

AMVETS RIDERS' NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

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AMVETS RIDERS NATIONAL BY-LAWS

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Revised and adopted at the 2009 AMVETS RIDERS Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. This document replaces/supersedes any and all previous AMVETS NATIONAL RIDERS Constitution or By - Laws to include any and all additions to Aug 14, 2009.

AMVETS RIDERS NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this Organization shall be THE AMVETS RIDERS.

ARTICLE II: MISSION STATEMENT

We the AMVETS RIDERS are a dedicated and patriotic group of motorcycle riders who hold true to an unwavering respect for our Nation, our Flag, and our Military... past, present and future. We are committed to the freedom of this Nation, to provide community service and fellowship, and to preserve and support the aims and goals of the AMVETS National Organization.

ARTICLE III: AIMS

This Organization is formed for furthering the Aims and Purposes of AMVETS.

3.1 Be positive and assertive in forming Chapters and Department Riders.

3.2 Be active in support of all our Veterans and Communities through fund raising and volunteer work.

ARTICLE IV: NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

4.1 The National AMVETS Riders Organization will consist of a National set of Officers elected by the Riders Department Delegates, and those officers appointed by the National President.

4.2 The National will consist of Departments identical in geographical limits to its respective AMVETS Departments and be identified by the same name. The Riders National Organization will report directly to the National AMVETS Organization. The National AMVETS Riders will be subject to the National Constitution and By-Laws.

4.3 The National AMVETS Riders is a Non-Profit organization under IRS, code 501(c) (19). The Departments and Chapters shall donate their time and energy to promote our Aims and promotion of the AMVETS Riders.

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ARTICLE V: DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

5.1 The Riders Departments will be organized into:

A.) A sole Chapter directed by the Riders Department for all Riders of that Department.

B.) Individual Chapters formed by members of a Post, but not limited to members of the Post; under the jurisdiction of the Department where the post resides.

5.2 Each AMVETS Riders Department shall be under the jurisdiction of the National AMVETS Riders. Each AMVETS Riders Department shall be in the same geographical location to its respective AMVETS Department, and identified as such.

5.3 Department will submit their Constitution and By-laws to the National AMVETS Riders for approval, Chapter Constitution and By-laws will be approved by their Department and then forwarded to the National AMVETS Riders.

5.4 The Department AMVETS Riders Organization will consist of a Department set of Officers elected by the Riders Chapter(s) Delegates of that respective Department, and those officers appointed by the Department President.

5.5 No Department shall represent themselves as AMVETS Riders until they have complied with the Constitution and By-laws of the National AMVETS Riders, and officially approved for an AMVETS Riders Charter.

5.6 Departments and sole Chapters shall within thirty (30) days of notice surrender their Charters resulting from disciplinary or voluntary action, close all Bank accounts and deliver to the National AMVETS Riders all Records, property, and assets. In accordance with Local and State Laws.

ARTICLE VI: CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

6.1 Each AMVETS Riders Chapter shall be under the jurisdiction of their Department AMVETS Riders. Each AMVETS Riders Chapter shall be in the same geographical location to its respective AMVETS Post, and identified by the same Post number.

6.2 Where no AMVETS Department or AMVETS Post exist no AMVETS Riders Chapter will be Organized.

6.3 Chapters will submit copies of their Constitution and By-laws to their Department for approval.

6.4 The Chapter AMVETS Riders Organization will consist of a Chapter set of Officers elected by the Chapter members of that Chapter, and those Officers appointed by the Chapter President.

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6.5 The Chapter shall within thirty (30) days of notice shall surrender their Charters resulting from disciplinary or voluntary action, close all Bank accounts and deliver to the Department AMVETS Riders all Records, property, and assets, in accordance with local and state laws.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP

7.1 Membership in the National AMVETS Riders shall be limited to members in good standing of AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, and Sons of AMVETS.

7.2 Members must be the legally registered owner of a motorcycle or be the spouse of the legally registered owner within the state of registration.

7.3 Members must provide proof before their membership application can be approved, that they are legally permitted to operate a motorcycle in their respective state, a valid state motorcycle registration, and proof that they are insured according to the state laws of their respective State. This information shall be shown to the Chapter President and one other Chapter Officer.

7.4 At no time will National, any Department or Chapter record or copy any items listed in Article 7-3. The Security personal data shall be maintained.

