

# THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA



## MILLARD AMERICAN LEGION CHAPTER 374 CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS

Revised September 2022

Adopted November 15, 2022

### OFFICIAL

The Original Charter of The American Legion Riders, Millard Chapter 374 was granted by The American Legion, Department of Nebraska, on April 2021. The Constitution and By-Laws of The American Legion Riders, Millard Chapter 374, were adopted with modifications voted on (11/15/2022), is hereby adopted.

# **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

Marty Timberlake, Chairman

Steve Sladek

Michael Robaszekiewicz

Matt Schnabel

# **American Legion Riders Millard Chapter 374 Constitution**

## **Preamble**

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United State of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to prosperity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate the sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

## **Purpose**

The American Legion Riders is formed to promote the aims and purpose of The American Legion as a family oriented motorcycling activity for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion.

## **Article I – Name**

Section 1. The name of this program shall be THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS of Nebraska, Millard Chapter 374.

## **Article II – Nature**

Section 1. The American Legion Riders (ALR) is a program for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion members, collectively “The Legion Family,” who share an interest in motorcycling.

Section 2. The American Legion Riders upholds the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conforms to and abides by the regulations and decision of the department, post, or other duly constituted governing body.

Section 3. The ALR maintains and protects the image of The American Legion at all times through appropriate wearing of The American Legion Emblem. The emblem of The American Legion demands “that the wearer shall ever guard the sanctity of home and country and free institutions.”

Section 4. Members of the ALR avoid any perception of being a motorcycle or “biker” club or gang. Rather, the focus of membership is for the enjoyment of motorcycles and comradeship and furthering Legion programs in the community.

Section 5. The ALR will improve the public’s perception of the motorcycling community by promoting the honorable nature of service to one’s community, state and nation through the sport of motorcycling.

Section 6. Members of the ALR will comply at all times with the motor vehicle safety, licensing, and insurance laws or regulations of the state in which operating.

### **Article III – Organization**

Section 1. The American Legion Riders is organized at either the Department or the Post. Each chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring post/department. The chapter officers and executive committee are responsible and accountable to the sponsoring post/department executive committee.

### **Article IV – Membership Eligibility**

Section 1. Eligibility for basic membership in The American Legion Riders shall be as prescribed by the national constitutions of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion.

Section 2. All members of The American Legion Riders must further demonstrate current individual membership in The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, or The Sons of The American Legion.

Section 3. Members will not at any time hold membership in more than one chapter of The American Legion Riders.

Section 4. In addition to section 1-3 above, members must be the legally registered owner of a motorcycle or be the spouse of the legally registered, licensed, and insured owner within the state of registration; said owner also being a member of The American Legion Riders in good standing. An exception to the motorcycle ownership requirement is allowed for ALR members in good standing who have given up motorcycle ownership because of age, illness, injury, or other reasons outside the member’s control.

Section 5. All operators must be properly licensed and insured per state laws.

Section 6. All members will obey the motor vehicle laws in any state in which they are operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger.

## **Article V – Wear of The American Legion Emblem**

Section 1. All variations of the American Legion Riders back patch, as copyrighted and sold by The American Legion's Emblem Sales division, are the only authorized American Legion Riders back patch for wear by all current members of the ALR.

Section 2. Use of rockers is authorized and must be attached to the outside edge of the American Legion Riders back patch.

## **Article VI – Determine Elected Officers**

Section 1. The elected officers of the Chapter are the Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms which are elected annually. The Director will appoint, at his/her discretion, a Road Captain, Historian, Chaplain, and Membership Chairman. The Director may appoint additional committees as deemed necessary.

Section 2. Between Chapter meetings, the administrative power of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee, whose voting members shall consist of all elected officers for the current year.

## **Article VII – Finance**

Section 1. The revenue of the Chapter shall be derived from such membership fees or dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the chapter membership. Dues are not a requirement at the national level and are optional at all other levels.

Section 2. The amount of such annual Chapter dues shall be fixed and determined by the Chapter.

