

**Constitution  
And  
Bylaws**

**Baltimore Ramblers Motorcycle Club, Inc.**

**4/1/2000**

**11/5/2003**

**4/8/2009**

**11/11/2009**

# Constitution

## ARTICLE 1

This club shall be known as the Baltimore Ramblers Motorcycle Club Incorporated; hereinafter referred to as the Club, and shall be chartered by the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA).

## ARTICLE 2

The goals of the Club are as follows:

- To promote the image and sportsmanship of motorcycling.
- To encourage new riders of motorcycles and their interest therein.
- To promote all forms of motorcycle safety and responsibility.
- To promote participation in varied forms of supervised motorcycle events.
- To better the image of motorcycling through charitable deeds.
- To promote Club participation in civic activities, where the attendance of the Club is requested or desired.

## ARTICLE 3

### Definition of Levels of Membership

A Members, hereinafter referred to as Regular Member(s), shall be an individual who has completed the application requirements, is 18 years of age or older, and is an active motorcycle rider or enthusiasts.

Honorary Members hereinafter referred to as Honorary Member(s) shall be any individuals deemed to be worthy of such membership by 4/5-majority vote of the Regular Members present at an official, regularly scheduled, meeting.

Life Membership, hereinafter referred to as Regular Member(s), are members who have accumulated twenty (20) consecutive years of membership or who have accumulated at least 10 consecutive years of membership and have paid their membership dues through their twentieth year.

## ARTICLE 4

### Membership Rights

- Regular members shall be entitled to vote in Club affairs after one year of active membership. Regular members with one year of active membership shall be entitled to full access to the clubhouse.
- Only the executive board can grant access privileges to honorary members.
- All Regular and Honorary Members may participate in both open and closed Club events.

## ARTICLE 5

The Club officers shall be president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, corresponding secretary, and referee all of whom shall be elected from the Regular Membership that are AMA members and have more than one year of service to the Club. The term of office shall be one year. No member shall serve as President for more than two consecutive years.

## ARTICLE 6

### Duties of Club officers

#### President

- Shall preside at all meetings of the Club.
- Will have general supervision of the affairs of the Club.
- Will appoint any person or committees not otherwise ordered by the Club.
- Will personally represent the Club on proper occasions and business contracts.
- Will assist all other Club officers in their correspondence, and other duties.
- Will promote Club life and activities.
- Will vote only when vote is necessary to break a tie.
- Can limit discussions at Club meetings to 10 minutes.

### **Vice President**

- Shall perform the duties of the president in his absence.
- Shall assist all other Club officers when necessary.

### **Secretary**

- Shall keep a record of the meetings of the Club in the minute book provided for that purpose.
- Shall maintain a bound record of all changes to the constitution and bylaws of the Club.
- Shall perform such other duties as generally fall to that office.

### **Treasurer**

- Shall collect dues from all members required to pay such dues.
- Shall collect all other monies due the Club.
- Shall make all payments from Club funds when so ordered by the Club.
- Shall keep an account of all Club money matters.
- Shall make a statement to the Club when called upon by the presiding officer to do so.

### **Corresponding Secretary**

- Shall handle all correspondence of the Club not specifically handled by the secretary.
- Shall send out notices of special meetings or other items of special interest to the Club.

### **Referee**

Shall have general supervision over all sanctioned competition events promoted by the Club. (Duties of the referee are completely outlined in the A.M.A. Rule Book.)

## **ARTICLE 7**

Additional positions for Club activities shall be as follows: road captain, assistant road captains, assistant referees, legislative officer, and sergeant-at-arms all of whom shall be elected from the Regular Membership that are AMA members and have more than one year of service. The term of office shall be one year.

These posts shall be filled by Regular Members and are not to be considered Club officers. Duties of the above shall be as follows:

### **Road Captain**

- Shall lead Club riders, affirm the route, and set the method of riding on the road.
- Shall instruct all Club riders as to where they shall ride.
- Shall be responsible for reporting riders in attendance on all Club rides to the Club.
- Shall be responsible for researching, organizing, and posting Club rides.

### **Assistant Road Captains**

- Shall assist the road captain.
- In the absence of the road captain, shall assume the duties of the road captain.

### **Assistant Referee**

- Shall assist the referee in all his duties.
- Shall assume the duties of the referee in his absence.

