Pennsylvania State Association had a booth.
  6. Pennsylvania 15 held its annual Bunny run on April 4th. Two hundred and sixty plus motorcycles took part, and roughly 700 stuffed Easter bunnies were donated. Pennsylvania 15, 33, and 41 were the chapters in attendance.
  7. Pennsylvania 39 is holding its annual Spring Fling on April 11th in Tyrone, PA.
  8. A funeral was held for Pennsylvania 13 member Janet Capo on March 10<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania 17 member Richard Foley was held on April 12th, 2026.
  9. Pennsylvania State Association Picnic will be held on July 18th in Coatesville, PA, hosted by PA2.
  10. Bootlegger will be held September 4th through the 6th in Champion, PA. Hosted by PA37. Registration is now open. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.
- iv. Region 4: Chuck Marks
  1. 87 Chapters, 1595 Chapter members, and 34 MALs.
  2. No real issues to report.
  3. Dixie Rally is in Aberdeen, Maryland, from May 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. "The Best Dam Dixie"
- v. Region 5: Joel Nelson
  1. 36 chapters, 826 chapter members, and 44 MALs.
  2. Alberta has 10 chapters with 215 members and 13 MAL's; British Columbia has 4 chapters with 130 members and 2 MAL's; Idaho has 1 chapter with 10 members and 1 MAL; Iowa has 2 chapters with 48 members and 1 MAL; Manitoba has 1 chapter with 15 members and 2 MAL; Minnesota has 7 chapters with 214 members and 2 MAL's; Nebraska has 3 chapters with 67 members and 2 MAL's; North Dakota has 2 chapters with 58 members and 6 MAL's; Oregon has 1 chapter with 14 members and 1 MAL; South Dakota has 1 chapter with 20 members and 3 MAL's; Washington has 3 chapters with 41 members and 2 MAL's; Wyoming has 1 chapter with 11 members; Saskatchewan has 5 MAL's.



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3. Unfortunately, we have lost 3 R5 members since the fall meeting: Stephen Clipperton, MN 9, Dave Autrey, NE 4 & Darren Crays, ID 1. I attended Steph's service; I did not find out about Dave's until after the service, and I was unavailable for Darren's, but former R5 Director Graham Clark did attend Darren's service.
  4. I have been working closely with the team from AB11 as they prepare for the 2026 Western Rally. They have a great location just outside of Banff National Park in High River, Alberta, Canada, as well as a solid plan for a fun rally.
- vi. Region 6: Brian Singleton
1. 30 Chapters, 397 Members, and 44 Members at Large.
  2. Unfortunately, we lost one member (Martin Jones, OK 4) this year since starting.
  3. 2026 has been a busy year for the Red Knights in Region 6, facing challenges like inconsistent weather and membership growth. Despite these hurdles, the dedication of our members has been inspiring, representing RKMC with honor.
  4. Our collaboration with each chapter has ensured that members regularly check and appropriately use their emails, allowing them to receive important updates from RKMC members and me. Working closely with state representatives has also helped ensure that all MALs receive timely updates, making our membership feel valued and involved.
  5. I have been assisting the Texas State Association in updating their state SOGs and attending quarterly meetings to address questions about international rules and bylaws. I am collaborating with the TX Rep to ensure chapters submit their quarterly updates. The annual member meeting is scheduled for 04/17-04/19, where officer elections will take place for State President/Representative and State Treasurer.
  6. The Oklahoma State Association held its annual membership meeting on 03/27-03/29, in which they held officer elections for the following that I was asked to assist with counting votes:
    - a. Brian Thompson, State President/Representative
    - b. Jimmy Ralls, Central State Vice President
    - c. Rose Butler, State Secretary
  7. I had the pleasure of attending a meeting at Pickens Lake Group Campground in Eufaula, OK, where they raised an impressive \$3,345.00 for their charity, Hydrants of Hope. I want to congratulate them on their hard work and dedication. They also held a moment of silence for their lost brother from OK4.
  8. OK13 is taking over the 3rd annual Scooter Stampede (Region 6 Rally), October 8-11, at Lake Texoma Lodge and Resort in Mead, OK. Thanks to them for stepping up when TX2 faced unforeseen issues.
  9. I spend around 10-15 hours a week on Red Knight business, whether it's providing information to state reps or resolving issues myself. This doesn't include the daily phone calls I receive. I always welcome those seeking answers or wanting to chat.
- vii. Region 7: Tom Van Der Kley
1. 82 Chapters, 1693 Members, and 86 Members at Large.
  2. We will have representation from multiple chapters at the Interschutz, where they are funding this out of their own pockets, and help from the IB and the EB.
  3. Working with a Canadian who lives in Hungary to start a chapter there. There are a few hurdles to overcome with other clubs.



