

American Legion Riders Association of Wisconsin  
ALRA of Wisconsin By-Laws

**PURPOSE:** To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are in keeping with the aims and purposes of the American Legion. To promote motorcycle safety. To provide a social atmosphere for American Legion members who share the same interests. To use our Association to promote and support the programs of The American Legion, the community and other motorcycle organizations.

We are not a motorcycle club. We are an association, a group of American Legion Family Members who ride for a cause.

**ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

- A. The organization will be broken down into Districts, correlating to the twelve (12) Districts of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin.

**ARTICLE II: GOVERNING DOCUMENTS**

- A. State ALRA By-Laws
- B. State ALRA "Policy and Procedures" manual
- C. ALRA of Wisconsin Application Form
- D. All Districts will operate under the direction of the State ALRA Executive Committee and in accordance with State ALRA By-Laws and State ALRA "Policy and Procedures".
- E. Districts may develop District ALRA "Policy and Procedures" provided they do not conflict with State ALRA By-Laws or State ALRA "Policy and Procedures". District ALRA "Policy and Procedures" must be approved by the State ALRA Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS (full membership)**

- A. A current member of the Department of Wisconsin American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion. New member applicants must show proof of eligibility.
- B. Qualified applicant or applicant's spouse must be the owner of a registered motorcycle of at least 500cc and hold a current motorcycle endorsement. The motorcycle must be operational upon renewal unless exempted by the State ALRA Executive Committee.
  - 1. Motorcycle endorsement is not required for a qualified spouse, see Article IV-D
- C. All new applicants should be sponsored by a fellow American Legion Rider or seek membership from the State ALRA Executive Committee.
- D. Once accepted, annual dues must be paid within 30 days of renewal date.
- E. Members who have maintained continuous membership in the ALRA of WI for at least five years and have incurred a disability rendering them unable to safely operate a motorcycle can be designated as an Exempt Member at their request.
  - 1. Exempt Members will be exempted from paragraph B, of Article III.
  - 2. Exempt Members shall continue to pay annual dues and have full membership privileges.

**ARTICLE IV: AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS BACK PATCH**

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- A. Qualified applicants are immediately entitled to an American Legion Riders back patch to be issued by the ALRA of WI, at no charge, or can be ordered by the member through Emblem Sales following the guidelines established in the State ALRA Policy & Procedures. Temporary membership will be for a period of ninety (90) days in order to verify eligibility and qualification. Full membership will be gained after 90 days, giving State level voting privileges.
- B. Upon obtaining full membership in a District, member will receive full voting privileges for that District and eligibility to hold a District officer position in their respective District. In addition full District members will receive their District rocker to be issued by the ALRA of WI. District rocker will state member's department "Wisconsin", legion District and post, unit or squadron number.
  - 1. The back patch will be centered horizontally on the back of the vest.
  - 2. No rocker type patch will be worn on or above the back patch.
  - 3. No dual patches will be worn by any members.
  - 4. District rocker will be sewn below and touching the back patch.
- C. American Legion Riders are required to wear on their vest:
  - 1. American flag patch on left breast (over heart).
  - 2. Nothing such as pins, patches, etc., will be worn on or above the American flag.
  - 3. American Legion, Auxiliary or S.A.L. patch over right breast.
  - 4. Officer patch(es) located directly above The American Legion family patch.
- D. Spouses of current ALRA members may be granted a back patch and hold full membership if they are current members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of the American Legion and pay the ALRA annual dues.
- E. Any new, transfer in or current member not in compliance with issued patches will be required to replace them within 30 days of notification. Failure to comply will result in referral to the ALRA Executive Committee for further action.
- F. Back patches and rockers will be subject to immediate recall from any member who brings discredit to The American Legion, the ALRA of Wisconsin or through lack of participation in ALRA of Wisconsin activities. Any action taken will be at the sole discretion of the State ALRA Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE V: STATE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Sergeant at Arms
- F. Road Captain(s)
- G. Historian
- H. Chaplain

**ARTICLE VI: ELECTIONS**

- A. Elections of State ALRA Officers will be held every two years at such time as determined by the general membership. Eligible State ALRA Officer candidates shall be a full member in good standing for a minimum of one year.

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**ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF THE ALRA STATE OFFICERS**

**A. State President shall:**

1. serve as chief administrative officer of the Association.
2. preside over all State ALRA meetings.
3. have general supervision over the affairs of the Association.
4. perform such other duties as directed by the general membership to include appointment of State ALRA officer positions unfilled.
5. hold a seat on the Department Americanism Committee or designate a Legionnaire representative as the preferred method of reporting ALRA activities to the Department Executive Committee (DEC).

**B. State Vice-President shall:**

1. assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.
2. assist the President in the performance of his/her duties when called upon to do so.