Section 3. The Chapter will provide a monthly financial report to the sponsoring department/post executive committee.

Section 4. The Chapter Executive Committee is authorized to make expenditures of not more than \$250.00 per month without a majority vote from Chapter membership.

## **Article VIII – Amendments**

Section 1. The Constitution is adopted, subject to the provisions of the National Constitution, Department Constitution, and Post Constitution of which this Chapter is a subordinate program. Any amendment to the National, Department, or Post Constitution that is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provision of the Constitution and By-laws of this Chapter to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2 Constitution Amendments must follow the following procedures

Section 2.1 Such changes must be submitted in writing

Section 2.2 Proposed changes must be read at the next regular meeting of the ALR Chapter. An electronic copy must be sent to all members with a valid e-mail address within 10 days of that meeting.

Section 2.3 At the next regular ALR meeting, the proposed changes must be read again, and there must be ample time for discussion on the changes.

Section 2.4 Upon conclusion of the discussion, a vote will be held on each proposed change, and a 2/3 vote will decide the outcome.

Section 2.5 The ALR Director is responsible for updating the Constitution and Bylaws with all approved changes, and make the necessary Change Annotations immediately following the section that contains those changes. IE the Constitution should have a change log that is separated and distinct from that of the Bylaws change log.

Section 2.6 Upon completion of the changes, a new copy must be made available to all members of Chapter 374 ALR, either through digital distribution, or hard copy upon request.

## Change Log

| Date       | Paragraph            | Change   | By       | Status   |
|------------|----------------------|--|----------|----------|
| 11/15/2022 | Article V Section 1  | Rephrased: The American Legion Riders back patch, as copyrighted and sold by The American Legion's Emblem Sales division, is the only authorized American Legion Riders back patch for wear by all current members of the ALR.             | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article V Section 2  | Removed: All other variations of American Legion back patch or back patch design is not authorized for wear.   | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article V Section 3  | Removed: If Department or Post identifying information is to be embroidered on the patch, Emblem Sales must have on record authorization from the Department Adjutant that such specific identifying information may be used on the patch. | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article V Section 4  | Renamed Section 4 to Section 2   | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article VI Section 1 | Changed necessary to necessary   | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article VI Section 2 | Rephrased: Between Chapter meetings, the administrative power of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee, whose voting members  | Schnabel | Complete |

|            |                        |   |          |          |
|------------|------------------------|---|----------|----------|
|            |                        | shall consist of all officers for the current year.   |          |          |
| 11/15/2022 | Article VIII Section 1 | Rephrased: The Constitution is adopted, subject to the provisions of the National Constitution, Department Constitution, and Post Constitution of which this Chapter is a subordinate program. Any amendment to the National, Department, or Post Constitution that is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing, modifying the provision of the Constitution and By-laws of this Chapter to the extent such conflict. | Schnabel | Complete |
| 11/15/2022 | Article VIII Section 2 | Removed: This Constitution may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the membership attending such regular meeting provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediate preceding Chapter meeting. Further, that traditional mail or electronic mail notice shall have been sent to all members addresses of record at least 5 days in advance of the date which such amendment  | Schnabel | Complete |



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|  |  | is to be voted upon,<br>notifying said members<br>that at such meeting<br>there will be a proposal to<br>amend the Constitution.<br>Added Section 2, 2.1,<br>2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6 |  |  |
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## **American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association Millard Chapter 374**

### **Purpose**

- **To participate in parades and other ceremonies which 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 the programs of The American Legion.**

### **Bylaws**

The following paragraphs comprise the bylaws of The American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association, a program of The American Legion, as approved by the Chapter at its inaugural General Meeting on April 20, 2021.

This document is intended to serve as a template for the bylaws of all Chapters of the American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association, aka, Legion Riders, aka, Riders, aka ALR, henceforth referred to as the ALR, throughout the state of Nebraska. Individual Chapters may, at their option, elect to carry their own set of standing rules or, alternatively, to adopt those herein, augmented through amendment to reflect their local requirements. In either case, the governing rules for any Chapter of the ALR must be no less stringent than the bylaws contained herein [ref: Paragraph 10].