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4. Attended 3 of the 4 Heaven 1 services. The 4<sup>th</sup> one was not possible to attend because of the short notice and distance.
- viii. Region 8: Andy Young
1. Australia has 21 Chapters with 308 members and 15 MALs.
  2. New Zealand has 12 chapters with 299 members.
  3. Australia 5 is looking forward to the International Convention in August.
    - a. Website has been live for a few months for bookings and has been posted/emailed out to ..... everywhere. There has been a big focus on spreading the word across Region 8 to try and get as many local members to attend, focusing on the opportunity to meet with the board and overseas members who have made the journey to Australia. During the week, the AFAC (Australasian Fire Authorities Council) will be holding their annual conference in Melbourne, and we are working on organising some promotional material, and maybe a bike or 2 and some members to help publicise the club.
  4. I have worked on the Memorial Roster and sent corrections to the Region 8 members to Woody and Scott.
  5. Queensland OMCG/Vets MC issue:
    - a. Discussions with Aus23, it seems there has been a change in the leadership of the Brisbane Chapter. Letter, in my capacity as the AusRep, to the Queensland Attorney-General and Police Minister regarding verbal threats from OMCG with the support of the Vets Brisbane Chapter
    - b. Next steps:
      - i. Letter to the Queensland Emergency Service Minister (controls the Qld Fire Service). Letter to the Australian Government Security Vetting Agency (AGSVA), regarding current & former ADF personnel who are members of an organisation that is working for/with OMCGs to enforce rules upon law-abiding motorcycle clubs.
  6. Plans for an embroidered Region 8 polo shirt for the Convention with the Region logo on the left side of the chest area, the RKMC logo on the right side of the chest area, and an Australian or New Zealand flag on the left sleeve. Anticipate the cost will be about \$40 AUD each.
  7. AFAC (Australasian Fire Authorities Council) has engaged Australia 18 for the provision of first aid for the 2026 National Memorial Service (8 May 2026)
  8. New Zealand 4 Hosted the NZ Gathering in Hawera, Taranaki, on the North Island over the last weekend in Feb. There were approximately 110 members from Australia and NZ that attended the event, and a great weekend was had by all. Ken Mahon was presented with his (and wife Jan's) Life member award in front of the members on Saturday night to great applause.
  9. Roger Van Kollenburg also launched the Aotearoa + 1 ride as part of the Red Knights Grand Tour series of rides. This ride can only be collected in NZ.
  10. Members attending the Gathering were encouraged in the week leading up to collect the stations on the way, and there was a mass presentation for 55 members who achieved the ride in that week/weekend.
  11. Zane Eyre resigned as NZ Rep, finishing up in Feb. Shaun Crowley was elected unopposed as the new NZ rep, and all responsibilities have been handed over. Congratulations to Zane on a challenging year in the position.



