



Constitution
and
By-Laws

of

The American Legion, Department of Colorado,

The American Legion Riders, District 4

REVISED: OCTOBER 8, 2008

Constitution of The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4

Preamble

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To participate in parades and other ceremonies that are within the aims and purposes of the American Legion. To promote motorcycle safety; to provide a social atmosphere for The American Legion family member; and to use our programs to support other motorcycle organizations, and most of all to our veterans, veteran's homes and hospitals.

Article I

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4.

Article II

Object And Nature

Section 1. Object. To participate in parades and ceremonies that is within the aims and purposes of The American Legion. To provide a social atmosphere for The American Legion family, and use our programs to support our veterans and to keep alive the memory of our POW/MIA's

Section 2. Safety and Support. To promote patriotic programs, community service projects and programs concerning national security. To promote motorcycle safety, to support other motorcycle organizations.

Section 3. Civilian Organization. The American Legion Riders, of Colorado District 4, is a civilian organization, and membership therein does not affect nor increase ability for military or police service. Rank does not exist in the American Legion Riders District 4, and no member thereof shall be addressed by military title in any American Legion Riders meeting.

Article III

Organization

Section 1. Department Committee. The American Legion Riders of Colorado is recognized as a program of the American Legion, Department of Colorado, and is divided into districts as outlined in the Department Constitution and Bylaws, within the state of Colorado.

Section 2. Committee. The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 will operate as a program of the American Legion Department of Colorado, under administrative jurisdiction as provided for under the Department Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 3. Districts Recognition. District 4 will be a local unit of The American Legion Riders of Colorado. Each District must be authorized by the American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board. Membership at the District level is prescribed under membership eligibility.

Section 4. District Constitution and Bylaws. No District may adopt a Constitution and Bylaws that are in conflict with the provisions of the American Legion Riders of Colorado's Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 5. District Revocation. District 4 is authorized to operate The American Legion Riders of Colorado within District 4 and may be suspended, cancelled or revoked for good cause shown, based on a recommendation from The American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board, with the approval of The American Legion Department of Colorado Executive Committee.

Section 6. District Officers. The District 4 Officers will be as follows:

- District 4 President
- District 4 Vice-President
- District 4 Secretary
- District 4 Treasurer
- District 4 Sergeant at Arms

District 4 will add the following officers at their discretion, to be filled by election. Other positions can be added as needed. The position of District 4 Committeemen will be appointed by the District 4 President.

- District 4 Chaplain
- District 4 Road Captain
- District 4 Road Lieutenant
- District 4 Color Guard Captain
- District 4 Historian/Photographer

Section 7. State Elections shall be held in conjunction with the current practice of The Department of Colorado American Legion. Therefore newly elected officers for the State Board will assume their office after the annual state convention in June of the elected year.

Section 8. District Elections. The position of District President, District Vice President, District Secretary, District Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms will be elected by the membership of District 4 Riders for a term of two (2) years.

Section 9. Requirements to Hold Office. District Officers must be members in good standing of an American Legion Post, Auxiliary Unit or Squadron of the Sons of The American Legion, and own/operate a motorcycle. State Officer must be a current member in good standing with the American Legion Riders and of a Post of The American Legion, and own/operate a motorcycle.

Article IV Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person may become a member of the American Legion Riders of Colorado that meet the following criteria:

- A. Must be a member of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of the American Legion, and must be 18 years of age.
- B. All new applicants must appear before the District Board to express their interest in wanting to join the American Legion Riders of Colorado
- C. A sponsor will be appointed to new applicants upon approval for membership by the District Board.
- D. Motorcycle Owner: To be a member of The American Legion Riders of Colorado you must be a licensed registered owner of a motorcycle of at least 500cc that is operational.

- E. Upon approval of applicant, dues will be collected accordingly as set by the American Legion Riders District Board.
- F. Legion Riders are expected to comply with all Colorado State Laws regarding licensing and insurance requirements to operate a motorcycle.