### **Legislative Officer**

Shall perform duties as outlined in the A.M.A. Rule Book.

### **Sergeant at Arms**

Shall be responsible for maintaining quite and order during meetings and Club events.

#### **Committees**

Shall be responsible for deciding on all actions within the scope of the committee and limits set by the Club or executive board.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

The executive board is composed of the Club officers, and five (5) Regular Members that are AMA members and have more than 1 years of service and has served on a position in the club. Elected board members shall serve for five (5) years with the senior member being replaced by a newly elected member each year.

Should a board member be elected a Club officer, a newly elected board member will temporarily fill the officer's board position. Upon completion of the term of office, the ex-officer can resume his/her duties as board member for the remainder of his/her term.

#### **ARTICLE 9**

Duties of the executive board shall be as follows:

- Shall act for the Club in all matters ordered by the Club.
- Shall be responsible for evaluating new members during their first year of membership and discharging any member they believe does not fit in with then Club.
- Shall investigate, decide, and assess penalties for violation of the constitution and by-laws.
- Shall be responsible for, acquisition, improvements, and maintenance of real property.
- Shall be responsible for approving all expenditures over \$500.00 except for taxes, insurance, and routine club operating expenses.
- Shall meet at the request of the president and be presided over by the ranking Club officer.
- Shall review the dues and other fee amounts each November and decide on the new amounts.
- Shall review and grant exceptions as outlined in the constitution and bylaws.
- Shall review and determine if it is necessary to assess the Regular Membership for club costs that exceed club income.

The presence of seven (7) executive board members shall comprise a quorum for making decisions. All decisions shall be by majority vote. The executive board will meet once a quarter.

#### **ARTICLE 10**

This constitution may be amended by the proposed amendment being sponsored by three (3) or more Regular Members, and submitted in writing at regular meeting. It shall then be read to the members present and posted on the bulletin board for a period of one (1) calendar month, and voted on at the next regular meeting after the required posting period. Written notice of the proposed amendments will be mailed or e-mailed to all members fifteen (15) days prior to the vote being called. An affirmative vote by 4/5 of the members present shall be required to pass the amendment.

#### **ARTICLE 11**

The bylaws maybe amended by the proposed amendment being submitted in writing by a Regular Member at a regular meeting. The proposed amendment shall then be read to the members present and posted on the bulletin board for two (2) weeks; after which time it shall be presented to the attending membership for discussion and vote. An affirmative vote by 4/5 of the members present shall be required to adopt the amendment.

#### **ARTICLE 12**

Decisions by committees, officers, or the executive board can be overridden by a majority vote of the Regular Members present.

#### **ARTICLE 13**

Member, decisions made by vote cannot be rescinded for a period of one year unless 2/3rd of the Regular Members present vote to bring the decision back to the floor.

#### **ARTICLE 14**

Requirements for holding a position as a club officer, executive board member, and other position requirements can be waved by 4/5 vote of the Regular Members present.

# Bylaws

1. Roberts Rules of order shall govern the parliamentary proceedings of this Club unless otherwise provided in these bylaws. The order of business shall be:
  1. Call to order
  2. Roll call
  3. Recognition of quests
  4. Reading of minutes
  5. Treasurer's report (at the request of the president)
  6. Correspondence
  7. Committee reports
  8. Old Business
  9. New business
  10. Remarks for the good of the Club
  11. Adjournment

2. The dues, as set by the Club, shall be due annually January 1. The president, secretary; treasurer, life, and honorary members will be exempt from paying dues. Any applicant voted in during the year would have his dues prorated for the balance of that year.
3. Any member, whose dues are in arrears after March 31, will lose their voting rights while the dues remain unpaid. Dues paid after March 31 may be subject to a 10% late fee. The Executive Board may waive dues and fees. For example, it would be typical for the Board to waive dues for a person who is in active military service and is stationed such that they cannot attend Club events.

Any member who has not paid the dues by the end of the current year will be dropped from the Club rolls.  
Any member, unless dismissed from the Club per bylaw 14, must reapply.

Any member who was member in good standing but has not paid dues for one or more years may be reinstated by paying the initiation fee and dues. Dues resume for the year of reinstatement, which will be considered the first year of membership.