7.5 There will be no HONORARY memberships in National, Departments or Chapters of the AMVETS Riders.

ARTICLE VIII: NATIONAL OFFICERS

8.1 National will have the following Officers: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplin, Judge Advocate Sgt. At Arms, Liaisons Officer, and Communication Officer.

8.2 Nominations and Election of Officers shall be held annually as indicated in the National By-laws for Riders.

8.3 Only members of the AMVETS Riders may hold a National office.

8.4 The National President may appoint Chairmen and Committee's as required to conduct National AMVETS Riders Business.

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ARTICLE IX: DEPARTMENT AND CHAPTER OFFICERS

9.1 Department and Chapters will have a minimum of following elected Officers: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Sgt. At Arms.

9.2 Department and Chapters will have a minimum of the following appointed or elected officers: Secretary, Chaplain, and Parliamentarian.

9.3 President of Department and Chapters may appoint additional Officers to fill specific needs of the Department or Chapter.

ARTICLE X: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10.1 The elected Officers of National AMVETS Riders and the immediate Past-President shall constitute the National AMVETS Riders Executive Committee.

A.) This Committee will be in charge of Administrative affairs and property of the National AMVETS Riders.

B.) This Committee will formulate the Policies of AMVETS Riders and present them for membership approval.

C.) Only National Elected Officers shall vote on this Committee. All members may attend an Executive meeting, but without a Vote.

ARTICLE XI: NATIONAL MEETINGS

11.1 Meetings will be scheduled by the National AMVETS Riders Executive Committee.

11.2 The Riders National Delegates will be the Presidents of each Department or his elected Representative.

11.3 Meetings will be scheduled and conducted according to the National By-laws and in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE XII: DEPARTMENT AND CHAPTER MEETINGS

12.1 Meetings will be scheduled by the department and chapters.

12.2 Meetings will be conducted according to the National, Department and Chapter By-laws and in accordance of Roberts Rules of Order.

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ARTICLE: XIII RIDERS' SUPPORTERS

13.1 The AMVETS Riders will recognize a Subsidiary Group of Individuals hereafter to be known as AMVETS Riders' Supporters. These Subsidiary Groups MAY only form where there is an existing Chartered Chapter of AMVETS Riders.

13.2 Supporters must be a Member of AMVETS, Ladies Auxiliary, or Sons of AMVETS.

13.3 Supporters uniforms and insignia shall be consistent with Article XIII of the AMVETS Riders National By-Laws with the ADDITION of Supporter Patches Worn beneath the 2" or 3" AMVETS, Auxiliary, or Sons patch on the top right side of the official Vest, and the Riders Patch on the Back of the Vest.

13.4 Supporters SHALL NOT be grandfathered under the Uniform Section of the Riders By-Laws, and their Uniforms SHALL comply to the Riders National Constitution and By-Laws by January 1, 2009.

ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENTS

14.1 This Constitution may be amended at any AMVETS Riders National Convention by a majority vote of the delegates present at any AMVETS Riders National Convention. Proposed amendment for action of the National Convention must be submitted by a Department convention, a Department Executive Committee, the National Executive Committee, or a Standing National Committee to the National President and by the National President and/or the proposing body to the several Departments and members of the National Riders Executive Committee, by mail, postmarked at least 30 days prior to the opening date of the next National Convention.

14.2 This constitution may be amended, by any Riders National Convention without notice, by a two-thirds vote. No amendment, will be adopted unless the amendment is referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, considered by it and reported on at the Riders National convection.

14.3 Amendments to these Bylaws shall take effect immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise specified by the adopted resolution.

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This revised Constitution has received a favorable 2/3 vote of National Delegates at the National AMVETS RIDERS meeting, Aug 14 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dutch Stivason

President

National AMVETS Riders

Gerald (Gary) Carver

Judge Advocate

National AMVETS Riders

Kim Judge

Secretary

National AMVETS Riders

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AMVETS RIDERS NATIONAL BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME AND PURPOSES

- 1.1 NAME – The name of the organization is The AMVETS Riders.
- 1.2 PURPOSE - We the AMVETS RIDERS are a dedicated and patriotic group of motorcycle riders who hold true to an unwavering respect for our Nation, our Flag, and our Military... past, present and future. We are committed to the freedom of this Nation, to provide community service and fellowship, and to preserve and support the aims and goals of the AMVETS National Organization.