1. **Membership:** There are two recognized "classes" of involvement with the ALR as defined below.

1.1. Full Members: Prospective full members in the ALR must meet requirements in Paragraphs (1.1.1), (1.1.2) and either Paragraph (1.1.3) or Paragraph (1.1.4) below, without exception:

1.1.1. Must be a current member in good standing in The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of The American Legion.

1.1.2. Must not at any time hold membership in more than one Post-level Chapter of the ALR.

1.1.2.1. This provision does not preclude a member from holding office in any Governing or Guiding Chapter organized from amongst groupings of Post-level Chapters, including County, District, Department, Regional, or National Chapters, as seen fit by any commensurate organizational level within the American Legion. This is in keeping with the constitution and structure of The American Legion and its family of organizations (see Paragraph 10.3).

1.1.2.2. Any member found to be in violation of Paragraph 1.1.2 must immediately select their home Chapter and relinquish membership in any others upon discovery.

1.1.2.3. Any member refusing to relinquish membership pursuant to Paragraph 1.1.2.2 shall be expelled from the discovering Chapter. Such expulsion does not preclude the member from remaining at any other Chapter at which they hold membership

**– AND –**

1.1.3. Must be the legally registered owner of a properly insured motorcycle of at least 350cc (21.4 CI) engine displacement and must possess a valid driver's license in their state of residence (military equivalents acceptable as well). An exception to the motorcycle ownership requirement is allowed for ALR members in good standing who have given up motorcycle ownership because of age, illness, injury, or other reasons outside the member's control until the current membership is up for renewal at which time they will then become a support member.

1.1.4. Must be the legal spouse of an ALR member in good standing within the Chapter of application.

1.2 Chapter Supporters: Chapters, at their own discretion, may allow Chapter Supporters (aka "Supporting Members").

- 1.2.1. The Chapter Supporter classification does not constitute full membership in the ALR, but is intended as a means to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the ALR Chapter.
- 1.2.2. Prospective Chapter Supporters must, without exception, meet the requirements of Paragraph 1.1.1 above.
- 1.2.3. Pursuant to Paragraph 1.2.1, the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status must not be made in connection with the promise of any material, financial, or political benefit to the Chapter, its members or its officers; nor to any other member at any other organizational level within the ALR; nor must there be any similar gains for the honoree through the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status.
- 1.2.4. Chapter Supporters may be issued a membership card which clearly denotes their status as a Chapter Supporter.

1.3. Continuous Years of Membership: Chapters, at their option, may provide benefits based on age and ALR membership longevity. In support of this, formal means of tracking a member's affiliation with the ALR are contained in these bylaws.

2. **Organization:** The ALR is a Post-level program of The American Legion, as defined within The American Legion Internal Affairs Position on the ALR.

2.1. Each Chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring Post.

2.2. In certain Departments, the ALR is also recognized and Chapters may be further grouped and/or organized by the Department, Zone, District, etc. In these Departments, additional regional and/or Department-level by-laws may be adopted, which the individual Chapters within the Department may choose to adopt, unless said by-laws violate the following principles:

2.2.1. The Post remains the organizational level at which any ALR Chapter having individual members exists. The Post is the "atomic level" of the ALR.