Section 2. Patch Requirement. New Members may receive a patch with the following:

- A. New member will receive the required vest patches. The sponsor is responsible to encourage the new member participates at meetings and events.
- D. No dual patches will be worn by any member. Also no items such as pins, patches, etc., will be worn on or above the American flag (no exceptions!) SEE ILLUSTRATION

Note: A patch will be recalled from any member who brings discredit to The American Legion Riders or The American Legion Department of Colorado at events, meetings and or in public, due to their misconduct, and/or lack of participation in The American Legion Riders of Colorado activities. All properties belonging to the American Legion Riders of Colorado will be returned without reimbursement.

Section 3. Attire. The American Legion Riders of Colorado being a unique entity of the American Legion, members will be uniform in their appearance and dress. The following items must be uniform:

- A. For meetings only, black vests with the required ALR patches. The headgear for the membership and officers is optional, the ALR ball cap or beret is preferred. The District 4 President has the authority to adjust the uniform based on his/her direction.
- B. For ALR functions and Legion Family functions, the uniform shall be modified at the direction of the District 4 President.
- C. Patches: See attached diagram.

Section 4. Retirement of General Membership. A member of District 4 of the American Legion Riders will be eligible for retirement after seven (7) years of continuous service in good standing. All General Membership applicants who want to retire will submit their request for retirement to the District 4 Board. After review and approval, the American Legion Riders State Board will be notified. The dues of the retired member will be reduced to \$7.50 per capita.

Section 5. Retirement of District and State Officers. An officer will be eligible for retirement after five (5) years of continuous service in good standing. All District and State officers who want to retire will submit their request for retirement to their respect District Board for approval. After review and approval the dues of the retired officer will be reduced to \$7.50 per capita.

Section 6. Resignation. If a member resigns from the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4, all properties belonging to the American Legion Rider of Colorado must be returned at such time with no reimbursement.

Section 7. Reinstatement. A member who has resigned from the Riders and then later wishes to be reinstated shall submit in writing a request for reinstatement to the District 4 Board. The request for reinstatement shall be decided by a majority vote of the District 4 Board.

Article V
Finance

Section 1. Source of Revenue. The revenue of American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 shall be derived from membership dues, and/or other revenues generated from various functions of The American Legion Riders Program.

Section 2. Dues. The District 4 Secretary or Treasurer with proof of membership eligibility will collect dues, which includes a per capita set by the The American Legion Riders State Board, and will forward that per capita to the State Treasurer.

Section 3. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 shall commence on the First day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December of that year.

Article VI
Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution is adopted subject to provisions of the National Constitution of the American Legion and of the Department Constitution of the Department of Colorado, American Legion. Any amendment to said National Constitution or Department Constitution, which is in conflict with any provisions hereof, shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 30 days Prior to a change to the Constitution a draft will be created for discussion, a two-thirds vote of those present at a District 4 meeting is required to move to draft-After the 30 days have expired and no additional concerns or errors have been recognized, a second, two-thirds vote of those present at a District 4 Riders meeting is required to approve the final copy The new copy of this the approved Constitution will be signed and forwarded to the State Board.

Article VII
Repeal and Saving Clause

Section 1. This Constitution adopted at The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4, held in Regular meeting at a District 4 post on Wednesday, October 8, 2008, supersedes and takes the place of all earlier Constitution and Amendments thereof and the same, and all Bylaws adopted here under, are hereby revoked and annulled.

Bylaws of The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4

Article I

Name

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization is The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4.

Section 2. The nature and objectives of this organization are set forth in the Constitution of The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4.

Article II

State Headquarters

Section 1. State Headquarters for the American Legion Riders of Colorado shall be maintained at the American Legion Department of Colorado, which is located at 7465 E 1st Ave, Suite D, Denver CO 80230.

