



**BY-LAWS OF THE COMBAT VETERANS
MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION (CVMA)
FOR
MISSOURI CHAPTER 4-6**

ARTICLE 1 (NAME AND EMBLEM)

Section 1

- a. The name of the association is: Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (Missouri Chapter 4-6).
- b. IRS Section 501 (c) (19) Purpose. Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and/or scientific purposes as specified in Section 501 (c) (19) of the Revenue Code, Including, for such purposes, the making of distributions of organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Chapter Officers have the authority to change the Chapter By-laws if any part is found to be in conflict with Federal or Missouri State tax laws.
- c. Dissolution: Should this Chapter dissolve, all assets will be turned over to the National Board of Director of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

Section 2

The emblem/logo used by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA) is the sole property of the CVMA. The CVMA patch and logo cannot be reproduced without license from the National Board of Directors (NBOD). The emblem of the CVMA is in shape of a skull encompassed by the following colors: the incorporated colors are Red: representing the blood that has been shed in the battlefield. The Military Gold: representing all branches of service. Black: representing the heavy hearts possessed for those who gave their lives and for those that are considered missing in action or prisoners of war. The Skull and the ace of spades represents the death that war leaves in its wake.

ARTICLE 2 (GENERAL CVMA PROTOCOL)

The CVMA is formed for the betterment of communication and camaraderie between Motorcycle Associations, Veterans Organizations, and/or Motorcycle Groups.

Section 1

To promote the interest in various forms of motorcycle activity associated with Veterans.

Section 2

To create and maintain camaraderie among Veterans from all U.S. Branches of Service and its allies.

Section 3

To support Veterans Organizations.

Section 4

To raise awareness for the plight of POWs, MIAs, and their families.

Section 5

To conduct Association functions in a manner befitting the members of the CVMA as well as the Association's Auxiliary members.

Section 6

To encourage better understanding of motorcycle riders as a constructive sport among members of the public, press, and the law enforcement agencies.

ARTICLE 3 (MEMBERSHIP)

Section 1

Full members

- a. Of good character.
- b. Who is a Veteran of a Foreign War.
- c. The ONLY acceptable proof for membership to the CVMA is a copy of one's DD214 or ERB, which must be surrendered to the NBOD for verification.
- d. Must own and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or above.
- e. Should a full member resign, they will be given a five day grace period to rescind their resignation with no repercussions. After the five day grace period a member will have to reapply for membership as a new member and will require NBOD approval.
- f. Active members in good standing with the CVMA who become infirm, disable or otherwise unable to ride their motorcycles will be able to keep their patch and be retired as a member in good standing with the CVMA. Members must submit medical documentation, and a minimum of one year as a member and/or NBOD approval is required.
- g. Life membership requires three years active in the CVMA. Members must be in good standing for all three years. Minimum participation of one sanctioned CVMA event, per year, is required. Must attend one or more National meeting within the last three years. Cost of Life Membership is \$200.00 US. If a life member quits for any reason or member is removed from the CVMA rolls for any reason, no refund will be made.

Section 2

Auxiliary Membership

- a. Must be of good character.
- b. All Auxiliary members must be a spouse, widow or widower of a member who is in good standing with the CVMA.
- c. Must support the efforts of all branches of the United States of America, Armed Forces and the CVMA.
- d. Will have no vote in National CVMA business or for Chapter Officers.
- e. Cannot hold a position on the NBOD.

- f. \$10.00 annual dues will be assessed by the CVMA Auxiliary Unit.

Section 3

Support Members

- a. Must be of good character.
- b. Must own and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or greater.
- c. Support members must be a Veteran of the United States Armed Forces.
- d. Support member will read and abide by all CVMA By-Laws applicable to them.
- e. \$10.00 annual dues will be paid per year.
- f. Support members are required to submit their application through a Full Member of the CVMA who has held membership for not less than one year. Support members are required to have either ridden a minimum of 3,000 miles with their sponsor, attended three CVMA events or be known by their sponsor for a minimum of six months. A Full Member must verify they meet the above criteria.

