

American Legion Riders of Post 979



American Legion Riders Motorcycle Association

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**
- **The American Legion Riders is family oriented, just as its' parent organization, the American Legion**

By Laws

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

A. Full Members: Prospective full members **must** meet the following requirements for Membership.

1. A current member in good standing in the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or Sons of the American Legion.
2. Members will not at any time hold membership in more than one chapter of the American Legion Riders.
3. 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: Post 979 ALR allows 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 on office. Chapter Supporter is intended as a means to provide recognition to those who show strong support to Post 979 Chapter.
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".

C. Continuous Years of Membership: Post 979 Chapter shall maintain membership records sufficient to establish the continuous length of time any member has been affiliated with the 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 within thirty (30) days of a written request.

D. Charter Membership: The designation of "Charter Member" is reserved to honor those members who originally founded the Post 979 ALR. This honor is

designated to those who fulfilled their obligations on or prior to February 10, 2011, only those personnel are eligible for Charter Member status.

E. Annual Membership: Membership in the Post 979 Chapter runs from January 1 to December 31 of each and every year.

2. Organization: The American Legion Riders is organized at the post. The chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring post, Post 979. The chapter officers and executive committee are responsible and accountable to the sponsoring Post executive committee.

3. Officers of the Association Chapter: Post 979 ALR Chapter must have elected officers. Officers of the Chapter are Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant-at-Arms. Other officers that are at the discretion of the Director are Historian, Membership Chairman and Chaplain.

A. Duties of Association Chapter Officers

1. Director: Will serve as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Chapter and will preside over all meetings. He/she shall have general supervision over the affairs of the association. He/she shall perform such other duties as directed by the general membership.

2. Assistant Director: Will assume the duties of Director in his/her absence, will assist the Director in the performance of his duties when called on to do so by the Director.

3. Secretary: To keep a full and correct record of all proceedings at the meetings, keep such records as the Chapter may require, render reports of membership annually or when called upon at a meeting, and under direction of the Director handle all correspondence of the Chapter.

4. Treasurer: To have charge of all finances of the Chapter, 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).

5. Sergeant-at-Arms: Will be the logistical person in charge of organized runs of the Chapter. He/she will determine dates, times, routes and meeting places for those taking part in a run activity. He/she may appoint assistant road captains or take any other measures necessary to help insure the safety of the group during a run. Will also help to maintain order during Chapter meetings.

6. Historian: Compiles and maintains records to document activities of the Chapter, must be available to help secretary with record keeping.

7. Membership Chairman: Maintenance of membership records.

8. Chaplain: Provides invocation at regular meetings or other events.

B. 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. Election of Officers will be held annually and shall be elected through a nominating and balloting process. Nominations for officers will begin at the April meeting and continue until the May meeting. Nominations not made during the April meeting will be given to the Secretary via email, postal mail, phone call or in person. At the May meeting, the Director will read off the names of all nominations running for offices and then ask if there are any other nominations from the floor for the offices. The Director must ask three (3) times if there are any other nominations, then nominations can be closed. Elections will then be held with nominations being listed alphabetically and any new floor nominations being listed last on the ballot. Newly elected officers will be sworn into office during the June meeting but will not assume the position until the State Convention when the new Department Commander is sworn in. Newly elected officers will preside over the July meeting.

1. Eligibility

- a. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nominations shall be allowed to make a nomination.
- b. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nominations and who will fulfill the requirements of an officer by the time elections are held shall be allowed to accept a nomination.
- c. Three (3) members of the Chapter must approve a nomination in order for a nomination to be a valid entry for election.
- d. Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sergeant-at-Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.

2. Balloting

- a. The use of secret balloting will be used for all elections of officers.
- b. Only those members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of election shall be allowed to vote.
- c. Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sergeant-at-Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.

3. Meetings:

A. Meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. Meetings will be held at Post 979. Meeting date, time and location may be changed by majority vote at any regular Chapter meeting.

B. Quorum: Nine (9) members, two of which shall be an elected officer, will constitute a quorum.

C. Rules of Order: Meetings will be conducted under “Roberts Rules of Order”.

5. Finances:

A. Finances of the Association Chapter will be from Association membership dues or such other resources as approved by the membership.

B. Chapter finances will be held in such manner as allowed by the rules of Post 979. A financial report must be reported to Post 979 upon request.

C. 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 to Limestone 979 Financial/Treasurer and/or surrendered upon demand of the Post 979 Executive Board.

D. Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter. Chapter 979 is a not for profit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner that is in keeping with all local, state and national laws regarding not for profit organizations.

E. All monies raised for the Legacy Foundation shall be delivered to the Department of Illinois Adjutant before the start of the American Legion National Convention.

F. Membership dues will be \$10 per year and are due by December 31 of each year for the following calendar year. New members will pay the \$10 membership fee when they join. Dues collected for new members that join the chapter in November or December will count toward the next calendar year.

6. Expulsion: Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Association by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting. Any member no longer fulfilling the membership requirements is immediately expelled until such time as the requirements are again fulfilled.

7. Governing Rules

A. Post 979 Chapter has adopted these by-laws to govern its membership. These standing by-laws are no less stringent than those contained in the State of Illinois American Legion Rider by-laws nor are they in any conflict with the National Constitution and By-Laws of the American Legion, Post 979 or the National Legion Riders Committee.

B. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members of said Chapter attending such regular meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing and read at the preceding regular meeting. Any changes will be reported to the sponsoring department or post.

8. Notices

A. Every member shall furnish the Chapter Secretary with a valid email or postal mailing address.

B. The Chapter Secretary shall cause notice of the annual election to be given at least two weeks prior thereto.

9. Limitations of Liabilities: This Chapter shall incur, or cause to be incurred, no liability nor obligation which shall subject to liability any other Chapter, subdivision, members of the American Legion, or other individuals, corporations or organizations.

Appendix 1.0 Change Log

Date	Paragraph	Change	By	Status