- 2.2.2. Pursuant to Paragraph 2.2.1 above, no Chapter of the ALR can exist without a sponsoring Post, unless such Chapter is comprised only of officers and representatives selected from members in good standing at Post-level Chapters, and with the purpose of advising or governing the represented Post-level Chapters.
- 2.2.3. Pursuant to Paragraph 2.2.1 and Paragraph 2.2.2 above, no individual can be an ALR member without affiliation with a Post-level Chapter; i.e.: no "at-large", District, Department, or National ALR members can exist without also being a registered and recognized member of a Post sponsored ALR Chapter, having fulfilled applicable Chapter requirements for membership.
- 2.3. Each member of the ALR will have a unique membership number in order to facilitate membership audits and tracking by The Legion. To this end, each Chapter of the ALR will use the following convention when forming member numbers:
  - 2.3.1. The first segment shall consist of the two letter abbreviation of the Department (state) in which the Chapter exists, followed by a hyphen.
  - 2.3.2. The next segment shall consist of the Post number of the sponsoring Post, followed by a hyphen.
  - 2.3.3. If the member is a Supporting member, the next segment shall consist of the word SUPPORT, followed by a hyphen.
  - 2.3.4. The next segment shall consist of a four-digit member number formed by adding one to the preceding member's number.
    - 2.3.4.1. The first member number issued by any Chapter shall be 0001.
    - 2.3.4.2. Membership numbers are not re-issued in the event a member leaves the Chapter for any reason including voluntary quit, death, or expulsion. (Membership numbers are "non-retiring".)
    - 2.3.4.3. Chapters having over 9999 members may use an appropriate number of digits in order to uniquely identify each of their members.

### 3. Officers:

3.1. Officers of the Chapter: Each Chapter of the Association must have elected officers. Officers must first be members of the Chapter, having fulfilled the requirements as laid out in Paragraph 1 above, and fulfilling any additional requirements for membership as determined by the Chapter and Post, District, or Department. Other titles may be substituted for those cited in this document, per the discretion of the Chapter, and pursuant to any requirements of National, Departmental, or Regional Legion rules governing the subject ALR Chapter. There are required offices as well as those which can be filled at the discretion of the Chapter, defined as follows:

#### 3.1.1. Required Offices

##### 3.1.1.1. Director

3.1.1.1.1. Serves as Chief Administrative Officer of the Chapter and presides over all meetings.

3.1.1.1.2. Supervises all affairs of the Chapter.

3.1.1.1.3. Performs such other duties as directed by the general membership.

##### 3.1.1.2. Assistant Director

3.1.1.2.1. Assumes the duties of the Director in his/her absence.

3.1.1.2.2. Assists the Director in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the Director.

##### 3.1.1.3. Secretary

3.1.1.3.1. Keeps a full and accurate record of all proceedings at the meetings.

3.1.1.3.2. Provides detailed minutes of prior meeting at each regular meeting.

##### 3.1.1.4. Treasurer

- 3.1.1.4.1. Responsible for all finances of the Chapter.
- 3.1.1.4.2. Disburses and collects funds as directed by the general membership, pursuant to Paragraph 6 below.
- 3.1.1.4.3. Provides detailed financial reports at each regular meeting.
- 3.1.1.4.4. Provides financial audit data to the sponsoring Post if requested.
- 3.1.1.4.5. Keeps membership records as may be required by the general membership.

#### 3.1.1.5. Sgt-at-Arms / Run Coordinator

- 3.1.1.5.1. Responsible for all logistics of organized runs of the Association, including determination of dates, times, routes, and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity.
- 3.1.1.5.2. Appoints, directs, and dismisses assistant road captains and/or security personnel as may be required by activities and/or circumstances of the Chapter.
- 3.1.1.5.3. Responsible to plan for the safety of Chapter members during participation in any run or activity; and to plan for the safety of other participants in any Chapter sponsored run or activity.
- 3.1.1.5.4. Maintains order during chapter meetings.
- 3.1.1.5.5. Ensures eligibility of those participating in Chapter elections, and ensures ineligible persons are not allowed to participate in the vote.

#### 3.1.2. Discretionary Offices

##### 3.1.2.1. Historian

3.1.2.1.1. Compiles and maintains records to document activities of Chapter, including written and photographic documentation.

3.1.2.1.2. If the Chapter is so equipped, the Historian may also serve as webmaster.

### 3.1.2.2. Membership Chairman

3.1.2.2.1. Relieves Secretary of responsibility for maintenance of membership records as may be required by the general membership.

3.1.2.2.2. Collects membership dues as determined by the Chapter by-laws, and provides same to Treasurer on a regular basis.

3.1.2.2.3. Reviews and/or collects eligibility documentation as required by the general members, sponsoring Post Executive Board, Department, or State and Local laws.