Section 4

By applying for membership with the CVMA, you are giving the CVMA and its NBOD the right to verify any membership application and DD214 records.

Section 5

Each member should attend a minimum of at least one event hosted by the CVMA, annually.

Section 6

All members must conduct themselves in a manner that is not an embarrassment to themselves, the CVMA or the United States of America.

Section 7

All members must possess a valid motorcycle driver's license, endorsed by their state as well as proof of insurance for their motorcycle.

Section 8

- a. In the event of misconduct of a member, under the By-Laws of the CVMA, the NBOD, possesses the right to revoke that member's membership.
- b. Misconduct is defined as bringing dishonor upon the CVMA or the USA, in action, words or deeds.

Section 9

All members of Chapter 4-6 will enjoy equal status and will have an equal vote in the Chapter Agenda.

Section 10

- a. Defer to Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, National Board of Directors, MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD (20160124A), CVMA POLICY ON DISCIPLINE.

ARTICLE 4 (DUES)

Section 1

Dues are to be paid before the last day of June.

Section 2

New members will be presented their patch at the first Chapter meeting after the Chapter receives their patch from the NBOD. The new member will pay for their patch in advance.

ARTICLE 5 (ELECTIONS)

Section 1

All nominees for any officer position must be active and in good standing in the Chapter with a minimum of one full year in the CVMA.

Section 2

Chapter Officers are to be nominated and elected at the November meeting in the following order; Commander, Sergeant of Arms and Secretary in the even numbered years; Executive Officer and Treasurer in the odd numbered years. Officers at the January meeting following the election and will hold that office for two years. Consecutive terms are permitted.

Section 3

Should an elected officer resign from the office for any reason, the Chapter Commander may appoint or the Chapter may elect a replacement to serve the remainder of the term.

Section 4

Only Full Members can vote on an officer position. (PER National By-Laws, Article 3, Section 2 (b) (d)).

ARTICLE 6 (DUTIES OF OFFICERS)

Section 1

- a. The Commander will preside over all meeting of the chapter, issue the call for regular and special meetings, and be sure that they are held IAW these By-Laws.
- b. Will maintain an activities log.
- c. Will maintain Cooperate status.
- d. Will file with the IRS annually.
- e. Will organize Chapter activities.
- f. The Commander may appoint members to additional positions and assign their duties. These positions are exempt from the requirements of officers.

Section 2

The Executive Officer will perform all duties of the Commander in his absence.

Section 3

The Secretary shall keep minutes of the general membership meeting and will post the minutes on the Chapter's internet. The secretary will coordinate and inform the BOD and Chapter of By-Law changes at NBOD and other situations that may affect the current Chapter's By-Laws.

Section 4

The Treasurer will collect the National dues and other forms of income due the Chapter, maintain accounting, make payments from the Chapter's funds when so ordered by the Commander, sign all Chapter checks, and make regular reports of the Chapter's financial status to the Chapter's membership. The outgoing Treasurer must submit a complete status to the Chapter's membership. The outgoing Treasurer must submit a

complete financial report per BOD, financial, Article 10, Section 3, to the incoming Treasurer within Thirty days from relinquishing the Treasurers position.

Section 5

The Sergeant of Arms will maintain order during CVMA meetings, check members ID and secure members sign-in-sheets at each meeting.

ARTICLE 7 (MEETINGS)

Section 1

- a. A quorum for conducting business shall be those present and a minimum of three Officers.
- b. Children will not be permitted at regular meetings. Meetings are an adult function. Exceptions will be posted.
- c. The Robert's Rule of Order will be applied during meetings to affect parliamentary procedures.

ARTICLE 8 (BENEVOLENT FUND)

Section 1

The Chapter shall have a Benevolent Fund to be used solely for its Chapter members. Chapter members will be; Full Members, Auxiliary Members and Supports. A request for funds has to be approved by at least three Chapter Officers.