ARTICLE II – INCORPORATION AND INSURANCE

- 2.1 The National Organization shall be incorporated as: AMVETS Riders Incorporated.
- 2.2 All Riders Chapters shall comply with the requirements of Article VII of the National Construction and By Laws for insurance.
- 2.3 The Riders National Headquarters will be located where the National President directs, upon the approval of the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III – DEPARTMENT AND CHAPTER FORMATION

- 3.1 Departments and Chapters will be formed in accordance with the National AMVETS Riders Constitution and these By-Laws. Chapters that have a clubroom must be incorporated. Chapters shall not hold the National Organization liable for Failure of the chapter to comply with Federal and State laws or any other liabilities.
- 3.2 In addition, each proposed Riders Chapter making application for admission to The National AMVETS Riders must first receive in writing permission of the local sponsoring AMVETS Post Commander. Second, approval must be received in writing from the President of the AMVETS Riders of that Department (if one exists). Third, approval in writing from the AMVETS Department Commander of that Department. Lastly, all paperwork with written approvals will be submitted by the Department to the AMVETS National Headquarters for approval.

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3.3 The required Items to form a Chapter are: (1.) Riders Charter Application, (2.) Riders Officer Revalidation Form, (3.) Federal EIN (cannot use Posts EIN number), (4.) **Liability Insurance, (as Required)**, (5.) At least 5 members, three of which must be riding Members.

3.4 Chapters must revalidate each year no later than the 15 th of July each year, and with no less than 10 members, to maintain their Charter.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERS

4.1 There shall be one class of members: Riders.

4.2 **QUALIFICATIONS** of membership must be a member in good standing of AMVETS, AMVETS Ladies Aux., or Sons of AMVETS.

A.) Members must provide proof before their membership application can be approved, that they are legally permitted to operate a motorcycle in their respective state, a valid state motorcycle registration, and proof that they are insured according to the state laws of their respective State. This information shall be shown to the Chapter President and one other Chapter Officer.

4.3 Only Rider members of the organization shall hold an elected office at National level.

4.4 Riders National Dues is based on a per Rider basis be paid to the Riders National, shall be reviewed yearly at the Riders National Convection. Amount of dues will be set by a majority vote at the Riders National Convention beginning 13 August 2009. All monies shall be deposited in the Riders National general fund account.

4.5 That all dues are due no later than Feb 1 each year with a full Riders chapter Membership roster and Dues as outlined in Art 4.5. If chapters are unpaid for more than 45 Days the chapter charter will be automatically suspended. Suspended Charters may be reinstated within 90 days of suspension (no later than Jun 1) upon submission of proper Membership Roster, dues and Revalidation forms and a late fee of \$50.00.

4.6 The Membership year shall be from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Dues for the coming year will be accepted starting Oct 1.

4.7 ONLY members in good standing with a current valid membership may hold an office, continue in office, be seated as a delegate, be entitled to vote, represent themselves as an AMVETS Rider, or wear the Riders' uniform and insignia.

4.8 Members who become disabled while a valid member and can no longer Ride a Motorcycle SHALL be considered as a member of this Organization.

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4.9 AMVETS, Son of AMVETS and AMVETS Ladies Aux members. May Join an AMVETS RIDERS chapter Located in another Post, only with the permission of the AMVETS Post Officers where the Riders Chapter is Located.

ARTICLE V – DELEGATES AND ELECTIONS

5.1 DELEGATES- will be based on the number of members at the chapter, not the department. 1-50 members get 2 delegates and 2 alternates, after that add one delegate and one alt for each additional 50 members. The chapters appoint the delegates and alternates. In addition, each Riders Department President or his elected representative will constitute a National Delegate - each of whom also has one vote.

5.2 ELECTIONS - Elections will be held at the annual convention, at a location to be announced no later than the month prior. The voting will be done by hand or by voice.

5.3 Nominations of officers will be made from the floor at the regularly scheduled general membership meeting prior to the annual convention.

ARTICLE VI- MEETINGS

6.1 The meeting place for each meeting will be announced at the previous meeting. The meeting place will be decided on by members in attendance, unless a schedule has previously been generated by the Executive committee with approval of membership.