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12. NZ Chapters have lost 3 members so far this year. Heaven 1 presentations were carried out by the NZ rep/s. Chapters are now working well together after some issues between a couple, but all chapters are now moving forward.
- ix. Treasurer: Scott Ryan
1. Since our last face-to-face meeting, a big part of what I have been doing is providing each chapter with their roster showing dues for 2026, providing reminders of dues, and adjusting rosters based on members renewing.
  2. I have closed the 2025 year in preparation for IRS filings.
  3. I have updated rosters for the first quarter reporting.
  4. I have received and filed all incoming member applications and explained to numerous chapters the recent change.
- x. Secretary: Michael Woods
1. Heaven 1 inductions since FBM were 26 members.
  2. TMLAs issued 73 requests, 25 pending since FBM.
  3. New Chapter Applications requested 7 with 4 pending.
  4. Event Insurance requested 13, with 6 pending since FBM.
  5. AD&D 2023 we had 3 issued, 2024 we had 3 issued, 2025 we had 3 issued with a total of 9 payouts of \$4000 to each, making a total of \$36,000 paid to our membership.
  6. IP report in folder
  7. Successfully negotiated the event insurance, which saw reductions in the event premiums.
    - a. Still working through invoice issues with K&K. A solution was found, but will see if their plan works.
  8. Intellectual Property registrations are very close to being corrected. This has been a long process started at the beginning of 2023.
- xi. Vice President: Norm Beausoleil
1. 21 new applications for Member-at-Large (MAL):
  2. 10 are still Pending any decision (Lic/FD/)
    - a. 7 no license provided
    - b. 2 no license required (Social Member)
    - c. 1 no license provided, FD not verified
  3. 11 have been approved as MAL
  4. 6 have been referred to local/area chapters
    - a. 3 have joined and paid dues
    - b. 3 have not been recorded on a chapter roster/or as dues paid
  5. 0 requested transfers from the chapter to MAL
  6. 18 have transferred to and/or formed new chapters
    - a. Finland 1 was formed with 18 members
  7. 8 MALs have resigned – chosen not to renew for 2026
  8. We now have 298 Members-at-Large, 258 of which are in good standing. I will be recommending the removal of the 21 who have not paid since 2024 from the roster.



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9. Since the Fall Board meeting, I have:
  - a. Announced that I will not be running for re-election in 2026
  - b. Attended 1 full board Zoom meeting
  - c. I am still having some backup and duplicate files/emails issues
    - i. Cloud storage/backup issue has been resolved
    - ii. The new version of Windows doesn't support auto-backup/save of Excel files.
  - d. Completed all required Board reports
  - e. Attended MA 2's breakfast meeting in Boylston on March 21.
  - f. Made complete arrangements to attend the English/Irish meeting in May in Essex
  - g. Completed all other duties as requested and/or required
- xii. President: Spike Ostiguy
  1. This last winter has been a rough one, after undergoing double total knee replacement surgeries in December and February, respectively.
  2. Field a number of phone calls for small issues within the regions.
  3. Working with the Club Historian and attempting to help Joe Hopkins out.
  4. Has received a lot of AD&D calls and emails. It was again stated to those members not to send in the reply cards, as members are automatically covered when they are in good standing. With 9 families having already been assisted by this beneficial program, it is still a good thing for our membership and their families, with \$36,000 being paid out. The Blue Knights have the same program, and their leadership does not receive the calls as we do.
  5. Thanked the Board members for their assistance and support this last winter, especially during his pre- and post-surgical recovery period.
- b. Committees Reports:
  - i. Communications:
    1. See 9.h
  - ii. Chaplain:
    1. The Chaplain held a Zoom meeting to promote collaboration and discuss PTSD among members. Various strategies to enhance support were examined, and key points were added to the agenda for future discussion. It was suggested that Regional Directors be informed about the next meeting so they can invite more participants from the Region.
    2. A database has been created to manage the distribution of flags and coins, ensuring responsible use of membership funds. Each Board position will receive enough coins and flags to have 10 of each on hand. If a Regional Director thinks a State, Province, or Country Representative should receive a set, they can decide to do so and must report it to the Chaplain for database recording.
    3. See 11.a for discussion points brought to the Board.
  - iii. By-Laws:
    1. Refer to EOY Newsletter
  - iv. Nomination:
    1. The current election process is good and up to date. We have two contested races, with one being a regional election and the other being a global election so far.
    2. See 11.d for discussion points brought to the Board.
  - v. Grand Tour:
    1. Refer to EOY Newsletter