**C. State Secretary shall:**

1. keep a full and accurate record of all proceedings at the meetings.
2. maintain or delegate someone to maintain membership records as required by the Association.
3. verify eligibility and qualifications of new American Legion family applicants or existing Post 2930 applicants

**D. State Treasurer shall:**

1. keep a full and accurate record of all finances.
2. control the disbursement of funds by the Association.
3. give detailed financial reports.

**E. State Sergeant at Arms shall:**

1. maintain order at meetings.
2. assure the Policy and Procedures of the Association are followed.

**F. State Road Captain(s) shall:**

1. be in charge of all organized runs of the Association. Duties will include safety disclaimers, places, times, and routes.

**G. State Historian shall:**

1. keep a photographic and written history of the Association.

**H. State Chaplain shall:**

- A. provide opening and closing words or a prayer at all meetings.

**ARTICLE VIII: STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- A. The State ALRA Executive Committee will be comprised of all current ALRA State Officers, current ALRA District Representatives and all participating past ALRA State Presidents.
- B. The State President shall chair all ALRA Executive Committee meetings and adhere to Roberts Rule of Order when no rule is defined within these Bylaws or the ALRA Policy and Procedures.
- C. The State ALRA Executive Committee will meet the first and fourth quarter of each year, if necessary. The ALRA Executive Committee may also be called into session at the request of the State President or by a majority of the Presidents of the formalized Districts for reasons they may deem necessary for the

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betterment of the American Legion Riders Association of Wisconsin.

- D. Any member of the ALRA Executive Committee gets one (1) vote for any business brought before the ALRA Executive Committee and will declare prior to any vote, whether they are voting as the Representative of their District or as an ALRA State Officer.
- E. A quorum of the ALRA Executive Committee shall consist of more than ½ of the current voting Committee members. In cases where the ½ is resulting in a .5 that number is rounded up to the next whole number. Ex: 9.5 = 10.

**ARTICLE IX: DISTRICT OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Sergeant at Arms
- F. Road Captain(s)
- G. Historian
- H. Chaplain
- I. District Representative

**ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS**

- A. Elections of District ALRA Officers will be held every two years at such time as determined by the District membership

**ARTICLE XI: DUTIES OF THE ALRA DISTRICT OFFICERS**

- A. **District President shall:**
  - 1. serve as chief administrative officer of the District
  - 2. preside over all District meetings.
  - 3. have general supervision over the affairs of the District.
  - 4. perform such other duties as directed by the District membership to include appointment of District officer positions unfilled.
  - 5. attend at least one State meeting annually.
- B. **District Vice-President shall:**
  - 1. assume the duties of the District President in his/her absence.
  - 2. assist the District President in the performance of his/her duties when called upon to do so.
- C. **District Secretary shall:**
  - 1. keep a full and accurate record of all proceedings at the meetings.
  - 2. provide a copy of those proceedings to the State Secretary.
- D. **District Treasurer shall:**
  - 1. keep a full and accurate record of all District finances.
  - 2. control the disbursement of funds by the District.
  - 3. give detailed financial reports.
  - 4. present monthly finance reports to the State Treasurer.
- E. **District Sergeant at Arms shall:**
  - 1. maintain order at District meetings.

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2. assure the Policy and Procedures of the Association are followed.

**F. District Road Captain(s) shall:**

1. be in charge of all organized runs of the District. Duties to include safety disclaimers, places, times, and routes.

**G. District Historian shall:**

1. keep a photographic and written history of the District.

**H. District Chaplain shall:**

1. provide opening and closing words or a prayer at all District meetings.

**I. District Representative shall:**

1. hold a seat on the State ALRA Executive Committee

**ARTICLE XII: MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES**

- A. State meetings will be held as determined by the current State ALRA Executive Committee. The quorum for the State Quarterly meeting shall be considered those voting members present at the meeting.
- B. District meetings will be held as determined by the current ALRA District Officers.
- C. Meetings will use Roberts Rules of Order as a guideline.
- D. Any activities, use of the ALRA of Wisconsin name or ALRA of Wisconsin logo that a District intends to participate in or use must be pre-approved by and in accordance with the guidelines of the State ALRA Executive Committee.
- E. The State President or a Legionnaire representative determined by the American Legion Riders Association of Wisconsin shall hold a seat on the Department Americanism Committee as the preferred method of reporting their activities to the Department Executive Committee (DEC) in accordance with Article III Section 4 (b) of the Bylaws of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin.

**ARTICLE XIII: FINANCES**

- A. Finances of the Association will be derived from membership dues or other sources, as approved by the membership. Districts will not operate independently of the State organization's EIN number.

**ARTICLE XIV: EXPULSION**

- A. Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Association only by action of the State ALRA Executive Committee, at which time back patches and rockers must be immediately returned to the Association.

**ARTICLE XV: CHANGES/AMENDMENTS**

- A. Any changes or amendments to these existing By-Laws will be in accordance with the State Policy and Procedures and will require a 2/3 majority of the voting membership.

These By-Laws have been approved on November 2, 2013 and supersedes any previous By-Laws.