6.2 There shall be three (3) types of meetings: the general meeting, annual convention and special meetings.

6.3 There will be no alcoholic beverages or smoking allowed at any National meeting. Any member who is obviously intoxicated prior to a meeting will not be permitted to attend said meeting and will be subject to disciplinary action.

6.4 Members will be notified of special meetings at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting date. It is the responsibility of each member to be sure that current contact information is on file with Riders National.

6.5 At all regular and special meetings, at least four (4) elected officers, and three (3) members will constitute a quorum.

6.6 At the Executive Committee meetings, five (5) voting members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

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6.7 The National Secretary will provide official copies of all National Meeting Minutes to each Riders Department President and Secretary within 30 days of the close of the National Meeting.

ARTICLE VII – NATIONAL OFFICERS

7.1 A President, a 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Treasurer, Judge Advocate, and Sgt. at Arms shall be elected annually from the Members.

A.) A Secretary, Communications Officer, and a Liaisons Officer, and Chaplin will be appointed by the President and approved by the National Executive Committee. These Officers will have no vote at any Executive Committee Meeting.

B.) No member shall be eligible for any National office unless proof of eligibility for membership has been presented to the Credentials Committee of that convention.

7.2 National Headquarters and Rider Departments shall be notified of the election of new officers within thirty (30) days after elections have been completed.

7.3 The newly elected officers shall be sworn in and take office within 24 hours of elections.

7.4 In the event that the office of President is vacated, the 1st Vice-President shall succeed to the office of President for the un-expired term.

7.5 In the event that the office of 1st Vice-President is vacated, the 2nd Vice-President shall succeed to the office of 1st Vice-President for the un-expired term.

7.6 In the event that any other elected office is vacated, the Executive Committee shall appoint a member to complete the un-expired term.

7.7 Any elected officer who misses two (2) meetings, without prior notice, and without good cause, to be determined by the Executive Committee, shall be removed from office without any further action, notification or hearing. The vacated position shall be filled in accordance with the guidelines prescribed herein.

7.8 AMVETS Riders National President may be elected to a second (1) year term, with a limit of Two (2) consecutive terms. The National Vice-Presidents may succeed themselves no more than two terms in each respective office.

7.9 The AMVETS Riders National Secretary will be reimbursed for these expenses related to the Operations of Riders National Headquarters (when located in National Secretaries Home office). This reimbursement will be for utilities (But not limited to electric, HVAC, phone, and internet.) and in no way reflect payment for other expenses incurred by the Riders National Secretary in the performance of their duties.

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ARTICLE VIII- DUTIES OF OFFICERS

8.1 The PRESIDENT will oversee all areas of the organization. Shall appoint officers and committees as designated in the National Constitution and By-laws shall chair all meetings; shall ensure that all committees, programs, and events are operated in accordance with the National Constitution and By-laws, the president shall be a non-voting member ex-officio of all committees.

8.2 The 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT will keep accurate membership records. Shall ensure that all monies collected through memberships or renewals are forwarded immediately to the Treasurer. The 1st Vice President shall facilitate incentives and drives, to ensure continued growth throughout the Riders. The 1st Vice President shall make a report at each general membership meeting of the current, up to date, standings and to forward this report to the Secretary for inclusion in the meeting minutes, as well as Department reports. Perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.3 The 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT will monitor the Riders Programs and coordinate with the National AMVETS Programs Director to ensure the National AMVETS Riders Organization is fully utilized in the conduct of National Programs as directed by the AMVETS National Headquarters. Perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.4 The SECRETARY shall keep accurate records and minutes of all National Meetings. The secretary shall act as the official point of contact between the National and the Departments and chapters. To handle all correspondence received and sent by Departments. To pass communications promptly to the respective recipient as needed. The secretary shall maintain files for the organization. To perform other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.5 The TREASURER shall keep accurate records of all financial transactions and organization monies. The treasurer shall ensure that all monies are deposited as directed by the National Executive Committee. All receipts, transaction slips, and checks will be kept on file and turned over to the appointed audit committee when requested. Copies of all transactions will be maintained by the Treasurer. To perform other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.6 The CHAPLAIN shall offer comfort and solace to our members in their time of need. The chaplain shall offer opening and closing prayers at all National meetings. . The chaplain shall notify the Secretary of the need to send a card of sympathy or get well wishes to those members or their families as needed. To perform other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.7 SGT-AT-ARMS – Shall maintain order at all meetings. Shall post and retire the Colors when called upon to do so. To lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance at each meeting as prescribed. The SGT-AT-ARMS shall ascertain, that only member's in proper uniform are admitted