3.1.2.2.4. Provides detailed membership reports at regular meetings of the Chapter.

### 3.1.2.3. Chaplain

3.1.2.3.1. Provides invocation at regular meetings or other activities as may be required by the general membership.

3.1.3. Additional Roles: The Chapter may, at the discretion of the presiding Director, appoint individuals to fulfill various other roles required for operation of the Chapter. These appointments may be intended to relieve Chapter Officers of certain of their roles, or to fulfill Chapter specific requirements.

3.1.4. Considerations for Office: Any full member in good standing, having fulfilled the requirements of Paragraph 1.1, are eligible to serve in any office of their Chapter, with the following exceptions:

3.1.4.1. Pursuant to Paragraph 1.1.2, no one shall hold office in more than one Post-level Chapter of the ALR. This provision does not preclude a member from holding office



in any Governing or Guiding Chapter organized from amongst groupings of Post-level Chapters, including County, District, Department, Regional, or National Chapters, as seen fit by any commensurate organizational level within the American Legion. This is in keeping with the constitution and structure of the American Legion and its family of organizations (see Paragraph 10.3).

3.1.4.2. To ensure that prospective members are fully aware of the personality of, and issues at their Chapter, no member having been so for less than one calendar year shall be considered for any office of their Chapter, unless the Chapter itself has been in existence for less than one calendar year. In the event that no members fulfilling this requirement are available or willing to serve, compliance to Paragraph 3.1.4.2 is waived in favor of survival of the Chapter.

3.2. Officers of the District and/or Department: Where so organized, Districts and/or Departments will have officers as required and designated by the organizing District or Department. These officers will have oversight of the affiliated Chapter as defined by the Chapters within the District and Department, or as required by The American Legion Department officers, subject to any limitations implied by Paragraph 2 above.

4. **Elections:** Officers serve at the discretion of the Association Membership; therefore, regular elections must be held to select officers from amongst the members in good standing.

4.1. Officers of the Chapter shall be elected through an annual nominating and balloting process as determined by the general membership and defined within the Chapter bylaws.

4.1.1. Election of officers will take place annually, at the regular stated meeting in November of each year.

4.1.2. The nominating method will be by members from the floor nominating a member for an office or a member nominating themselves for an office.

4.1.2.1. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the

time of nominations shall be allowed to make a nomination.

4.1.2.2. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the time of nominations and who will fulfill requirements for officers (Paragraph 3.1.4) by the time elections are held shall be allowed to accept a nomination.

4.1.2.3. Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sgt. At Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.

4.1.3. The Chapter will use secret balloting method. The Sgt. At Arms and the Secretary will tally the vote with one observer selected from the sponsoring Post who is not a member of the ALR.

4.1.3.1. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the time of election shall be allowed to vote.

4.1.3.2. Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sgt. At Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.

## 5. **Meetings:**

5.1. Meetings will be held on the (third Tuesday) of the month at 7:30 PM at the Millard American Legion in Omaha, Nebraska.

5.1.1. Meeting date, time and location may be changed by majority vote at any regular Chapter meeting.

5.2. Five members will constitute a quorum.

5.3. Meetings will be conducted under "Roberts Rules of Order".

6. **Finances:** Finances of each Association Chapter will be from Association membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the membership.

- 6.1. Chapter finances will be held in such manner as allowed by the rules of the sponsoring Post.
- 6.2. As a Post-level activity of The American Legion, it is recognized that all funds 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.
- 6.3. As a Post-level activity of The American Legion, the Chapter enjoys the tax exempt status of the Post and must manage its finances in accordance with applicable Federal (IRS), State, and local laws applicable to nonprofit organizations.
- 6.4. Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter. As noted above, each Chapter is a nonprofit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner in accordance with all Federal (IRS), State, and local laws applicable to nonprofit organizations.
- 6.5. Dues will be in the amount (SUM) dollars and will be paid in yearly one month prior to annual elections.

7. **Expulsion:** Methods for the expulsion or suspension of members are outlined below.