4. An application for membership must be submitted in person at a regular club meeting. Each applicant for membership must be recommended for membership by at least one Regular Member before acceptance of his/her application. The recommending member will be a mentor to the new member for one year.
5. Upon payment of an application fee and first year dues, the Club will add the applicant to the Regular Membership rolls. The application fee and dues are not refundable. A member with less than one year membership is not entitled to a clubhouse key. The Club encourages all applicants to participate in all Club events and all discussion brought before the Club. It is recommended that a new member attend at least 3 meetings and three Club rides during their first year since their membership will be evaluated by the executive board during their first year.
6. Each Club member is encouraged to be a member of the American Motorcyclist Association. Membership to the AMA is mandatory for members holding a position in the club or for nomination to hold a position in the club.
7. Each applicant shall present an appearance that would in no way harm the image of the Club or motorcyclists in general and his conduct shall be corresponding.
8. Dismissal, Fines, and Suspension.
  1. Any member is subject to a charge or charges by any other member or members. A report, in writing, describing a violation of the constitution or bylaws submitted to the president and signed by a member or members shall constitute a charge.
  2. After a charge has been submitted and verified by three (3) Club members or three (3) charges have been separately submitted, action will be taken by the executive board will decide on the action to be taken.
  3. The action of the executive board shall be to conduct a complete investigation of the facts surrounding the charges, prepare a decision with an appropriate remedy if necessary and to present their findings and decision to the Club.
  4. The member charged shall be advised of the charge or charges and be given every opportunity to prepare and submit his defense to the board.
  5. Before the findings of the board are submitted to the membership, the board shall ask the accused member if he wishes to face the member(s) who placed the charges before the board. If one member who placed the charges refuses to face the accused, his charge will be dropped. All charges not acted upon within ninety (90) days from the original date of the charge shall be dropped.
  6. The name or names of the accusers shall not be made known to the accused until he faces the accusers before the executive board.
  7. Remedies shall include dismissal, fine, or suspension.

8. A dismissed member shall not be allowed to reapply for membership for a period of five years following the dismissal.
9. If a fine must be paid, the member shall be in suspension until the fines is paid
10. Suspension means refraining from all association with Club functions for a set period. This does not relieve the member from paying regular dues regardless of the length of the suspension.
9. Election of Club officers shall be on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Wednesday in December. The only members eligible to vote are those members who have attended at least 6 meeting during the year. Members must be present to vote. The newly elected officers will assume their office at the first meeting in January.
10. The president shall appoint a nominating committee on or before the last meeting in October.
11. Nominations shall be opened from the floor at the meeting immediately preceding the election meeting. Nominations shall be closed just prior to the election.
12. The meetings of the Club shall be held on a Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. the frequency to be determined by the Regular Members, but the president or executive board may call a special meeting at anytime. Members must be notified of special meetings.
- 13.. Five (5) Regular Members and one Officer shall constitute a quorum for a meeting, and ten Regular Members and one Officer shall constitute a quorum for authorizing expenditures under \$500.00.
14. **Club Rides**
  1. Club Rides shall be all rides, approved by three (3) or more members at a regular Club meeting, and attended by three (3) or more members.
  2. Guidelines for Club rides shall be as follows:
    - a. Staggered riding formation is recommended unless otherwise signaled by the Road Captain or lead rider.
    - b. Riders that wish to ride quickly should take a position at the beginning of the group.
    - c. Riders that wish to ride slower should take a position at the end of the group.
    - d. Riders should not rubber band out so as to delay riders that are following. If a rider believes he/she needs more space, the rider should drop to the back.
    - e. Riders should find and remain in a position in which they are comfortable and does not hinder other riders.
    - f. Any rider changing position should do so only when it is safe and only after notifying the riders around him/her.
    - g. All riders should stay behind the road captain.
    - h. Motorcycles should be street legal and in good mechanical condition and have a full tank of gas at the start of a ride.
    - i. The road captain should be notified if a member leaves the formation.
    - j. If the formation is separated, the last rider in the formation shall remain at the intersection where the lead formation turns and act as a guide for the trailing formation.
    - k. No person shall ride while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances as defined by Federal or State law.
15. Since performing charitable deeds is one of our clubs' main goals, each year the club will help out a local non-profit organization, which provides services to the local community. During December of each year the club will designate the local non-profit organization for the upcoming year.