

American Legion Riders

Motorcycle Association
ILLINOIS

Purpose

- **To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the Aims and Purposes of the American Legion.**
- **To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interest.**
- **To use our Association to promote and support programs of the American Legion.**
- **The American Legion Riders is family oriented, just as its parent organization, the American Legion.**

By Laws

I. Membership.

Membership consist of 2 recognized “classes” of involvement within the ALR as defined below.

A. Full Members: Prospective full members must meet two requirements for Membership.

1. A current member in good standing in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion.
2. Must be the legally registered owner of a motorcycle of at least 350cc in size and possess a valid driver’s license in their state of residence (military equivalents acceptable). Or the spouse of an owner who is a member.

B. Support Members: Chapters, at their own discretion, may allow Chapter Supporters (aka “Supporting Members”).

1. The Chapter Supporter classification does not constitute full membership in the ALR, therefore Supporters will not be granted voting privileges or the right to hold an office. Chapter Supporter is intended as a means to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the ALR Chapter/Post.
2. Chapter Supporters must, without exception, be a member in good standing in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion.

3. Any articles of clothing worn by Chapter Supporters displaying the ALR emblem must also contain the words “I support or Supporter”

Each Chapter shall maintain membership records sufficient to establish the continuous length of time any member has been affiliated with that Chapter.

These records are to minimally include:

1. Date member joined
2. Record of membership renewals
3. Date of separation

A copy of these records shall be provided to any member or other Chapter by a written request.

Members may belong to any ALR group, but you can only belong to one American Legion Post.

II. Charter Membership

- A. Each State Chapter may determine eligibility for Charter Membership in it’s own state Chapter. However, they must meet the eligibility of a Full Member.
- B. IALR Charter Members consist of the original members of the Illinois American Legion Riders and are members of the Advisory Committee.

III. Officers of the Association Chapter

- A. Director
- B. Assistant Director
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Sgt. At Arms/ Run coordinator
- F. Historian *
- G. Membership Chairman *
- H. Chaplain *
- I. Liaison -Department Adjutant (for State ALR only)
- J. Division Representatives (for State ALR only)
- K. Advisory committee (for State ALR only)

(* These offices are at the discretion of the Director, all other officers will be submitted by the Advisory Committee and approved by election.)

IV. Duties of Association Chapter Officers

- A. **Director:** Will serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and will preside over all meetings. He shall have general supervision over the affairs of the

Association. He shall perform such other duties as directed by the general membership.

- C. **Assistant Director:** Will assume the duties of the Director in his absence. will assist the Director in the performance of his duties when called on to do so by the Director.
- D. **Division Representatives** (for State IALR only): will include being a liaison with the Division Post Chapters and act as a conduit between State Meetings, Advisory Committee meetings and the posts in their Division. Division representatives will be regarded as part of the Advisory Committee. Each division rep will be responsible to report the number of ALR groups in their division including the formation of any new groups or the disbandment of any. Division Representatives will be a voting member of the Advisory Committee.
- E. **Secretary:** To keep a full and correct record of all proceeding at the meetings. Keep membership records as may be required by the general membership. To give detailed financial reports at each regular meeting. The secretary will be a voting member of the Advisory Committee.
- F. **Treasurer:** To have charge of all finances of the Association. To have charge of disbursing funds as directed by the general membership. To give detailed financial reports at each regular meeting. (Copies will be furnished to the sponsoring Post if requested). Treasurer position will be maintained at the State Department Headquarters.
- G. **Sgt At Arms/ Run Coordinator:** Will be the logistics person in charge of rganized runs of the Association. He/she will determine dates, times, routes and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity. He may, at his discretion, appoint assistant road captains or take any other measures he may feel necessary to help insure the safety of the group during a run. Will also help to maintain order during chapter meetings.
- G.. **Historian:** compiles and maintains records to document activities of Chapter. Must be available to help secretary with record keeping.
- H. **Membership Chairman:** maintenance of membership records
- I. **Chaplain:** provides invocation at regular meetings or other events
- J. **Liaison** (for State IALR only): promote communication between the American Legion and the Legion Riders. The liaison will not have the right to *vote* but will be a member of the Advisory Committee.
- K. **Advisory Committee** (for State IALR only):Created by the Charter Members of

the IALR; to advise and assist in the formation and management of the IALR. .