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as Delegates or Representatives to meetings. To perform other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.8 JUDGE ADVOCATE – Shall advise the President and other National Officers on Legal Matters Pertaining to the activities of the National AMVETS Riders. He will review and approve all By-Laws submitted by Departments for approval. The Judge Advocate shall advise on parliamentary, constitution and Bylaw matters. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. To perform other duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.9 The LIAISON OFFICER shall coordinate all riders' activities, events and runs with the National Executive Committee. Riders Liaison Officer shall coordinate with and keep the AMVETS, Auxiliary, and Sons informed of all riders' activities. Riders Liaison Officer shall work with the AMVETS to insure timely responses on Riders activities or questions. Riders Liaison Officer shall coordinate with any and all motorcycle clubs/groups to further the interest of the AMVETS Riders. Perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee or the President.

8.10 COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER- Shall is responsible for the planning, formulation, and development of a communications program, including: but not limited to publicity, organizational publications and other promotional material and Riders internet website. The Communications Officer shall be responsible for efficient and proper liaison with all communications media-press, radio, motion pictures, periodicals, and television- and all forms of advertising. In addition, he shall compile from year to year all records of historical value and interest for AMVETS Riders and shall assist Department and Post Historians so as to coordinate and unify the work of such officials. The Communications Officer shall perform other duties as assigned by the National President and the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX – NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9.1 The Executive Committee will consist of members in accordance with the National Constitution.

9.2 The Executive Committee will have the Duties and Responsibilities as defined in the National Constitution and the National By-Laws.

ARTICLE X- COMMITTEES

10.1 The Audit Committee shall be appointed by the National President. The President shall appoint such members from the membership as deemed necessary to carry out their assignment.

- A.) The Audit Committee shall consist of the appointed chairman and (2) voting members.
- B.) The Audit Committee shall do a complete audit of all National Riders' accounts and financial records each year 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

10.2 Other committees shall be developed and organized as needed by the President or the Executive Committee.

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ARTICLE XI– FINANCES

11.1 All National fund raising activities must be approved in advance by the Executive Committee.

11.2 An annual budget shall be prepared by the Treasurer and submitted to the Executive Committee for its approval. Accurate books and records of account activities maintained by the Treasurer shall be subject to inspection and review by the Executive Committee at all reasonable times. Books and records will be made available upon reasonable request of said committee.

11.3 The Treasurer shall render a report of receipts and disbursements at each National meeting. The Treasurer is also responsible for filing all IRS forms as required by law. **The fiscal year shall be January 1st through December 31st.**

11.4 The Executive Committee shall have discretionary spending authorization of up to \$100 (one hundred dollars) without prior approval from membership. Disbursement of funds shall be in a manner that is in keeping with all local, state and federal laws regarding non-profit organizations.

11.5 Members handling funds shall be properly bonded with a good and solvent bonding company acceptable to the US Treasury, as surety to cover the average amount of funds handled by said individuals in a single year.

11.6 The National Secretary shall be reimbursed for all expenses which are incurred in the official performance of their duties. The expenses voucher shall list expenses in detail expenses and must be approved by the National President and the National 1st Vice President.

ARTICLE XII – BOOKS AND RECORDS

Correct books of account of the activities and transactions of the Corporation shall be kept at the office of the Corporation. These shall include a minute book of National meetings, and a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation, a copy of the By-laws, a copy of the Constitution, all minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XIII– UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIAS

13.1 National Quartermaster will sell Riders patches and insignias only to Department Presidents and Chapter Presidents, and any Officer designated by the Riders Chapter President. These patches will only be sold to members.

13.2 Riders shall be permitted to wear and display AMVETS Riders' patches and Riders' Insignias only, while a member in good standing.

13.3 Riders may purchase 8" or 12" Riders Logo patch for the back of vest, or jacket. The vests and jackets shall be "black" in color.

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A.) The first Chartered Chapter in a Department will decide on Rocker design and that will be the "Standard" for the other Rider Chapters in that Department and in accordance with National Riders Bylaws.

