

1. **SECTION 1:04 UNIFORMS**

Club Vest

Currently reads:

e. All other markings are to be in good taste and consistent with the image of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc.

Change to:

e. No member shall wear any 1% MC marking on or with their Red Knights Vest. This includes, but not limited to, Apparel, patches and pins.

All other markings are to be in good taste and consistent with the image of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc.

Rationale: In response to reports of members in their dealings with Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs (1% clubs) the following change to the Constitution and Bylaws is submitted for consideration

Proposed by the By-Law Committee

Endorsed by the International Board

2. **SECTION 1:04 A INSIGNIA PLACEMENT**

Paragraph 2

Currently reads:

Adding new paragraph

Change to:

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."

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

3. **SECTION 2:01 MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION AND TENURE**

Subsection II

Currently reads:

b. Any Chapter Member wishing to transfer their membership to Member-at-Large shall demonstrate a travel hardship to participate in Chapter activities or has the written approval of the Chapter President to transfer to MAL. Prior Chapter members requesting membership as an MAL shall be subject to these requirements.

Change to:

b. Any Chapter Member wishing to transfer their membership to Member-at-Large shall demonstrate a travel hardship to participate in Chapter activities or has the Written approval of the Chapter President to transfer to MAL. The Chapter President has the right to provide a written statement to the MAL Coordinator with reasons to decline member's transfer request. Prior Chapter members requesting membership as an MAL shall be subject to these requirements.

Proposed by International Board

Endorsed by the International Board

Scott Ryan 4/8/2017 8:59 AM

Deleted: to transfer to MAL

4. SECTION 3:02 QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION

Currently reads:

Only Active Members of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club, who have previously served a Chapter or Association as President or Vice President or as a State/ Provincial/Country Representative for a minimum of one term, and are an active or retired firefighter, may serve on the International Executive Board. Incumbents must notify the Nominations Committee in writing of their intent to seek re-election no later than 180 (one hundred eighty) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting. Upon notification by an incumbent of their intention to seek re-election, prior to the 180 (one hundred eighty) day time frame, they will be placed on the Ballot. Incumbents that do not notify the Nominations Committee of their intention to seek re-election prior to the 180(one hundred eighty) day date will be required to follow the process of obtaining nomination and completing the required documentation as a non-Incumbent.

Change to:

Only Active Members of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club, who have previously served a Chapter or Association as President or Vice President or as a State/ Provincial/Country Representative for a minimum of **one term two years**, and are an active or retired firefighter, may serve on the International Executive Board. Incumbents must notify the Nominations Committee in writing of their intent to seek re-election no later than 180 (one hundred eighty) days prior to the Annual Business Meeting. Upon notification by an incumbent of their intention to seek re-election, prior to the 180 (one hundred eighty) day time frame, they will be placed on the Ballot. Incumbents that do not notify the Nominations Committee of their intention to seek re-election prior to the 180(one hundred eighty) day date will be required to follow the process of obtaining nomination and completing the required documentation as a non-Incumbent.

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

5. SECTION 3:14 ELECTION, TERM OF OFFICE, QUALIFICATION

Currently reads:

The Officers or the International Executive Board shall be elected biannually at the Annual Corporation Meeting. The President and Treasurer shall be elected in every odd year. The Vice-President and Secretary, shall be elected in every even year. In addition the RKIFMC President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall also serve as the Board of Directors for the Red Knights Regalia Ltd company. All officers shall serve in their office until the close of business of the meeting at which their successors are elected.

Change to:

The Officers or the International Executive Board shall be elected **biannually for a two year term** at the Annual Corporation Meeting. The President and Treasurer shall be elected in every odd year. The Vice-President and Secretary, shall be elected in every even year. In addition the RKIFMC President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall also serve as the Board of Directors for the Red Knights Regalia Ltd company. All officers shall serve in their office until the close of business of the meeting at which their successors are elected.

