By-Laws
of
The American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association
M.I.A. Post 231
133 Army Ave.
Pottsboro, Texas 75076

To encourage participation in organized rides and other community services and 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 interests. To use our Association to promote and support programs of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of The American Legion, community services and Veteran's Organizations.

The American Legion Riders is not a motorcycle club (MC). We do not practice MC rules and regulations. We are all members of the American Legion M.I.A. Post 231 family who are motorcycle enthusiasts and use that enthusiasm for the benefit of our community and veterans.

By Laws

A. Membership: These are the requirements for membership.

1. Must be a current member, in good standing, of the:
   - American Legion
   - American Legion Auxiliary, or
   - Sons of the American Legion

2. Must be the owner or spouse of the owner of a street legal, licensed and insuredmotorcycle that is at least 250cc.

3. All motorcycle operators, must possess a motorcycle endorsed Driver's License and must maintain valid motorcycle insurance (which should be presented with the membership application and can be requested by the membership officer at any time)

4. Must be voted in by a majority of the members in attendance at a regular monthly meeting.

B. **Rider Patch (Colors):** The wearing of the Riders patch is a matter of teampride and the individual Riders' choice. However, for the purpose of uniformity, when a Rider elects to wear the patches they will be worn within these guidelines. Starting with a plain leather vest, the National Riders patch will be centered on the back and bordered by a top rocker of "Lake Texoma Post 231" and a bottom rocker. The bottom rocker may be one of the following: "Established 1993", "Veteran", "Auxiliary", "Sons of the American Legion". Those individuals who are Charter Members of the Post 231 Legion Riders may wear a "Charter Member" rocker above the post rocker. Lifetime members may also wear a "Lifetime Member" rocker above the post rocker. Those individuals who joined after April 1, 2004 may wear a "Member" rocker above the post rocker. An affiliation tab of, "VET", "AUX", "S.A.L." as appropriate, may be worn in thelower right corner just below the bottom rocker. A nametag of the Riders' choice will be worn on the upper left front side of the vest below the AmericanFlag. Other patches may be worn on the member's vest as long asthey are not profane in nature.**Vulgar patches of any sort are strictly prohibited.**





1. Rider's patches remain the property of The American Legion Riders M.I.A. Post 231 and must be surrendered to the organization upon termination of membership in The American Legion Riders M.I.A. Post 231 Chapter.

C. Special Class Membership: You, or your spouse, may continue yourmembership as a Special Class Member (with full membership privileges) if you fail to meet the membership requirements of Paragraph (A-2) pursuant to the following and subject to the approval of the general membership:

1. Death of the spouse who was the owner of the motorcycle as defined in Paragraph A.
2. Disability, which prevents you from physically being able to operate a motorcycle, and ownership of the motorcycle, was relinquished, due to this disability. This would also allow the spouse to continue membership under these conditions as long as the spouse remains a member as described in Paragraph (A-1).
3. For (1) & (2) of this Paragraph, you must have been a regular member for at least one full year.
4. If you have been a member for ten consecutive years and have reached the age of 50 you are entitled to the distinction of a "Special Class Life Member". Membership may continue without regards to Paragraph (A-2) for the rest of your life and payment of Local Chapter Dues will be waived. You **must** continue with the requirements of Paragraph (A-1).
5. Life Members are entitled to wear a Life Member Patch instead of the Established 1993 Patch or in conjunction with.

D. Charter Membership: The American Legion Riders M.I.A. Post 231 Charter Members are those members who joined before April 1, 2004.

E. Membership Dues and Renewal: The minimum annual dues per membershall be set at a rate determined each year by the Executive Committee of The American Legion Riders, M.I.A. Post 231. Renewal for the Rider Program will run concurrent with the annual Legion Dues with expiration dates of December 31st, regardless of the initial date of application. All members must maintain membership with the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion in order to be eligible for the Rider Program.

Directors who have served one full term are automatically "Lifetime" members and payment of local Chapter dues will be waived.

Officers'dueswill be waived the year after they serve a full term.

F. Organization: The American Legion Riders M.I.A. Post 231 shall have no subsidiary organizations. Special committees may be appointed as deemed necessary by the membership to handle special events.