B.) All Chapters in a Department of Riders will maintain "uniformity" with Rocker design and placement. The wording and colors used for making Rockers and placement of Rockers around the Riders Logo patch on back of black vest or black jacket shall be placed with the Top rocker and bottom rocker touching each other without a Gap, to show a monolithic Patch with rockers. With NO Grandfathered Vests or Jackets after 1 Sept 2009.

C.) The Top Rocker shall be for Post or Chapter number. The Bottom Rocker shall be for City and Department of the Chapter.

D.) All members in good standing prior to August 9, 2008 with approved Department or chapter designated patches and patch placements shall have their riders' vest "GRANDFATHERED".

13.4 These 5 patches shall be required for Riders' and shall be worn as follows:

A.) TOP LEFT SIDE:

1. American Flag.
2. State Flag or State Shield or Appropriate AMVETS Riders Department Banner may be placed below the American Flag.
3. Military ribbons or military awards may be placed below the state flag.

B.) TOP RIGHT SIDE:

- 1.) POW/MIA not to be higher than American Flag on Left side
- 2.) 2" or 3" Hat patch for (AMVETS, Auxiliary, or Sons). Will be placed below the POW/MIA patch.

C.) BACK OF VEST:

- 1.) 8" or 12" Riders Logo patch with top and bottom Rockers (middle of back side).
- 2.) Qualified Riders' shall place their Chapter and Department patches below bottom Rocker. Riders' would wear Chapter Charter patch below bottom Rocker, then Department Charter member patch below Chapter Charter patch. If a Rider does not want to purchase the 5 designated patches listed in Sec. 4, they shall wear a plain black vest without any patches.

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13.5 RIDERS JACKET:

Riders Jackets shall be black with Long Sleeves. Patch Placement shall be as follows: American Flag on left shoulder of sleeve. POW/MIA Patch on right shoulder of sleeve, State flag or Shield or appropriate AMVETS Riders Department Banner on top left front of Jacket. AMVETS Organizational, 2” or 3” patch on top right front of Jacket. The Back of the Jacket will be consistent with the Placement of Patches on the wearers Vest as stated in Article 13 Section 13.4. A Plain Jacket without Patches maybe worn. There shall be NO RESTRICTION on the Type or Color of a Plain Jacket.

13.6 ADITIONAL PATCHES MAY BE WORN AS FOLLOWS:

A.) At no time will any type of profanity, be it graphic, or written, be displayed on any article of clothing bearing the AMVETS name. No patches with the number 1% or 13 or the letters MC, nor any Patch denoting or insinuating a motorcycle club will be worn on any article of clothing. No organizational patches for other organizations shall be worn. With the following exceptions only:

13.6.1.) Honorary Veterans groups further authorized by Convention by means as a Bylaws change to this section.

13.7 The AMVETS Riders logo / patch shall not be altered or defaced in any manner.

13.8 Other patch's and pins and insignias that promote a positive image for AMVETS and AMVETS Riders or Veterans, may be displayed only on the front of a Riders' Patched black vest or patched black jacket.

13.9 The Black Beret with 2” Riders hat patch shall be our approved headwear / cover for all Riders. This can be purchased from National AMVETS Quartermasters.

A.) National Rider President shall wear a Gold Beret.

B.) All other National Riders Officers shall wear a Red Beret.

C.) Department Officers shall wear a Tan Beret.

Past Officers of the National, Department, or Chapter shall have an approved Badge on their Berets located one inch to the left of the Beret Patches **as outlined in 13.12.**

13.10 The purchase of vests, jackets additional clothing, patches, insignias, pins, or other riders' items will be at the expense of the members.

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13.11 DRESS CODE for AMVETS RIDERS NATIONAL MEETINGS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

- A.) Riders Unadulterated Beret and in the Proper Color.
- B.) Black Boots or Black Shoes.
- C.) Department Riders Patched Vest or a plain unadulterated Black Vest,
- D.) Red AMVETS or AMVETS Riders Dress Shirt / Long sleeve or Short sleeve. Black or Blue colored Jeans, slacks or Black skirts in Good condition.
- E.) A Riders Patched Jacket or a plain Jacket as stated in Article 13.5 may be worn.

13.12 Past Officers Insignia

A.) The Crossed Sabers of the Cavalry, (Gold in Color worn to the left of the Riders Logo Patch on the appropriate Color Beret), will identify PAST Riders Officers. The cross sabers will be used by all Past National Officers, Past Department Officers and Past Chapter Officers when wearing a Color Beret from past office.