Rationale: A clear definition of “term”

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

6. **SECTION 3:21 REGIONAL DIRECTORS, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Currently reads:

There shall be eight (8) International Regional Directors, each representing a designated geographical region, and they shall reside in and be an Active member of a Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Chapter in their respective regions. The exception is that if no one wishes to be the Regional Director in that respective Region, any Active Member may be nominated to fill the Office. To qualify for International Regional Directors, they shall be an Active Officer or Past Executive Officer of his/her Chapters Executive Board and/or a State/Provincial Representative

Change to:

There shall be eight (8) International Regional Directors, each representing a designated geographical region, and they shall reside in and be an Active member of a Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Chapter in their respective regions, and meet all qualifications listed in By-Law 3:02. The exception is that if no one wishes to be the Regional Director in that respective Region, any Active Member may be nominated to fill the Office. To qualify for International Regional Directors, they shall be an Active Officer or Past Executive Officer of his/her Chapters Executive Board and/or a State/Provincial Representative

Rationale: The way it is written now, states the only qualification to be a Region Director is “they shall reside in and be an Active member of a Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Chapter in their respective regions”. This is a contradiction with the qualifications listed in By-Law 3:02.

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

7. **SECTION 3:21 REGIONAL DIRECTORS, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Paragraph 4

Currently reads:

He/she shall establish a relationship with the Chapter Presidents to elect a State/Provincial Representative within the Region. This election shall occur at the State/Province annual meeting

Change to:

He/she shall establish a relationship with the Chapter Presidents to elect a State/Provincial Representative for a two year term within the Region. This election shall occur at the State/Province annual meeting

Rationale: A clear definition of “term”

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

8. **SECTION 3:26 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Currently Reads:

The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any Chapter or Member for cause. Such action by the International Executive Board shall be effective immediately. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapter or Member of their suspension or removal by mailing, by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board’s action to the Chapter or Member last known address. Any Chapter or Member so removed or suspended shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board, if such a hearing is requested in writing by Registered Mail to the International Executive Secretary within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter or Member suspended or removed shall

have the opportunity to submit written documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such.

Change to:

The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, ~~suspend or remove~~ bring charges of violations of the International Bylaws, Standard Operating Guidelines or Rules and Regulations against any Chapter or Member for cause. ~~Such action by the International Executive Board shall be effective immediately.~~ In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapter or Member of ~~their suspension or removal~~ these charges by mailing, by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board's action to the Chapter or Member's last known address. ~~Charges filed by the International Board against a Chapter or Member will be forwarded to the Investigation Committee for investigation, hearing, and, ruling of disciplinary action.~~ 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 or Member, by Certified Mail. Any Chapter or Member so removed or suspended shall be granted an ~~reconsideration hearing~~ appeal hearing before the International Executive Board, if such a hearing is requested in writing by Registered Certified Mail to the International Executive Secretary within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter or Member suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation, and appear before the International Executive Board and present witnesses at the ~~reconsideration~~ appeal hearing. ~~During such time between the ruling of the Investigation Committee and the appeal hearing, the Chapter or Member shall be Suspended.~~ The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Investigation Committee- Process for selecting the Investigative Committee will be to select 3 out of 6 of the closest State/Provincial/Country reps that are willing and available. The Chairperson of the Investigative Committee will be chosen by the 3 members selected.

Proposed by International Board

Endorsed by the International Board

9. SECTION 3:27 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Currently Reads:

The International Executive Board by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any member of the International Executive Board for just cause. Such action of the Board shall be effective immediately, pending further investigation. Any member suspended or removed from their position shall be notified by Registered Mail within fifteen (15) days. In all cases, the International Executive Secretary shall notify all International Board members of the suspension or removal of the person from that position. Regional Directors shall notify all Chartered Chapters Presidents of the suspension or removal of the person from that position within 30 (thirty) days. Any person suspended or removed shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board or a Special Committee appointed by the International Executive Board. If such a hearing is requested in writing and sent to the International Executive Secretary postmarked within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of suspension or removal, the Executive Board member being suspended or removed shall have to opportunity to submit documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board and/or Special Committee appointed shall issue its final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Change to:

The International Executive Board by its own majority motion, **may** suspend or remove any member of the International Executive Board for just cause. Such action of the Board shall be effective immediately, pending further investigation. Any member suspended or removed from their position shall be notified by **Registered Certified** Mail within fifteen (15) days. In all cases, the International **Executive** Secretary shall notify all International Board members of the suspension or removal of the person from that position. Regional Directors shall notify all Chartered Chapters Presidents of the suspension or removal of the person from that position within 30(thirty) days. Any person suspended or removed shall be granted an **reconsideration appeal** hearing before the **International Executive Board or a Special Committee appointed by the International Executive Board** Investigation Committee, if such a hearing is requested in writing and sent **via Certified Mail** to the International **Executive** Secretary postmarked within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The **International** Executive Board member being suspended or removed shall have **to** the opportunity to submit documentation, **and** appear before the International Executive Board **and present witnesses** at the **reconsideration appeal** hearing. The **International Executive Board and/or Special Committee appointed Investigation Committee** shall issue its final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Proposed by International Board