G. Officers of the American Legion Riders M.I.A. Post 231 are as follows:

Director	Sergeant at Arms
Assistant Director	Asst. Sergeant at Arms
Secretary	Chaplain
Treasurer	Communications Officer
Run Coordinator	Historian
Membership Officer	Judge Advocate

H. The American Legion Riders Post 231 may add officers as deemed necessary.

I. Officers may not hold more than 1 position.

J. Elections: Chapter officers will be nominated at the regular monthly membership meeting to be held in June. Elections of Chapter officers will be held at the regular monthly membership meeting in July. Officers will be installed and take their positions immediately at the conclusion of the July meeting. New members voted in at an election meeting are NOT eligible to vote in that day's elections or be nominated for an open officers' position. Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the general membership.

K. Duties of Chapter Officers:

1. **Director:** Will serve as Chief Administrative Officer of the Chapterand will preside over all meetings. The Director shall have general supervision over the affairs of the chapter and shall perform such other duties as directed by the general membership. The Director does not make motions or get a vote in motions by the membership or officer elections. However, if there should be a tied vote, the Director will be the deciding factor.
2. **Assistant Director:** Will assume the duties of the Director should theDirector not be available. Will assist the Director in the performance of all duties as called on to do so by the Director.
3. **Secretary:** To keep a full and accurate record of all proceedings ofmeetings. To transmit minutes to the Post Commander as directed by the Post Executive Board. To provide notice to membership as provided herein.
4. **Treasurer:** To have charge of all finances of the Chapter. To havecharge of distributing funds as directed by the general membership. To give detailed financial reports at each meeting.

5. **Run Coordinator**: Will be the logistics person in charge of organizedruns of the Chapter. The RC will determine dates, times, routes, and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity. The RC, at any time, may appoint assistant road captains or take any other measures necessary to help ensure the safety of the group during a run.

6. **Historian:** To keep all historical records of the Chapter. Will be charged with posting historical records to the chapter facebook page and ensuring all posts comply with social media guidelines herein.

7. **Membership**: Review and/or collect eligibility documentation as defined by these bylaws. Collect membership dues as determined by the Chapter and keep membership records as may be required by thegeneral membership. Give detailed financial and membership reports at each regular meeting.The financial report should include dues collected and detail of merchandise purchased and sold.

8. **Sgt at Arms:** Will help set up meetings and maintain order duringmeetings and gatherings. Shall assist the Run Coordinator in enforcing all rules of safe riding during rides and runs.Assist Director in most activities.

9. **Asst. Sgt at Arms:** Will assist the Sgt at Arms setting up meetings andmaintaining order during meetings.Assist Director when requested and shall perform the duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms when the Sergeant-at-Arms is not present.

10. **Chaplain:** To give spiritual guidance and counseling to membership,and open and close all meetings when available.

11. **Communications Officer**: Will be responsible for making all activities of The Chapter known to the membership and the community. Will be responsible for ensuring notices of events are published. The medium may vary, newsletter, hard copy, Internet, email, etc.

12. **Judge Advocate**: Shall ensure that parliamentary procedures are followed at all meetings and ensure the Constitution and By-Laws are kept up to date. Will be responsible to ensure that the membership is kept informed of all legislative issues that may affect the organization. Will be the liaison between the Chapter and Abate.

L. Open positions: Any position that becomes vacant due to any cause other than the expiration of the term will be announced at the next regular membership meeting. Nomination and election of said position will be held at the regular membership meeting **following** the announcement. A **majority** vote of the general membership present. Any person so affirmed shall hold office for the unexpired term of the position.

M. Meetings:

1. Regular membership meetings will be held monthly on the Sunday following the American Legion M.I.A. Post 231 meetings, which are held the second Saturday of every month. Twelve members will constitute a quorum, consisting of at least six officers.

2. Special Meeting may be called by the Director, a majority vote of officers, or upon written request by five current members in good standing.

N. Finances: Finances of The American Legion Riders Post 231 will be fromChapter membership dues or such other sources as approved by the membership.

O. Disbursement of Funds: Disbursement of funds will be only thoseAuthorized at any General Membership Meeting of the Post Chapter. The Chapter of Post 231 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-profitorganizations, by majority vote.