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- vi. Help-A-Knight:
    - 1. Refer to EOY Newsletter
  - vii. IT Committee:
    - 1. Proposed a Laptop replacement system.
    - 2. Treasurer reminded the Board that RKR purchases the Executive Boards and the RKI purchases the Regional Directors.
    - 3. See Discussion in section 11.
  - viii. Newsletter Editor:
    - 1. Refer to EOY Newsletter
  - ix. Club Historical Committee:
    - 1. Refer to EOY Newsletter
  - x. Special: (if required)
    - 1. N/A
  - c. Convention Reports:
    - i. 2026- Australia 5, August 18<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> in Melbourne, Australia: Delivered by Region 8 Director Andrew Young.
    - ii. 2027- Ontario 1, Convention at Sea: Delivered by Region 2 Director Randy Smith.
    - iii. 2028- New Brunswick 1, 4, and 7, St. John, New Brunswick: Delivered by Region 2 Director Randy Smith.
    - iv. 2029- North Carolina 13 and 26, Cherokee, North Carolina: Delivered by Region 4 Director Chuck Marks.
    - v. 2030 TBD or Baltimore, MD. Board only.
9. Old Business carried forward:
- a. Perry Carter Award program standardization discussion:
    - i. Discussion was furthered with a presentation of a new Perry Carter Award Plaque designed by Todd McClain from NC 13. The brass plate was discussed as a standard plate that can be reproduced every year in the same style and font.
      - 1. In conclusion, the award is approved, with 10 of them being made for future use. A standardized red brass plate will be created that can be reproduced for the next 9 awards. The plate will have a double-sided sticky-taped backing, so no holes will need to be drilled.
  - b. ASSIGN App:
    - i. A review and training were conducted on the ASSIGN App. Different digital reports were reviewed, and the current standing was given. Regions 6, 5, 4, and 3 are ready for members to be uploaded. The ASSIGN company report was reviewed.
      - 1. In conclusion, we are still moving forward, and the plan is to have all members onboarded by July.
  - c. QRG SOG 12:02 Discussion:
    - i. There was continued discussion about the complexity of the grievance process, particularly regarding the different sources from which grievances could originate and the various levels at which they could be initiated. A new concept was developed for review by the board.
      - 1. It was concluded that due to the complexity of the grievance process, a new concept has been presented. This will be sent out to the board and will be further



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reviewed for its flow and reflection on the identified By-Law and SOGs that might be affected. This will be brought back to a Zoom Meeting and/or SuBM.

- d. Heaven One Memorial discussion:
  - i. A discussion was further made on correcting all the Heaven One lists and name plates on the memorial kiosks. Several name plates were identified as misspelled or missing.
    1. In conclusion, the lists will be reviewed, and once complete, the name plates will be addressed.
- e. By-Law submission discussion.
  - i. A discussion was further made on how we do our By-Law proposals, which was not indicated in our governing documents, but only listed on the website. This was changed at the FBM with the SOG 1:13 amendment. A new QRG was created by the By-law Chair to further assist our membership.
    1. In conclusion, it was approved to add the QRG and indicate it in SOG 1:13.
      - a. See Motion 2026-002
- f. Nomination and By-Law Chair qualifications discussion:
  - i. Tabled until SuBM for further review.
- g. Website discussion:
  - i. A discussion was made over the standings of the new website. Sara-Lynn Hickam gave a report via Zoom. The current website has had some considerable issues with the transmission back to our servers with Roger Nelan. The files were corrupted at 85% completion. At this point, she continues to rebuild. She has reached out to others for assistance and is running into challenges. The public side is 60% complete, and the private side is about 40 % complete. For the issue with members seeing the new website, they are not typing in the www. before the website title, so they will see the new version. The membership side is not complete, and they are not allowing members' requests for the creation of accounts until the Board gives permission. They are collecting those requests for future use. The Secretary will assist with those new account setups. Still working on the PayPal side of it, and it will be the last part to be finished, so as not to allow possible issues. We are currently paying for BlueTone monthly to maintain the old website, and Roger is getting his normal payments until we are moved over to the new website.
    1. In conclusion, we will look to members for assistance, and a letter will be sent out from the President. She will continue to move forward on the rebuild of the website. The current website will remain and be updated, but assisting the chapters with their items is limited due to the workload. The question was asked if we had any recourse with the former company in their corruption of the files, and with 100% refund, we have no leg to stand on. It was recognized that Sara-Lynn is working hard and her efforts are commendable.