13.13 Memorial Back Patch

A.) A Riders Memorial Back Patch may be presented to the spouse or next of kin of a fallen AMVET Rider either for wear (if the Spouse or next of Kin is a AMVET Riders Member) or presented framed for non-riding individuals. The Memorial Patch will be 8 inches in diameter. Red Background, Silver trim, with a 3 inch shaded kneeling Soldier/Sailor/airman/marine for Military Vets or a simple symbol for non vets shall be placed in the center of the patch, the words "Gone but not Forgotten" in the upper quadrant of the patch, and the words "AMVETS RIDERS" in the lower quadrant of the patch. The Deceased Riders name shall be placed directly below the words in the upper quadrant of the patch. The year of birth and the year of Death will be placed directly below the deceased Riders Name.

ARTICLE XIV – FLAGS and BANNERS

14.1 The AMVETS Riders National flag will be 2-sided and configured in the following manner:

- A.) A solid scarlet red background 3' X 5', 4'x 6' or 5 x 7' feet in size.
- B.) An AMVETS Rider Logo in proportion to the flag size and centered length wise and centered top to bottom with double fold banner in proportion to the flag size on the bottom. Each space shall be equal in size top, middle, and bottom.
- C.) A double fold banner gold in color with the word NATIONAL in block letters, black in color.

14.2 Motorcycle flags shall be 2-sided and bear only the AMVETS Riders Logo.

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14.3 Nothing shall be sewn or hung on the flag or its staff.

14.4 The National Riders flag shall be flown at all official Riders National meetings or events.

14.5 The Sergeant at Arms will have sole responsibility to insure the safe guarding and display of the Riders National Flag.

14.6 Department and Chapters will replace the word National on their official flag with either their chapter number, city name, department name, or the 2-digit state abbreviation. A combination of these may be used.

14.7 Departments and Chapters may design their own banner. Said banner shall be one-sided. All banner designs must be approved by the National Executive Committee before being adopted by a Department or Chapter.

ARTICLE XV– RUNS AND EVENTS

15.1 All runs and events conducted by the National Organization will be planned and coordinated by a committee appointed by the National President.

15.2 The Riders National Organization will hold a minimum of (1) one Run or Event per year.

15.3 All Runs and Events conducted by Departments and chapters will be conducted according to the By-laws of their Department or Chapter.

15.4 All runs and events will comply with all Federal, State and Local Laws and Regulations.

ARTICLE XVI– DISCIPLINE

16.1 Members may be suspended or expelled for any one of the following reasons:

- A.) Failure to comply with obligations as imposed on the members under this Constitution and By-laws.
- B.) Any conduct unbecoming an AMVETS Rider that reflects unfavorably on AMVETS or the AMVETS Riders.
- C.) Membership received by means of fraud or misrepresentation.

16.2 Disciplinary action shall be identical to the guidelines of The AMVETS National Constitution and By-laws.

16.3 Any member who receives disciplinary action by their parent Organization shall be subject to the same action under the AMVETS Riders up to and including expulsion. These measures may be taken upon the findings of a Hearing conducted by the Riders Organization.

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ARTICLE XVII – AMENDMENTS

17.1 These Bylaws may be amended at any AMVETS Riders National Convention By a Majority Vote of the Delegates Present.

A. Proposed amendments for action of the National Convention must be submitted by a Riders State Department Convention, a Riders Department Executive Committee, The Riders National Executive Committee, or a standing committee of AMVET National Riders to the Riders National President.

B. All amendments will be distributed to all Departments, Chapters and all National Officers 30 days prior to the opening date of the AMVETS National Riders Convention each year.

17.2 The bylaws however may be amended, by any Riders National Convention without notice, by a two-thirds vote.

17.3 No amendment, will be adopted unless the amendment is referred to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, considered by it and reported on at the Riders National convection.

17.4 Amendments to these Bylaws shall take effect immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise specified by the adopted resolution.

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This revised By Laws has received a favorable 2/3 vote of National Delegates at the National AMVETS RIDERS Convention, Aug 14 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dutch Stivason

President

National AMVETS Riders

Gerald (Gary) Carver

Judge Advocate

National AMVETS Riders

Kim Judge

Secretary

National AMVETS Riders

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