Endorsed by the International Board

10. SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

Currently reads:

1. State/Province Representative/Association President Regional Director/Association President
 - a. Presides at all meetings of the Association. He/she shall have the tie breaking vote on all issues. Shall have final approval on issues with less than two-thirds (2/3) of a vote of the State/Province/Region Executive Board, Committees or Membership.
 - b. He/she shall be informed in writing of all appeals or grievances sent to the International Executive Board. He/she shall submit a written report semi-annually of the activities of the State/Province Association or Region Association to the International Executive Board Regional Directors. He/she should attend the Annual Corporation Meeting for the purpose of voting on issues that would affect the State/Province Association or Region Association and Constituent Chapters. If unable to attend, he/she will appoint the Vice-President or a member of the State/Province or Region Executive Board to take his/her place. He/she may call a meeting of the State/Province or Region Executive Board at will, giving at least two weeks' written notice. He/she may create Committees as needed and appoint members of the association to fill the Committees. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Association, the exception being the Nominating Committee. He/she shall be the co- signer with the Secretary and Treasurer on the checking and savings accounts and other legal documents on behalf of the Association., Ref: Rules and Regulations, Section 10.

Change to:

1. State/Province Representative/Association President **Regional Director/Region** Association President
 - a. Presides at all meetings of the Association. He/she shall have the tie breaking vote on all issues. Shall have final approval on issues with less than two-thirds (2/3) of a vote of the State/Province/Region Executive Board, Committees or Membership.
 - b. He/she shall be informed in writing of all appeals or grievances sent to the International Executive Board. He/she shall submit a written report semi-annually of the activities of the State/Province Association or Region Association to the International Executive Board Regional Directors. **He/she should attend the Annual Corporation Meeting for the purpose of voting on issues that would affect the State/Province Association or Region Association and Constituent Chapters. If unable to attend, he/she will appoint the Vice-President or a member of the State/Province or Region Executive Board to take his/her place.** He/she may call a meeting of the State/Province or Region Executive Board at will, giving at least two weeks' written notice. He/she may create Committees as needed and appoint members of the

association to fill the Committees. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Association, the exception being the Nominating Committee. He/she shall be the co-signer with the Secretary and Treasurer on the checking and savings accounts and other legal documents on behalf of the Association. Ref: Rules and Regulations, Section 10.

Rationale:

1. Region Director is not part of the officers of the Associations
2. State/Province Representative and Association Presidents do not have voting rights at the Annual Corporation Meeting only Chapter Presidents or delegate.

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

11. SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

Paragraph 2 State/Province Vice-President or Region Vice President

Currently reads:

2. The State/Province Vice-President or Region Vice President shall preside over all called meetings of the Association in the absence of the State/Province Representative or Regional Director In addition:
 - a. He/she shall represent the State/Province Representative or Regional Director and the Association at meetings of the International Corporation called meetings when the State/Province/Region cannot attend. Any other member of the State/Province /Region Executive Board may be appointed to take their place if either cannot attend.
 - b. He/she shall administer all fund-raising projects of the Association.
 - c. He/she shall assist in coordinating the orchestration of the Annual Association Meeting/Convention and secure housing for the State/Province Executive Board Meetings.
 - d. He/she shall be the Chairman of the Safety Committee when one exists.

Change to:

2. The State/Province Vice-President or Region Vice President shall preside over all called meetings of the Association in the absence of the State/Province/~~Regional Association President Representative or Regional Director~~ In addition:
 - a. He/she shall represent the State/Province Representative or Regional Director and the Association at meetings of the International Corporation called meetings when the State/Province/Region cannot attend. Any other member of the State/Province /Region Executive Board may be appointed to take their place if either cannot attend.
 - b. He/she shall administer all fund-raising projects of the Association.
 - c. He/she shall assist in coordinating the orchestration of the Annual Association Meeting/Convention and secure housing for the State/Province Executive Board Meetings.
 - d. He/she shall be the Chairman of the Safety Committee when one exists.

