

BLACK JACKET CRUIZERS

2016 CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1: NAME. The name of this association will be the Black Jacket Cruizers [BJC] and will be referred to as such, or by the initials BJC.

SECTION 2: MISSION. We are Cruizers made up of one group of Sisters and Brothers who love motorcycles. We share a common bond in riding and having fun within a family atmosphere. We display this special bond of brotherhood and sisterhood along with pride in ourselves by being members of a unique motorcycle Cruiser club, titled "Black Jacket Cruizers".

SECTION 3: ORGANIZATION. BJC-is a non-profit / non-charitable organization. Meaning we ride for the journey, adventure and the freedom.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1

SECTION 1: MEETING RULES. Club meetings will follow Parliamentary Procedure (pp). The Sargent at Arms will be familiar with PP, enforce them at meetings, and act as the club parliamentarian.

SECTION 2: MEETINGS. Meetings will be conducted by a Chair who is designated by the President (the President may designate himself as Chair). Meetings will be held the third Thursday of the month at a time and location determined by the Executive Board. If the location is different from the previous month, the Executive Board must notify the entire membership at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting. Meetings are open to Active Members, Prospects, Hang-Arounds, and invited guests only.

SECTION 3: ORDER OF BUSINESS. The order of business at meeting will be:

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Acceptance of prior meetings' minutes
- 3) Reading of communications
- 4) Report of officers
- 5) Report of Executive board actions
- 6) Treasurer's report
- 7) Membership report
- 8) Report of Committees
- 9) Nominations (March meeting only, every two years)
- 10) Elections (April meeting only, every two years)

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- 11) Old business
- 12) New business
- 13) Good of the club (announcements)
- 14) Adjournment

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1: STRUCTURE. BJC has five officer positions: President, Vice President, Sergeant at Arms, Public Relations Officer and Treasurer. The membership is comprised of Active Members and Prospects. All elected officers must be Active Members. The President may also appoint Committee Chairs, Committee Members, Event Chairs, Chaplains, and Road Captains. An Executive Board exists and is comprised of the five (5) elected officers.

SECTION 2: QUORUM. A quorum will consist of at least two (2) Elected Officers and at least 2/3 active Members. No club voting will take place without a quorum.

SECTION 3: VOTING. Only Active members, in good standing may vote. Members must be present to vote, there is no proxy voting and members cannot cast votes over a phone or by other communication methods (e-mail, texting, letters, etc.). Normal voting on motions will be by simple majority. The Chair will ask for all "Ayes" in favor, and "Nays" against. Any member may ask for a "show of hands" if they feel the vote was too close to call a roll call vote may be necessary to make certain only Active Members are voting.

Section 4: Starting/introducing of a Chapter Club: TBD

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1: OFFICERS. The club officers will consist of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, PRO and Sergeant at Arms.

SECTION 2: ELECTIONS. Elections will be held biennially (every two years) during the April meeting. Nominations for elected positions will be taken at the March meeting. No nominations will be accepted at the April meeting. Only members who were nominated at the March meeting will be eligible candidates for office, there is no write-in voting. In the event of an unforeseen situation Executive Board will decide the best method to handle conflict. The PRO will conduct the election which will be by secret ballot. Only the names of the nominated candidates will appear on the ballot. All Active Members present receive one ballot (including the Chair). In the case of a tie, a re-vote will occur for that position only. In case of a second tie, the Chair will cast a tie breaking vote.

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SECTION 3: DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

- A. **PRESIDENT:** The president provides the leadership for the club and is responsible for the following: designating a Chair to preside over the monthly meeting, provide guidance on issues not covered by these by-laws that maintain the well-being of the club, be the spokesperson for the club in all situations including dealings with law enforcement, other clubs, organizations and businesses.
- B. **VICE-PRESIDENT:** The Vice-President will perform the duties of the President when absent, maintain a roster of all members, prospects, and hang-arounds with their club status, and perform duties as prescribed by the President.
- C. **Public Relations Officer (PRO):** The PRO records and maintains records of all Club business, handles all correspondence for the Club, sends out notices of regular or special meetings as required and conducts the clubs elections.
- D. **SERGEANT AT ARMS:** The Sergeant at Arms maintains and keeps order at club meetings and club functions as required, ensures that members adhere to club rulings, policies, and expected models of conduct when dealing with other members or outsiders, defends club members, property, or territory from outside threats, and acts as the parliamentarian during meetings.
- E. **TREASURER:** The Treasurer makes payments from Club funds, maintains financial records and presents a report at each monthly meeting, and monitors the clubs income and expenditures.