V. Elections

- A. When two or more Chapters exist in a State (Department) the practices of that Department will prevail for the naming of State Officers. If the Department wishes to impose no practice, then State Officers will be named by a manner that is in agreement between the involved Chapters.
- B. Election of State IALR Officers: At this time the advisory committee will hold all officers' positions or appoint said officers, until at which time the IALR by-laws can be presented, amended and or approved.
- C. Election of chapter officers will be held annually at the July meeting.
- D. Election of the Director and Assistant Director are elected for 2 year terms, in alternate years. All other officers will be elected or appointed annually.
- E. Officers can hold dual offices as long as they are not President/Director or Vice President/Assistant Director leadership positions
- F. There will be one (1) vote per Advisor Committee member and one(1) vote per Post that is in attendance.
- G. Duly appointed Division Representatives will be regarded as a member of the Advisory Committee. As members of said committee the Division Representatives reserve the right to hold office and cast a valid vote.

VI. Organization

- A. The American Legion Riders, aka "ALR".
- B. The ALR is a Post Level Program of the American Legion, as defined within the American Legion Internal Affairs Position on the ALR.
- C. The ALR at no time should we be referred to as a motorcycle club.
- D. Each Chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring Post. A copy of the minutes from the post meeting approving the forming a riders group must be sent to the State.

VII. Meetings

- A. Meetings will be held quarterly on the fourth Sunday of the month in conjunction with the advisory meeting. Regular scheduled meetings shall be at one of four posts centrally located in the State. Said posts would be Heyworth, Champaign, Mattoon and or Lincoln American Legion Post. Beginning January 2009 the quarterly meeting would be January, April, July and October. Seven members will constitute a quorum.
- B. There will be one (1) vote per Advisory Committee member and one (1) vote per Post that is in attendance. Each Post may designate who their voting representative will be (not division representative).
- B. Advisory meetings will be held one hour before the regular scheduled meeting.
- C. All future meeting minutes will be sent to the Director and Assistant Director as well as the Division Advisors and the Department Adjutant. Minutes shall be placed in archives and posted to the State ALR web page.
- D. All future meeting dates and times or changes should be posted to the State ALR web page as well as sent to all officers and advisors and the Department Adjutant.

VIII. Finances

- A. **Finances** of each Association Chapter will be from Association membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the membership.
- B. It is the responsibility of each post to govern and audit their finances. A financial report must be reported to the sponsoring Post either upon request or as approved by the ALR By-laws.
- C. As a Post-level activity of the American Legion, it is recognized that all fund and property of the Chapter is ultimately property of the Post, and must be reported and/or surrendered upon demand of the Post Executive Board.
- D. **Disbursement of funds** will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter. Each Chapter will be a non-profit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner that is in keeping with all local, state and national laws regarding non-profit organizations

IX. Expulsion

- A. Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Association by a majority Vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting.

X. Residency

- A. Each Chapter will be known by the state in which it's majority of members reside. Chapters may be further broken down in to District and Post. (i.e. Michigan Chapter 16th District Post 396).
- B. The Hayworth Post #624 shall be the permanent home post of the Illinois Charter Chapter of the Illinois American Legion Riders.

XI. Governing Rules

- A. Each State Chapter may elect to adopt a set of standing rules to govern it's Membership or, at the Chapters discretion, amend these by-laws. These standing rules, or by-law amendments, shall be no less stringent than those contained in these by-laws nor can they be in any conflict with the National Constitution and By-Laws of the American Legion, the Sponsoring Post or the National Legion Riders Committee.
- B. The bylaws as set forth in this document shall be amended only through motion, second, and majority vote.

XII. Order

- A. All meetings will be conducted under "Roberts Rules of Order".