Rationale:

1. Regional Directors are not part of the Association board
2. Association officers do not have voting rights at the International Corporation meetings

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

12. SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES

Paragraph 4 State/Province/Region Treasurer

Currently reads:

The State/Province/Region Treasurer should attend all meetings of the Association, giving a written report of all financial activities, deposits and withdrawals of the Associations checking and savings accounts. He/he shall receive all funds of the Association and deposit them in a Federally Insured Bank or Trust Company as approved by the State/Region Executive Board. He/she shall be the principal

holder of the checking and savings accounts with the Association President and Secretary as co-signers.
In addition:

- a. He/she shall have all records and accounts audited at least twelve (12) hours prior to the Association Annual Meeting. He/she shall forward a yearly report to the International Executive Board Treasurer so he/she can incorporate them in the required reports with the United States International Revenue Service, or the respective country of the Association under the directions of the Corporations non-profit status.
- b. At the end of his/her term, he/she shall turn over all documents and records pertaining to the State/Province/Region Association elected predecessor. (SUCCESSOR)

Change to:

The State/Province/Region Treasurer should attend all meetings of the Association, giving a written report of all financial activities, deposits and withdrawals of the Associations checking and savings accounts. He/she shall receive all funds of the Association and deposit them in a Federally Insured Bank or Trust Company as approved by the State/Region Executive Board. He/she shall be the principal holder of the checking and savings accounts with the Association President and Secretary as co-signers.

In addition:

- a. He/she shall have all records and accounts audited at least twelve (12) hours prior to the Association Annual Meeting. ~~He/she shall forward a yearly report to the International Executive Board Treasurer so he/she can incorporate them in the required reports with the United States International Revenue Service, or the respective country of the Association under the directions of the Corporations non-profit status.~~
- b. At the end of his/her term, he/she shall turn over all documents and records pertaining to the State/Province/Region Association elected predecessor. (SUCCESSOR)

Rationale:

1. Regional Directors are not part of the Association board
2. Association officers do not have voting rights at the International Corporation meetings.

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

13. SECTION 5:04 ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Currently reads:

Commencing with the passage of this amendment (8/22/2009) Active membership shall be available to Active and Retired Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Part Paid, On Call, Volunteer, Military or Industrial and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. A past Active member, who 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. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two third (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 the chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in that 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 members 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.

Change to:

Commencing with the passage of this amendment (8/22/2009) Active membership shall be available to Active and Retired Firefighting personnel of an established Fire Department, which is under the

command of a Fire Chief or Public Service Director whether they are Career, Part Paid, On Call, Volunteer, Military or Industrial and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. A past Active member, who 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. 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. **All Active Members must have served at least one (1) year of uninterrupted service at the Fire or EMS Department listed on the application.** 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 the chapter that they choose to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in that 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 members 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: This bylaw change is to help vet the few people that may join a fire department for a brief period of time and then consider themselves firefighters. There have been incidents where applicants said they had achieved rank and status in fire departments. Come to find out that they had bounced around from department to department for behavior reasons not spending any time or gaining any knowledge. As such it is my opinion that if a person stays on the fire department for a year or more they learn the technical skills, but more about the brotherhood that comes with being a firefighter. That is why I believe this bylaw needs to be changed.

Proposed by Member

Proposal not available at Spring Meeting

14. SECTION 9:01 AMENDING, ADDING OR REMOVING A BY-LAW

Currently reads:

These Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed for repeal or amending at any Annual Corporation Meeting of the International Corporation or by the International Executive Board and voted on at the next Annual Meeting by members of the International Corporation. A two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote is required for passage of any By-Law amendment from those present and eligible to vote, providing adequate notice of the proposed action setting forth the substance thereof has been given to all voting members in writing with the roll call of the meeting.

Change to:

These Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed for repeal or amending at any Annual Corporation Meeting of the International Corporation or by the International Executive Board and voted on at the next Annual Meeting by members of the International Corporation. A two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote is required for passage of any By-Law amendment from those present and eligible to vote, providing adequate notice of the proposed action setting forth the substance thereof has been given to all voting members in writing with the roll call of the meeting. **By-Law changes must be submitted to the By-Law committee at least 90 days before the Annual Corporation Meeting.**

Rationale: This addition gives the Bylaws Committee time to review a change and submit it to the membership within the 45 day prior rule.

Proposed by By-Law Committee

Endorsed by the International Board