Article III

Government

Section 1. Quorum. A quorum for The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 Board will consist of four (4) voting members. A quorum at a regular meeting will be six (6) voting members.

Section 2. Parliamentary Authority. In all cases where the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 has issues that are not covered in the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Legion Riders, the issues will be covered by Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

Article IV

District Organization

Section 1: Districts. The Districts for the American Legion Riders of Colorado are the same as indicated for each Legion District in Colorado as outlined in Article V of the Department of Colorado Constitution, Revised June 28, 2003.

Section 2. District 4 Officers. The Officers of District 4 will be:

- District 4 President
- District 4 Vice-President
- District 4 Secretary
- District 4 Treasurer
- District 4 Sergeant at Arms

District 4 will add the following officers at their discretion, to be filled by election. Other positions can be added as needed. The position of District 4 Committeemen will be appointed by the District 4 President.

- District 4 Chaplain
- District 4 Road Captain
- District 4 Road Lieutenant
- District 4 Color Guard Captain
- District 4 Historian/Photographer

Section 3. Nominations, Elections and Term of Office. District 4 Officers shall be nominated at the regular meeting in November. Elections will be held at the December regular meeting. Elected officers will serve for a term of two (2) years and shall hold office until their successors have been elected and qualified. Their term of office shall commence in January. All officers upon acceptance of a position must familiarize themselves with and understand Department of Colorado American Legion Riders Constitution, Bylaws and protocol.

Section 4. Vacancies. The District 4 President with the approval the District 4 Board shall fill all vacancies in the District 4 offices; the person selected is to serve the balance of the term of the office he succeeds. If any District 4 Officer shall cease to be a member of the District the President may declare his office vacant and fill the same as herein provided.

Section 5. Duties of the District Committeeman. It shall be the duty of each District Committeeman to be the liaison between American Legion Riders State Board and the District and to assist the District President in the performing of their duties and the carrying out of the American Legion Riders of Colorado programs in the Districts and to perform such other duties as may be assigned to him.

Section 6. Duties of the District 4 President. The District 4 President shall have general supervision over District 4, subject to the direction of The American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board. He shall endeavor in all ways to promote membership and participation in the Programs of the American Legion Riders of Colorado and the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion. He shall preside at all District 4 American Legion Riders meetings. He shall address the American Legion Post/ District Executive Committee regarding the status of his District American Legion Riders programs and events, which affect his District. He shall perform such other duties enjoined upon him by this Constitution and Bylaws pursuant thereto, or as may be required of him by the State President, Committee Chairman, Executive Committee or the Post/District Commander. The District 4 President will not have a valid vote at American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 meetings except in the event of a tie.

Section 7. Duties of District 4 Vice President. The District 4 Vice President in the event of death, resignation or disability of the District 4 President shall succeed to the office and have and possess all the powers and duties of the District 4 President; and shall perform such other duties as required of him by the American Legion Riders District 4 Board.

Section 8. Duties of the District 4 Secretary. The District 4 Secretary will keep a full and accurate record of all meetings of the District 4 American Legion Riders. The District 4 Secretary will maintain a current list of members, their names, addresses and phone numbers to include renewals and new members; also each member's current Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the American Legion membership status. The District 4 Secretary will provide this information on a quarterly basis to the State Secretary.

Section 9. Duties of District 4 Treasurer. The District 4 Treasurer shall faithfully keep all monies of District 4 coming into his hands and account therefore; and shall keep such books and records as are necessary and proper in the performance of his duties. He shall disburse funds as directed by the American Legion Riders District 4 Board.

Section 10. Duties of District 4 Sergeant-At-Arms. The District 4 Sergeant-at-Arms will assist the District 4 President to ensure that all the rules of the District 4 American Legion Riders of Colorado are followed at all meetings and functions. The Sergeant-at Arms shall introduce special guests, and new members to the membership. The District 4 Sergeant-at-Arms will have the authority to enforce road rules as needed at the District 4 level. He shall also have the right to generate immediate District 4 Board action upon violation of The American Legion Riders of Colorado By Laws. He will assist the State Sergeant-At-Arms at all State events and functions.