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- h. Board manuals:
  - i. A discussion was made at the SuBMand FBM over updating the board manuals, as they are all outdated.
    - 1. In conclusion, the Board manuals will be updated to the standard formatting and sent out to all. The Regional Director manual will be a standard Director manual with regional-specific information added at the end. These will be brought back to SuBM for review.
- i. By-Law 4:02 discussion:
  - i. A discussion was made over minor changes to the By-law to indicate a willingness to hold a title.
    - 1. In conclusion, a By-law proposal was drafted.
      - a. See Motion 2026-003
- j. By-Law 5:02 discussion:
  - i. A discussion was made to follow suit with the By-law proposal to indicate a willingness to hold an office.
    - 1. In conclusion, an amendment was made to the SOG in the same fashion as the previous By-law proposal. If the By-law proposal fails, this will be brought back to FBM for review.
      - a. See Motion 2026-004
- k. By-Law 3:13 discussion:
  - i. A discussion was held regarding the three companies: RKI – Red Knights International, RKR – Red Knights Regalia Ltd., and RKMF – Red Knights Memorial Foundation, as well as their Reflection in the RKI By-laws.
    - 1. In conclusion, this will be incorporated into the RKR and RKMF By-laws and SOGs. A review of these governing documents will be conducted at the upcoming SuBM RKR and RKMF meetings. If necessary, a proposal for RKI By-law 3:13 will be reviewed following those meetings.
- l. Knights of the Round Table (KORT) Discussion:
  - i. A discussion was held on how to effectively promote and share information about the Knights of the Round Table rally with our members. It was noted that in the past, the International Secretary served as the main contact for RKMC on this matter. Contact was made with both the Blue Knights Secretary and the Green Knights President.
    - 1. In conclusion, there is a communication breakdown between US organizations, with limited awareness of the event. It has been confirmed that the RKMC Secretary will serve as the liaison for this event.
- m. Heaven 1 flag and coin discussion:
  - i. A discussion was made over a higher quality of the RKMC flag.
    - 1. In conclusion, Spike will contact our current supplier and Quartermaster to explore the possibility of obtaining a higher-quality cloth flag, including potential costs. Additionally, Joel will reach out to a known supplier to investigate the pricing for higher-quality flags.



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- n. Awards discussion:
  - i. Moved to Executive session.
- o. General Membership discussion:
  - i. Moved to Executive session.

