

Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc. Office of the International President Joey Powell 9013 Pageland Court Wake Forest, North Carolina 27587 president@redknightsmc.com



Hello to all our Red Knight Brothers and Sisters,

As promised in my recent letter, your International Board has drafted some proposals for consideration at next year's Annual Meeting in relation to the matter of how many rockers can be displayed on the back of our vests.

The Board is not taking a stance on which of these options "should" be passed, these are bylaws, and these are the rules the membership sets for us to follow.

If you find these drafts are not clear and have suggestions on how to write them more clearly, please share your ideas with your Regional Director. All suggestions will be considered by the International Board and a final draft proposal will then be forwarded to the bylaws committee to be included in the 2023 convention booklet.

It is important to also note, regardless of which version of the bylaws the members select, the restrictions in these and other sections of the bylaws remain in place. That is, all patches must be in good taste and a member may not wear a patch showing a membership status or chapter affiliation which is untrue, for example, a Social Member may not wear an "Active Member" or a "Charter Member" patch.

The Board thanks you for your patience, your understanding, and your support as we work through this matter.

Thank you.

Loyal to Our Duty

Joey Powell



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The Board recognizes that a bylaw change requires a 66% majority of voting members at the Annual Meeting and there is a very real possibility that all three proposals may fail. If that is the case, we will be left with the current language in the bylaws which has been the subject of differing interpretations, especially over the past few years. This will leave the door open to one member alleging another member is in violation of bylaw 1:05 and taking the matter through the grievance procedure outlined in SOG 12:02. Although this is an effective means of dealing with the matter, it is far from efficient as it has to be done one member at a time and a ruling in one situation does not automatically transfer to other situations.

As written (September 2022):

SECTION 1:05 INSIGNIA PLACEMENT

- 1. 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 showing membership status may be worn as listed in Section 2 of these By-Laws. In lieu of membership status, 2 top rocker options that are available are rockers that reads "RED KNIGHTS" or "FIREFIGHTER." A "FIREFIGHTER" top rocker may be worn only by an active or retired firefighter.
 - c. The single bottom rocker showing Chapter identification of the State/Province abbreviations and Chapter and number as assigned in Section 5:01 may also be worn.
 - d. The Club 10-inch, 3-piece patch or any part of it shall not be worn on 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.



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The purpose of the following proposal is to make it clear that only one top rocker may be worn and that only one bottom rocker may be worn on any vest. This does not prevent a person who is a member of multiple chapters from having multiple vests each with a single bottom rocker indicating their membership in a particular chapter. This proposal also defines a rocker as any curved patch and restricts rockers to those sold through Red Knights Regalia. To avoid confusion and "technicalities" NO other curved patch of any size, color, or description may be worn on the back of the vest.

Proposal 1:

SECTION 1:05 INSIGNIA PLACEMENT CLUB BACK PATCH

- 1. 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 showing membership status may be worn as listed in Section 2 of these By-Laws. In lieu of membership status, 2 top rocker options that are available are a rockers that reads "RED KNIGHTS" or a rocker that reads "FIREFIGHTER." A "FIREFIGHTER" top rocker may be worn only by an active or retired a past or present firefighter.
 - c. The Members may wear a single bottom rocker. If a bottom rocker is worn by a Member from North America it shall show ing Chapter identification of the chapter's State/Province abbreviation and, the word "Chapter" and the number as assigned in Section 5:01 may also be worn. 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."

 - 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. Permitted rockers are only those which are available from the official Red Knights Regalia.
 - 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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The purpose of the following proposal is to allow members who might already have multiple top or multiple bottom rockers to continue to wear those patches as is. This proposal is only relevant if Proposal 1 passes, if proposal 1 does not pass, proposal 2 will be withdrawn. If proposal 1 passes and proposal 2 does NOT pass, members with multiple rockers must remove all but one top rocker and one bottom rocker.

Proposal 2: adds clause (h) if proposal 1 passes will be withdrawn if proposal 1 does not pass. SECTION 1:05 INSIGNIA PLACEMENT CLUB BACK PATCH

- 1. 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 showing membership status may be worn as listed in Section 2 of these By-Laws. In lieu of membership status, 2 top rocker options that are available are a rockers that reads "RED KNIGHTS" or a rocker that reads "FIREFIGHTER." A "FIREFIGHTER" top rocker may be worn only by an active or retired a past or present firefighter.
 - c. The Members may wear a single bottom rocker. If a bottom rocker is worn by a Member from North America it shall show ing Chapter identification of the chapter's State/Province abbreviation and, the word "Chapter" and the number as assigned in Section 5:01 may also be worn. 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."

 - 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. Permitted rockers are only those which are available from the official Red Knights Regalia.
 - g. No member may wear a "Charter Member" rocker with the bottom rocker of any chapter they joined after its first year.
 - h. Members who have more than one top rocker or more than one bottom rocker on their vests as of **November 1, 2022**, may continue to wear those rockers; however, may not add more.



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The purpose of the following proposal is to allow members to wear as many top rockers and as many bottom rockers at they wish.

Proposal 3: If proposal 1 passes, proposal 3 will be withdrawn.

SECTION 1:05 INSIGNIA PLACEMENT CLUB BACK PATCH

- 1. 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 tTop rocker(s) showing membership status may be worn as listed in Section 2 of these By-Laws. In lieu of membership status, 2 top rocker options that are available are rockers that reads "RED KNIGHTS" or and "FIREFIGHTER." A "FIREFIGHTER" top rocker may be worn only by an active or retired a past or present firefighter.
 - c. The single bBottom rocker(s) showing Chapter identification of the the member's North American Chapter's State/Province abbreviations and the word "Chapter" and number as assigned in Section 5:01 may also be worn. Member's rockers for chapters outside North America 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. The Club 10 inch, 3 piece patch or any part of it shall not 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. Permitted rockers are only those which are available from the official Red Knights Regalia.
 - g. No member may wear a "Charter Member" rocker with the bottom rocker of any chapter they joined after its first year.