Section 11. Duties of District 4 Road Captain. The District 4 Road Captain will be responsible for the following: Disclaimers, route safety, places, times, dates, and flyers. He shall appoint tail riders as needed to ensure the safety of the District 4 membership during a run. He will also be responsible for consulting the State Road Captain on creating and updating "Road Rules" through the approval of the District 4 President and The American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board. He shall provide a semi-annual report and copy of Disclaimers to the State Road Captain to include flyers, information on runs, and changes and/or updates in District 4.

Section 12. Duties of District 4 Chaplain. The District 4 Chaplain is to give the invocation and benediction at American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 meetings, as well as perform such other acts as would fall within the realm of the office as the spiritual leader of the District. The Chaplain should conduct the memorial service when such is needed in the District. As the District is composed of members of different creeds and faiths, the Chaplain must be a person of tolerance and sympathy toward all.

Section 13. Meetings. District 4 regular meetings will be held monthly, time and location to be set by the District Board.

Section 14. Expenses of District 4 President and/or Committeeman. The expenses of the District 4 President or Committeeman to attend the quarterly State Board meeting will be paid upon presentation of receipts for those expenses and the approval of the District 4 Board.

Article V Discipline

Section 1. Suspension or Expulsion of Members. District 4 may suspend or expel a member upon charges of disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty or other conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion Riders of Colorado. All charges must be made in writing, and shall be served personally or by mail addressed to the accused at their last known address at least five (5) days prior to a hearing and service shall be complete upon mailing. Notice of the day, time and place of the hearing shall be served with the charges. The hearing shall be held at a regular or special meeting of the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 Board in which the accused is a member. The decision of The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 Board will be

final. A record of the proceeding shall be kept on file with the District 4 Secretary and a copy provided to the Secretary of the State Board. The accused may appeal such decision within ten (10) days in writing to the State American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board. That appeal will be heard upon the record only, without further evidence or hearing, and the decision of the majority of the State Board will be final. This suspension or expulsion will only be for membership in The American Legion Riders of Colorado not the American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary or Son's of The American Legion.

Section 2. Removal or Other Punishment of District 4 Officers. District 4 may suspend or expel a District 4 Officer upon charges of disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty or other conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion Riders of Colorado. All charges must be made in writing, and shall be served personally or by mail addressed to the accused at their last known address at least five (5) days prior to a hearing and service shall be complete upon mailing. Notice of the day and time of hearing shall be served with the charges. The hearing shall be held at a regular or special meeting of the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 Board in which the accused is a member. The decision of The American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4 Board will be final. A record of the proceeding shall be kept on file with the District 4 Secretary and a copy provided to the Secretary of the State Board. The accused may appeal such decision within ten (10) days in writing to the State American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board. That appeal will be heard upon the record only, without further evidence or hearing, and the decision of the majority of the State Board will be final. This suspension or expulsion will only be for membership in The American Legion Riders of Colorado not the American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary or Son's of The American Legion.

Section 3. Removal or Other Punishment of State Board Officers. The American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board may suspend or expel a State Board Officer upon charges of disloyalty, neglect of duty, dishonesty or other conduct unbecoming a member of The American Legion Riders of Colorado. All charges must be made in writing, and shall be served personally or by mail addressed to the accused at their last known address at least five (5) days prior to a hearing and service shall be complete upon mailing. Notice of the day and time of hearing shall be served with the charges. The hearing shall be held at a regular or special meeting of the American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board in which the accused is a member. The decision of The American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board will be final. A record of the proceeding shall be kept on file with the State Secretary. The accused may appeal such decision within ten (10) days in writing to the Department Executive Committee. The person appealing shall, within twenty (20) days after the decision, or as soon thereafter as is possible if the record cannot sooner be completed, file the record of the proceedings on the hearing with the Department Adjutant. The Department Commander, The Department Adjutant, or the Chairman of the Department Executive Committee shall then promptly call a meeting of said Committee to consider the appeal. The appeal shall be heard upon the record only, without further evidence or hearing, and the decision of the majority of said Committee, in the presence of a quorum, shall be final. Said Committee may impose the same, or greater or lesser punishment, or acquit the accused. The cost of the record on appeal shall be paid, before the same is filed, by the appellant. In the event said Committee shall reverse the decision, the appellant, if he be the accused, shall be reimbursed such cost by the American Legion Riders of Colorado State Board.