### 10. New Business:

- a. New member application discussion:
  - i. A discussion was held regarding the application's purpose for the chapter and how it can be utilized to protect both members and the club's membership.
    - 1. In conclusion, if it is later discovered that a member has a conviction that they did not disclose when applying for membership in a Red Knights Chapter, the chapter reserves the right to remove that member based on non-disclosure. The chapter has the discretion to determine what constitutes an acceptable conviction.
  - ii. Discussion was made to remove all the asterisks "\*" and only have one on the line asking if you have been convicted of a crime.
    - 1. In conclusion, the asterisks "\*" were removed from all, and a new asterisk "\*" description was added, and an asterisk "\*" was placed on the identified line. Along with a slight change to the lines' verbiage.
- b. By-Law 5:04 discussion:
  - i. Discussion was made over the chapter mailing address.
    - 1. In conclusion, following the discussion, the proposer withdrew the agenda item, and the President accepted the withdrawal.
- c. SOG 5:02 discussion:
  - i. A discussion was held regarding the importance of ensuring that any new chapter has representation within the area designated as the charter town/city. It was noted that some chapters have been formed without having any members located in the charter city. This situation prevents the local community from establishing their own chapter in its designated town/city.
    - 1. In conclusion, it is believed that forming a new chapter should require representation within the area rather than simply selecting a city.
      - a. See Motion 2026-009
- d. By-Law 3:10 discussion:
  - i. Discussion was made over the formation of new chapters utilizing existing members and having little to no new members gained, and with little representation within the new chapter area. The goals of forming new chapters are to gain new members and have a good representation in that area. It was recognized that the second chapter allowance had created an issue, and its original intent was just to meet the 7 Active Members to form a chapter, and it has been utilized in other ways.
    - 1. In Conclusion, it was determined that the formation of a new chapter should be based more on the local interest and support organic growth.
      - a. See Motion 2026-001



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- e. Event funding discussion:
  - i. A discussion was held regarding the funding sections SOG 8:01, 10:02, and 10:04. The issues surrounding the Association and Representative systems have been long-standing and have been discussed multiple times. While the Association has had the privilege of receiving funding, the Representative system has not. There has also been confusion about who is eligible for additional funding under section 10:02. Additionally, it was noted that providing funding to start an Association is unfair to the other S/P/Cs that rely on the Representative system, which is the foundation on which the Club was established.
    - 1. In conclusion, Scott and Woody will review SOG 10:02 and present this at SuBM. Amendments have been made to SOG 8:01 and 10:04.
      - a. See Motion 2026-011
- f. By-law 2:19 discussion:
  - i. During the recent ABM, we discussed how to handle election ties. Such ties in contested races have occurred only a few times, all before the implementation of the current electronic voting system. There are differing opinions on how to manage these situations, particularly since ABMs may take place in locations where candidates cannot attend to speak and where only a limited number of regional members are present to vote. We also raised questions about whether all delegates on the floor should be allowed to vote for a Regional Director, as elections for these positions should ideally involve only Regional Members. Additionally, we discussed the possibility that a member of the Nomination Committee might not be available. The Nomination Chair provided insights on this topic.
    - 1. In conclusion, a by-law proposal was drafted to allow the Sergeant at Arms to monitor tied votes if a Nomination Committee member was not present. The discussion on how to handle a tie vote will be brought back for further review.
      - a. See Motion 2026-012
- g. TMLAs discussion
  - i. Discussion over AI:

A discussion was held regarding the protection of the Club against infringements of intellectual property (IP) generated by AI. When a chapter member uses an AI generation tool, it is their responsibility to ensure that there are no IP infringements. While AI itself cannot be sued for infringements, Red Knights International could be held accountable for such infringements, as it is the owner of our IP.

    - 1. In conclusion, the Secretary will reach out to our insurer to see if we are exposed and, if so, reach out to our IP Attorney to assist in the creation of this policy.
  - ii. Discussion over signal-handedly approved by the Secretary.

Discussion was made over what is or is not acceptable by the Secretary to signal-handedly approve items that are questionable.

    - 1. In conclusion, a list of items requiring full Board approval will be created. A general disclaimer statement regarding legality within a jurisdiction will be researched.