- 7.1. Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Chapter by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting.
  - 7.1.1. Such expulsion does not preclude the individual from joining at another Chapter
  - 7.1.2. Pursuant to Paragraph 2.2.3, the individual is no longer a member of the ALR upon expulsion from a Chapter; unless or until said individual is a member in good standing within another Chapter.
- 7.2. Any member no longer fulfilling the requirements of Paragraph 1.1 is immediately expelled from full membership in the ALR until such time as the requirements as outlined Paragraph 1.1 are again fulfilled.

8. **Charter Membership:**

- 8.1. Members who joined the American Legion Riders in Omaha, Nebraska, Chapter 374 prior to (DATE) are considered Charter Members and are allowed to display the Charter Member patch on their riding vests.

8.2. The designation of "Founding Member" is reserved to honor those members who originally founded the ALR and will not be substituted for the designation of "Charter Member".

**9. Governing Rules: Each state Chapter may elect to adopt a setoff standing rules to govern its membership or, at the Chapter's discretion, amend these by-laws to fit their local requirements.**

9.1. These standing rules amended bylaws shall be no less stringent than those contained herein

9.2. These standing rules or amended bylaws shall contain the stated purpose for the ALR, as defined in the introductory language of these bylaws.

9.3. These standing rules or amended bylaws must not be in conflict with the National Constitution, or with the bylaws of the American Legion, Department, Sponsoring Post, or with Federal, State, and local laws.

**10. Amendment:**

10.1. Chapter Bylaws

10.1.1. The standing rules or bylaws set forth by the Chapter shall be amended by those means set forth within the applicable standing rules or bylaws.

10.1.2. Where means of amendment are not explicitly defined, amendment shall be made through motion, second, and majority vote of members in attendance at any regular Chapter meeting.

**11. Uniform:**

11.1. The American Flag

11.1.1. When worn by an ALR member, the Flag must not be subjugated by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.

11.1.2. When worn by an ALR member, the Flag must not be obscured or covered by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.

11.1.3. Established standards for the display and wearing of the Flag must be observed:

11.1.3.1. When worn on the shoulder of a garment, the field of stars must be forward, as if the Flag is carried into the wind on a pole.

11.1.3.2. When worn on the back or front of a garment, the field of stars is to be on the left.

11.1.3.3. When worn in conjunction with one (1) flag of another organization, sovereignty, territory, or nation, the Flag must be in a numerically superior position (to the left of the other flag when viewed from the front).

11.1.3.4. When worn in conjunction with several flags of other organizations, sovereignties, territories, or nations, the Flag must be worn in the center and above any other flag in the grouping.

11.1.3.5. No graphic or slogan is ever to appear across the Flag.

11.1.3.6. The Flag is never to be worn on the seat of the pants, or on any other location that could be considered disrespectful to the Flag

11.1.4. When garments bearing the Flag are to be discarded, the Flag is to be removed from the garment and retired in a manner appropriate to the Flag of The United States of America.

## 11.2. The ALR Back Patch

11.2.1. The ALR back patch, configured as put forth by the Founding Members and available through The American Legion Emblem Sales, is to be worn by all members of the ALR in good standing.

11.2.2. The back patch must be the dominant feature of the back of the garment upon which it is worn; i.e., the ALR back patch must not be subjugated to the patch of any M/C or motorcycle owners' group.

11.2.3. No other back patch or back patch design is authorized for use to represent The American Legion Riders. Only a back patch compliant with paragraph 12.2.1 is to be worn by members of any

Chapter to show their affiliation with The American Legion Riders. Variations upon the original theme, aside from the addition of Department, City, Post Number or similar designating text, are not authorized.

11.2.4. If desired by the Chapter, the following lower rocker configurations may be worn with the back patch, assuming the listed provisions are met:

11.2.4.1. The designation Veteran is only to be worn by those who satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 1.1 and can produce a DD214 indicating they have served on Federal active duty during the periods of conflict prescribed for Legion membership, were honorably discharged, and are members in good standing of The American Legion. A current, valid Legion membership card shall suffice as evidence of these requirements.