There shall be two check signers at all times but only one signature is required.

P. Safety: The safety of each Rider is of the utmost concern. Therefore,"Guidelines for Riding in Mass Formation" have been established and **should be furnished to each member(still looking for these guidelines).**

Q. Order: All meetings will be conducted under and pursuant to "Roberts Rules of Order" (newly revised), except as herein otherwise provided.

R. Disciplinary Action:

All members are expected to follow guidelines herein regarding code of conduct and social media. Any who do not will be subject to disciplinary action as follows:

1. Any conduct unbecoming the American Legion Riders or in conflict with anything stated herein shall be subject to disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by a two-thirds vote of current Chapter Officers.

a.First course of action will be 90 days probation. Member will be warned that any similar offense within the 90-day period will be grounds for suspension. Member will still be allowed to attend meetings and ALR events.

b. Second course of action will be 90 days suspension. Member will not be allowed to attendALR activities or events. They will still be allowed to attend meetings.
c. Third course of action may be expulsion. Member shall be notified of decision and given the opportunity to respond.

2. ALL disciplinary action upon agreement by two-thirds current Chapter Officers MUST be carried to the general membership and will be carried out by a two-thirds vote of the general membership at a regular membership meeting.
3. Appeals of an expulsion must be carried to the Post Executive Board.

All disciplinary actions should follow the Uniform Code of Procedure. All members are entitled to "due process".

S. Code of Conduct: The American Legion Riders' members are expected to comply with the organization's governing documents and adhere to the highest ethical standards to earn and protect the public's trust in our performance to carry out our mission, uphold rigorous standards of conduct and be good stewards of our resources. All members are expected to abide by all laws and demonstrate their ongoing commitment to the core values of integrity, honesty, fairness, openness, responsibility and respect. Our reputation is our most valuable asset. We are committed to a supportive environment, where all members have the opportunity to reach their fullest potential. We are committed to doing our best to create a culture that is free of harassment, intimidation, bias and discrimination.

Members should be aware of the effect their actions may have on their image, as well as, the image of the American Legion Riders. The information that is posted or published on social media may be public information for a long time. Members should use their best judgement as representatives of the American Legion Riders in posting material that is inappropriate or harmful to the organization or its members. Any online activity that violates this code of conduct may be subject to disciplinary action.

Any member may report a violation of ethical conduct or actions contrary to the governing doctrine without fear of retaliation.

T. Transfers: It is the policy of The American Legion Riders MIA Post 231 not to accept transfers from existing Chapters of other Posts.

U. Governing Rules: The Chapter will abide by all rules and regulations of the National, State and Post American Legion Constitution and By-Laws. These By-Laws shall be no less stringent than thosecontained in the National, State or Post By-Laws, nor can they be in any conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws handed down by the National American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion.

V. Amendments: These By-Laws are adopted, subject to the provisions of theNational and the State By-Laws of The American Legion Riders and to the provisions of the By-Laws of The American Legion of which this Chapter is member. Any amendment to the National, State or Post American Legion By-Laws, which is in conflict with any provision hereof, shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these By-Laws to the extent of such conflict. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular membership meeting by a vote of two-third (2/3) of the members attending said meeting provided that the proposed amendment has been read at the previous regular membership meeting and that notice shall be given to all members of the date proposed amendment is to be voted on. Any amendment so adopted shall become effective immediately following the close of the meeting at which it is adopted.

W. The American Legion Riders Post 231 By-Laws referenced in this document were voted on and adopted at the General Membership meeting on March 13, 2004.

X. Amended and approved at the General Membership meeting of October 13, 2013.

Y. Amended and approved at the General Membership meeting of February 10, 2019.

Date first presented to membership: January 13, 2019

Date voted and approved by membership: February 10, 2019

Shellie White _____ Date: _____
Judge Advocate, American Legion Riders Post 231, Pottsboro, TX

John Watson _____ Date: _____
Director, American Legion Riders Post 231, Pottsboro, TX

By the Commander's signature, he or she affirms the concurrence of the American Legion Post 231 general membership who have reviewed and approved this document.

Gary Winters _____ Date: _____
Commander, American Legion M.I.A. Post 231, Pottsboro, TX