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- h. SOG 16:07 Heaven One rocker discussion.
  - i. A discussion was held regarding the preexisting 4-inch Founding Father memorial rocker, which had not been formally documented. It was noted that most of the Board members were unaware of its existence until Norm brought it to our attention. This rocker has been used for memorials of the past Founding Fathers. Additionally, the SOG did not specify the color patterns for this rocker. It was also mentioned that the other memorial rockers similarly lacked color specifications.
    - 1. In conclusion, the decision to include color identification and a description of the Founding Father was approved.
      - a. See Motion 2026-010
  - i. Convention and SuBM 26 and 27 discussion:
    - i. Discussion was made that we recognize that SuBM will be reduced due to the overseas and cruise limited time frame. Zoom meetings will be required to address all the items that need to be discussed. For the 2027 cruise, there are questions about how some of the logistics will be handled. Randy brought up that there is a “Shake down” cruise that is conducted 4 to 5 months prior. Conventions on a Cruise ship are not new, and they have established these Shake down pre-cruise to handle the logistics.
      - 1. In conclusion, before the 2026 Convention in Australia, we will need to hold several Zoom meetings to discuss all membership matters. We have also received approval to wear our vests during the Convention, as this is a special local concession. For the 2027 Convention at sea, it was agreed that we must remain flexible, as there is still plenty of time before the event and several logistics to work out. The Board has decided to arrive the day before departure to ensure we do not miss the cruise due to unforeseen circumstances. The shake down Cruise is free for the Secretary but doesn’t include a drink package.
  - j. International Life Member discussion:
    - i. A discussion was made over International Life Membership and the status of chapters.
      - 1. In conclusion, the proposal was withdrawn by the proposer.

### 11. Open floor and additional items added: (If time allows)

- a. International Chaplain items that were brought to the Board during his report.
  - i. The Chaplain requested that the Board discuss requirements or guidelines for a chapter chaplain.
    - 1. In conclusion, the Board supports this initiative and will request the International Chapter to propose the addition of a section in the International Chaplain manual that provides guidance for Chapter Chaplains.
  - ii. The Chaplain requested that the Board discuss the possible bike blessing RKMC decal.
    - 1. In conclusion, the Board supports this initiative and will request the International Chaplain to submit a proposal for funding and conduct a TMLA.
  - iii. The Chaplain requested that the Board consider hosting an annual memorial event at Memorial Park for our past members, with invitations sent to their families.
    - 1. In conclusion, the Board supports this initiative and will request the International Chaplain to submit a proposal for funding and an initiative plan.



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- iv. The Chaplain had brought up several slight conflicts between Manual and SOG, which need to be reviewed.
    1. In conclusion, the Board requests the Chaplain to review and send the Board a list for review.
  - v. The Chaplain requested that the Board consider adding MA 1, Peter Stone, to the Heaven One email for notifications of passings. Peter Stone is responsible for the nameplates for the kiosks.
    1. In conclusion, the Board believes that the Chaplain should manage the creation of the nameplate wording and communicate this to Peter. The notification process will return to the original method, involving the Treasurer, Secretary, and Chaplain. And the Chaplain will move the notifications as outlined in the Chaplain Manual.
  - vi. The Chaplain has requested that the Board evaluate the timing and method of the RK Facebook Memorial postings. He has prepared standard wording for these posts; however, the Communications Chair currently manages them. The Chair of Communications believes that the Chaplain should be permitted to handle this responsibility.
    1. In conclusion, the Chaplain will be granted rights for the RKIFMC Facebook page for Heaven 1 business only.
- b. State Rep. representation.
- i. Discussion was made on who could hold this position within a State/Province/Country as interim when no other members have stepped up to fill the role.
    1. In conclusion, it was found that no changes are required, and based on certain circumstances, a Regional Director may appoint any Active Member to the Interim State/Province/Country Rep that resides within the State/Province/Country until an election can be conducted.
- c. Laptop discussion brought to the Board by IT Chair.
- i. A discussion regarding a proposal from the IT Committee Chair has been initiated to establish a laptop replacement program. The Chair's proposal suggests replacing laptops every two terms, or every four years. This approach would allow the replaced laptops to be repurposed for distribution to Committee Chairs.
    1. In conclusion, the Board has approved the plan, and the Treasurer agrees that it falls within the budget. The replacement schedule will involve even-numbered Directors being replaced in even years, starting with the replacement for Region 4. Regions 2, 6, and 8 are new appointments made within the last year. Odd-numbered Regional Directors will be replaced in odd years. Additionally, the laptop for Region 7 has been identified as needing replacement in 2027.
- d. Nomination Committee items that were brought to the Board during his report.
- i. Expense Reimbursement for ABM
    1. Discussion was made on paying for the Nomination Committee Chair's expenses for travel to the ABM. It had been recognized that Australia was going to be an issue as we did not have a Nomination committee member there, so a new member was added to the committee. In the past, it was recognized that Nominating Committee members have been reimbursed, but this has not happened in several years. It was further discussed how a slight change to the By-