Article VI Dissolution

Section 1. In the event of dissolution of the American legion Riders of Colorado District 4, the membership will assign all assets to the American Legion Riders of Colorado in accordance with the Section (501)(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code. None of the funds shall inure to the benefit of individual members.

Article VII Amendments

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the American Legion Riders of Colorado District 4, 30 days Prior to a change to the By-Laws a draft will be created for discussion, a two-thirds vote of those present at a District 4 meeting is required to create a draft. After the 30 days have expired and no additional concerns or errors have been recognized, a second, two-thirds vote of those present at a District 4 Riders meeting is required to approve the final copy. The new copy of the approved Bylaws will be signed and forwarded to the State Board.

Section 2. This Constitution and Bylaws is adopted subject to the provisions of the National Constitution and Bylaws of The American Legion. Any provision of, or amendment to the National Constitution of The American Legion, which is in conflict with any provisions herein, shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution to the extent of such conflict.

Section 3. All changes to this Constitution and Bylaws whether proposed, administrative, pending, or finally approved shall be recorded contemporaneously herein and entered in the Change Log attached herein as Appendix "A". Appendix "A" is intended to track modification and/or amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws. All modifications to this Constitution and Bylaws, including, but not limited to, amendments and corrections, shall be recorded in Appendix A and maintained by the Adjutant. Entries shall include the date, the effected paragraph, the identity of the person or group initiating the change, and the status of the change. Change status shall be one of the following:

- “APP” meaning approved by majority vote at ALR District 4 Meeting of those members in attendance.
- “DEF” meaning defeated or removed by majority vote at ALR District 4 Meeting of those members in attendance.
- “NVR” meaning no vote is required; typically used for correction of typographical errors.
- “DIR” meaning the alteration was performed under the direction of The American Legion, Department of Colorado or National.
- “PDG” meaning the alteration was performed as a draft to the document and is pending approval but a 2/3 vote by the members in attendance of a regular meeting.

**The American Legion Riders of Colorado
District 4
Standing Rules**

1. Fines will be assessed for breach of protocol, such as breaking colors, not addressing the chair, etc. and absences according to the following schedule: General Membership--\$1.00 for protocol breaches; Officers on the Roll Call--\$2.00 for protocol violations, \$5.00 for unexcused absences.
2. The standard uniform code for District 4 will be as follows:
 - A. For meetings only, black vests with the required ALR patches. The headgear for the membership and officers is optional, the ALR ball cap or beret is preferred. The District 4 President has the authority to adjust the uniform based on his/her direction.
 - B. For ALR functions and Legion Family functions, the uniform shall be modified at the direction of the District 4 President.
 - C. Patches: See attached diagram.
3. Regular monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, time and location determined by the District Board.
4. To secure and maintain the safety of all District 4 American Legion Riders and their guests, during group rides, no one will stop traffic at any intersection unless such authority is given to them by law enforcement.

VEST PATCH PLACEMENT

Nothing above the US Flag, NO EXCEPTIONS

Officers
patch
location



Rocker is
positioned
directly
below the
large
patch, but
does not
touch it or
overlap it.



Patches and pins can be placed on vest that do not reflect membership in another organization or that bring disrespect or discredit to both The American Legion Riders and/or the United States of America

