



**AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS
CLARK-ELIASON POST 352
SOMERS POINT, NJ**

Chapter Constitution

Preamble

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Purpose

The American Legion Riders (ALR) is formed to promote the aims and purposes of The American Legion as a family oriented motorcycling activity for members of The American Legion (TAL), The Sons of The American Legion (SAL) and The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA).

Article I—Name

The name of this program shall be *THE AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, Department of New Jersey. POST 352.*

Article II—Nature

Section 1.

The American Legion Riders is a program for members of The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Sons of The American Legion members, collectively “The Legion Family,” who share an interest in motorcycling.

Section 2.

The American Legion Riders upholds the declared principles of The American Legion as well as conforms to and abides by the regulations and decisions of the department, post, or other duly constituted governing body.

Section 3.

The ALR maintains and protects the image of The American Legion at all times through appropriate wearing of The American Legion Emblem. The emblem of The American Legion demands "that the wearer shall ever guard the sanctity of home and country and free institutions."

Section 4.

Members of the ALR avoid any perception of being a motorcycle or “biker” club or gang. Rather, the focus of membership is for the enjoyment of motorcycles and comradeship and furthering American Legion programs in the community.

Section 5.

The ALR will improve the public’s perception of the motorcycling community by promoting the honorable nature of service to one’s community, state and nation through the sport of motorcycling.

Section 6.

Members of the ALR comply at all times with the motor vehicle safety, licensing, and insurance laws or regulations of the State in which operating.

Article III—Organization

The American Legion Riders is organized at either the Department or the Post. Each Chapter exists at the discretion of the sponsoring Post/Department. The Chapter Officers and executive committee are responsible and accountable to the sponsoring Post/Department Executive Committee. All Officers of the American Legion Riders chapter must be confirmed by the hosting Post or Department.

Article IV—Membership Eligibility

Section 1.

Eligibility for Full membership in The American Legion Riders shall be as prescribed by the national constitutions of The American Legion , Sons of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Section 2.

All members of The American Legion Riders must further demonstrate current individual membership in The American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, or the Sons of The American Legion.

Section 3.

Members will not at any time hold membership in more than one chapter of The American Legion Riders and shall not be a member of any other Veterans Motorcycle Organization.

Section 4.

In addition to Sections 1-3 above, members of The American Legion Riders in good standing, shall establish and maintain membership by owning, individually or through marriage, a legally registered motorcycle, licensed and insured as required by state law. Spouses are assumed to have part ownership regardless of the name on the title.

Section 5.

All members will obey the motor vehicle laws in any state in which they are operating a motorcycle or riding as a passenger.

Section 6.

The American Legion Riders may allow continued full membership for those members who have given up motorcycle ownership because of age, illness, injury, or other reasons outside the member's control.

Article V—Wearing of American Legion Emblem

Section 1.

The American Legion Riders back patch, as copyrighted and sold by The American Legion's Emblem Sales division, is authorized for wear by all current members of the ALR.

Section 2.

No other back patch or back patch design is authorized for wear.

Section 3.

Department standards for patch sales should be on file with Emblem Sales.

Article V — Wearing of American Legion Emblem (Cont.)

Section 4.

If Department or Post identifying information is to be embroidered on the patch, Emblem Sales must have on record authorization from the Department Adjutant that such specific identifying information may be used on the patch.

Section 5.

Use of Rockers or patches interfering with, obscuring or physically attached to any part of The American Legion Riders back patch, or the American Legion logo/emblem are not allowed due to Federal trademark law.

Article VI—Determine Elected Officers

Section 1.

The Officers of the Chapter are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Ride Coordinator, Membership Chairperson, Chaplain and Historian. Officers are elected annually.

Section 2.

Between Chapter meetings, the administrative power of the Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee, whose voting members shall consist of all elective officers for the current year and the immediate Past Chapter President.

Section 3.

All other Past Chapter Presidents shall be members of the Executive Committee with voice but no vote.

Article VII—Finance

Section 1.

The revenue of the Chapter shall be derived from such membership fees or dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Chapter Executive Committee. Dues are not a requirement at the national level and are optional at all other levels.

Section 2.

The amount of such membership or initiation fees and the amount of such annual Chapter dues shall be fixed and determined by the Chapter Executive Committee.

Section 3.

The Chapter will provide a monthly financial report to the sponsoring Department/Post Executive Committee.

Article VIII—Amendments

Section 1.

This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provisions of the National Constitution, Department Constitution, and Post Constitution of which this Chapter is a subordinate program. Any amendment to the National, Department, or Post Constitution that is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of the constitution and bylaws of this Chapter to the extent of such conflict.

Section 2.

This Constitution may be amended at any regular Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the membership attending such regular meeting provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing, and read at the immediate preceding Chapter meeting. Further, that traditional mail, telephone or electronic mail notice shall have been sent to all members' of record at least five (5) days in advance of the date which such amendment is to be voted upon, notifying said members that at such meeting there will be a proposal to amend the Constitution.

END

CHAPTER CERTIFICATION

We, the following officers of American Legion Riders, Department of New Jersey, Post 352, hereby certify that the foregoing Chapter Constitution, after due notice was given to all members, was revised, reviewed and adopted at a regular meeting of this Chapter held on the **8th day of March 2018**.

Chapter President

ATTEST:

Chapter Secretary

CHANGE LOG

1. Change status shall be indicated in "Status" column.:
 - o APR meaning approved by majority vote at an American Legion Riders Chapter 352 regular or special meeting.

Date	Change	By	Stat us
3/1/2009	Chapter 352 Constitution Established	Member Vote	APR
1/2/2012	Clarification and realignment of Articles, Incorporation of previously APR chapter minutes.	Member Vote	APR
12/05/2016	Removed Art. VI, Section 1, 1.1 Requirement	Member Vote	APR
3/8/2018	Article II & VI removed Web Master	Member Vote	APR