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law governing this could fix this. It was also noted that this could open the door for other committees to request reimbursements.

- a. In conclusion, it was found that there are several options to address this, one offered by the Nomination Chair. This will be tabled until further discussion with Tom can be made. This shall be reviewed and brought back to a Zoom Meeting.
- ii. Data storage issue
    1. Discussion was made over the Nominations Committee Chair not having an RKMC laptop and has been currently backing up items on a jump drive to ensure no data is lost.
    2. In conclusion, we will look at the ASSIGN app for resolution to this data storage issue and possible acquiring a new laptop or recycling a current laptop for the committee's use.
  - iii. 2026 and 2027 Election Tie vote discussion.
    1. Discussion was made over how to handle a tie vote with how By-law 2:19 is written for the 2027 Convention.
    2. In conclusion, this will be reviewed, and options will be evaluated. This will be brought back to FBM.
  - iv. Discussion over changing the title of the Nomination Committee.
    1. There was a brief discussion suggesting a modernization of the committee name to represent the committee's actual responsibilities and functions more accurately. The current name reflects a time before electronic voting when the committee proposed a slate of officers to the Membership. Under current governance, members of the Committee cannot be involved with nominating any individuals for a position, as it would violate the electioneering clause of the SOG's and the ethics of the Procedural Manual. There are slight inconsistencies with the use of term Nominating and Nominations in the By-Laws and SOG's. The combination of the 2 terms is noted 11 times in the By-Laws and 14 times in the SOG's.
      - a. In conclusion, a list of names that would better suit the committee's function will be looked at, and a change proposal will be drafted. The different names listed throughout the governing documents will be reviewed at that time.
  - v. Proposed change to nomination process
    1. Discussion was made on the time limit to submit confirmation of intent and provide the required documentation to initiate the nominations process (SOG's). It was agreed that the Committee would propose adding a section to the SOG's (and corresponding instruction in Procedural Manual) requiring non-incumbent candidates to confirm intent and provide the required documentation (Nominee Profile) within 14 days of being notified by the Committee that they have received the required 2 nominations to start the review process. If this timeline is not met, the candidate will be required to restart the process. The reminder to provide the confirmation of intent and required documentation would be in the original email notifying the nominated candidate that they have received 2 nominations and would start the clock on the 14 days.



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- a. In conclusion, By-law 3:02 was reviewed, and changes were proposed.
    - i. See Motion 2026-013
  - e. Local advertising assistance discussion.
    - i. Discussion over what might be made available to assist growth within Region 5.
      1. In conclusion, the Board has spent thousands of dollars on advertising in the region with no measurable return. There are promotional items available on the website, such as the Tri-Fold flyer.
12. Good of the order:
- a. FBM location: Looking to move back to the previous location.
  - b. Nominations close, and By-law proposal closes May 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. 2026 SuBM dates: 18th arrival, 19th-20th, 21st Breakout and Bylaw review, and ABM 22<sup>nd</sup>, in Melbourne AUS.
  - d. Australia ETA download and ensure passports are current for 6 months beyond.
  - e. 2026 FBM dates: Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> travel, 5th to 7th meetings, and 8th travel, in Baltimore, MD.
  - f. International President Spike Ostiguy conducted a round table exercise to end the SBM.
13. Adjournment:
- a. All in favor: 4:15 pm EDT 4/18/2026.