Section 2

Money collected for Veterans can only be used to support Veterans. This money will go into the Forgotten Vet Program.

ARTICLE 9 (AMENDMENTS)

Section 1

These By-Laws may be amended or repealed and new By-Laws adopted after Thirty day notice and by two-thirds vote of the members present.

ARTICLE 10 (FINANCIAL)

Section 1

The BOD committee purpose is to oversee the development of the Association's budget and monitor its execution. They will have the authority to transact day to day, limited financial business, between regularly scheduled meeting of the full membership. In the case there is an emergence of a member, the committee can be called to support that member. The Commander has the right to call a special meeting of the committee at any time. Any actions taken will be presented to the full membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The committee will be made of of the Chapter's Board of Directors with the Commander presiding and will not have any voting privileges. Any vote for affirmation will have to be three-fourth's majority of the members in attendance. "Special" meeting may be attended by phone, in person or a combination thereof.

Section 2

All distribution of funds not distributed as per Section 1, for Chapter 4-6, must be discussed and voted on at any official meeting and must be approved by a simple majority. Any member may submit a request for fund support to the Chapter with the following guidelines for distribution.

- a. Supporting Chapter Full Member, Auxiliary Member or Support Member. Any member may nominate to the chapter, at a regular or special called meeting, support for a Chapter 4-6 member, that is in financial need. After the nomination and discussion is completed, a vote can be taken of the attending members. If approved, distribution of funds can be completed immediately to support the Chapter member.
- b. Supporting Organizations, Nonmember Individual and Other Entities. Any member or organization can request or present to the chapter the need for support of funds from the chapter at any regularly scheduled meeting. In the event it is an organization the Chapters discussion will not be in the presence of said organization. The vote for support may then be continued to the next scheduled meeting after Chapter discussions are completed. In the case of further information or documentation is requested from the Chapter, the vote may be extended until all requests are satisfied by Chapter members. If approved, funds will then be distributed at the discretion of the Commander and Treasurer.

Section 3

- a. All funds acquired by any Full Members, Auxiliary Members or Support Members, using the CVMA logo or CVMA name or on behalf of the CVMA for the purpose of charitable contributions must be turned over to the Chapter Treasurer for deposit and/or distribution as directed by the membership
- b. Any other revenue, cash reserve or expenditures not covered in these By-Laws must be discussed at a regularly scheduled meeting and follow By-Law Protocol

Section 4

Chapter 4-6 has a tax exempted 501 (c) status and in accordance with CVMA National By-Laws, any Chapter that has their own checking account, will stand as an individual entity and will be responsible for their own audit. Per the CVMA National By-Laws, the Chapter will submit a yearly report to the State Representative. The State Representative will in turn, submit a financial statement to the National Treasurer. The report is due following the close of the business year and not later than 15 February. Report needs to include an itemized list of any donations made to eligible groups (example Veterans homes) and any monies raised from Chapter sponsored events and all donations received from sources outside the CVMA. A detail of Chapter operational expenses are to be included as well.

Section 5

Dispersion of Chapter funds shall be as follows:

- a. In or out of State Veteran, non CVMA member, in need, up to a maximum donation of \$250.00, (simple majority of members present).
- b. Out of State CVMA member, in need, up to a maximum donation of \$250.00, (simple majority of members present).
- c. In State CVMA member in need, up to a maximum donation of \$1,000.00, (simple majority of members present).
- d. A Chapter 4-6 member in need, up to a maximum donation of \$1,500.00 and matching funds request from National, (simple majority of members present). Chapter 4-6 member, in need, can reapply for additional support.

These by-laws for combat veterans motorcycle association, chapter 4-6, Missouri, were approved by the Chapter membership on the 21th day of May , 2016.

Approved by State Representative

Charles (Chip) Shapley

date

Approved by NBOD