11.2.4.2. The designation Squadron is only to be worn by those who satisfy the requirement of Paragraph 1.1 and are members in good standing of the Sons of The American Legion. A current, valid SAL membership card shall suffice as evidence of these requirements.

11.2.4.3. The designation Auxiliary is only to be worn by those who satisfy the requirement of Paragraph 1.1 and are members in good standing of The American Legion Auxiliary. A current, valid Legion Auxiliary membership card shall suffice as evidence of these requirements.

11.2.4.4. The designation I Support is only to be worn by those who have been elected as Chapter Supporters. These individuals may not wear any of the aforementioned rockers regardless of their military status or Legion membership type, unless and until such time as they satisfy the requirement of Paragraph 1.1.

11.2.4.5. The designation of Founding Member is reserved solely for the founding members of the American Legion Riders present at its inception at Post 396, Garden City, MI.

11.2.4.6. The designation of Founding Chapter is reserved solely for current and past members of the American Legion Riders Chapter at Post 397, Garden City, MI.

11.2.5. It is recommended and the intent of these bylaws that those who are not Full ALR members and have not been elected as Chapter Supporters do not wear the ALR back patch.

11.2.6. Specification of the garment upon which the back patch is to be worn is left to the discretion of the individual Chapters.

### 11.3. Dress

11.3.1. Each Chapter is free to set the standards to which Chapter members are attired, unless superseded by the oversight of a formally recognized Regional Chapter's requirements, pursuant to the following:

11.3.1.1. The ALR is a program of The American Legion, and as such, members are representatives of The American Legion. It is strongly recommended that members dress in a manner that promotes a positive image for The American Legion, particularly when operating in group activities or interacting with the community.

11.3.1.2. The ALR back patch and other related articles of clothing incorporate The American Legion emblem, and must be worn in a manner consistent with The American Legion emblem requirements.

### 11.4. Control and Surrender of Items Incorporating Emblem

11.4.1. Since items incorporating the ALR emblem are available to the public through The American Legion Emblem Sales, there is no mechanism by which to restrict their use and display by non-members.

11.4.2. There is no mechanism by which the ALR can legally reclaim items incorporating the ALR emblem from those ex-members who choose to sever their relationship with the ALR.

## **Appendix 1.0 Change Log**

A1.0.1. Appendix 1.0 is intended to track modification and/or amendment to this bylaws template.

A1.0.2. All modifications to this bylaws template, including, but not limited to, amendments and corrections, shall be recorded in the attached table, to be maintained with the original set of the National American Legion Riders Information Center website.

A1.0.3 Entries shall include the date, the effected paragraph, the identity of the person or group initiating the change, and the status of the change.

A1.0.4. Change status shall be one of the following:

- APP meaning approved by majority vote at an American Legion Riders National Chapter Officers' Meeting
- DEF meaning defeated or removed by majority vote at an American Legion Riders National Chapter Officers' Meeting
- NVR meaning no vote is required; typically used for correction of typographical errors
- DIR meaning the alteration was performed under the direction of the National Advisory Board of The American Legion
- PDG meaning alteration is not in force, pending majority vote at an American Legion Riders national Chapter Officers' Meeting. PDG alterations will be updated to APP when approved or to DEF if not approved.

| Date       | Paragraph           | Change               | By    | Status    |
|------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------|-----------|
| 05/19/2021 | All                 | Dates                | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Article 5 section 2 | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Article 6 section 1 | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Article 7 section 1 | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Membership 1.1      | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Supporters 1.2      | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Meetings 5.1        | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Governing Rules 9.1 | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |
| 05/19/2021 | Amendments 10.1     | Revised see attached | Lahrs | Completed |



|            |                        |                         |       |           |
|------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------|
| 05/19/2021 | ALR Back<br>Patch 11.2 | Revised see<br>attached | Lahrs | Completed |
|------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-----------|

**Approval of By Laws:** These bylaws were adopted during the inaugural general meeting of American Legion Riders of Millard Chapter 374 in Omaha, Nebraska on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. All members had the opportunity to read the bylaws before the vote to adopt them. This version, with modifications voted on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, is hereby adopted.