SECTION 4: EXECUTIVE BOARD. The executive board consists of members who were elected as officers of the club. The board holds scheduled monthly meetings. Emergency meetings can be called. The executive board is responsible for: the monitoring of conflicts within the club, the application of disciplinary procedures, the evaluation of Prospects and their progress, and making rulings on club matters, including disciplinary actions, and implementing initiatives for the well-being of the club.

SECTION 5: ROAD CAPTAINS. Club Road Captains plan the travel routes and organize the basic itinerary of the club prior to going on rides. Road Captains will also lead the club in formation while riding, and enforce club rules and procedures for group riding. Road Captains may ask for members to produce valid driver's licenses, insurance documents, and vehicle registrations in order to ride with the club.

Road Captain in Training:

1. Training RC will Observe leading RC from the second position,
2. Training RC at (drag position) will be observed by the Drag RC
3. Must know rider hand signals and maintain order at all times.
4. This process could take a period of one riding season unless failing to adhere to these responsibilities.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1: Membership. There are four (4) levels of club affiliation: Active member, Prospect, Hang-around, and Friend of the club. Active Members and Prospects must own a motorcycle; have a valid operator's permit, proof of insurance and valid registration. The four different levels are defined as follows:

- A. **ACTIVE MEMBER:** An Active Member is someone who has been voted into the club by all BJC Active Club Members. He or she has demonstrated being in alignment with the principles, philosophy and by-laws of the club. This member has voting privileges and follows the club by-laws. Active Members are "full patch" (vest) members and are allowed to wear approved club "logo" (non vest) club apparel. Significant others, Wife's and or Girl Friends of Active members will be in an honorable status with no voting rights.
- B. **PROSPECT:** A prospect is someone who has stated a clear intention of being a full patch member of the club. All prospects must have an Active Member sponsor who must meet with the Executive Board to ask if the person can become a Prospect. Prospect must attend 3 consecutive general meeting with sponsor. Prospect must participate in 3 motorcycle rides with sponsor and each ride must reach 80 miles (40 miles each way). 5 or more patched members must witness these rides. After a period of no less than three (3) consecutive months, a Prospect can become an Active Member with a 2/3rds majority vote at a monthly meeting. Similarly, if the club feels the Prospect is no longer a good candidate for Active membership, they can remove the Prospect from the club with a 2/3rds majority vote at a monthly meeting. Prospect will purchase a black vest, rocker and club patch and wear at all times. Prospect must attend all club meetings, rides, and functions. Prospects have no voting privileges but must obey the club by-laws at all times. The induction to the club will be presented to the prospect after the 3 consecutive meetings and 3 club rides at a club meeting or event. The Executive Board can deny request.
- C. **HANG-AROUND:** A Hang-Around is a person who has stated an intention of prospecting for the club but has not either formally announced their desire to prospect yet or has not been presented to the club for a vote on their prospect status. The "hang-around period" may vary from person to person. A Hang-Around can become a prospect by 2/3 majority vote at a monthly meeting. Hang-Arounds may change their status from Friend of the Club to Hang-Around, and back again while deciding if the club is right for them.
- D. **FRIEND OF THE CLUB:** A Friend of the Club is a person who has made contact with the club (most commonly through a friendship or acquaintance with a full patch member), but who has not announced an intention of prospecting for membership. Friends of the club may be invited to join the club on rides or attend other club functions. Friends of the club wear no official club "colors" or patches.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND CODE OF CONDUCT. This is a list of membership requirements and the club Code of Conduct. All members must abide by these rules or face disciplinary procedures (up to and including suspension and dismissal from the club):

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- A) All Active and Prospect members must own a street-legal motorcycle and possess a valid Motorcycle license, insurance and registration.
- B) All members must be safety conscious and ride defensively.
- C) All members are held to their own individual accountability.
- D) All members must obey all local motor vehicle laws.
- E) All members will ride in staggered formation on group rides.
- F) All members will use group riding signals when riding with others.
- G) No member will ride while intoxicated or under the influence of illegal drugs.
- H) All members will wear their Full Patch colors at all club meetings, group rides and club events.
- I) All members will follow the BJC By-Laws.
- J) There will be no stealing among members.
- K) No member will destroy club property purposely.
- L) No member will take the attitude that he doesn't have to help other members and other members don't have to help him.
- M) No member will go against anything the club has voted for and passed.
- N) The club will always stay together on rides, runs, parties, field meets etc. and will not fraternize with club's rival clubs. The only way a member will be permitted to leave the main group will be to notify the president or whoever is in charge. When the time comes that the majority feels it is time to leave, we will all leave together. Anyone staying behind for a good reason will do so at his/her own risk and can expect no help.
- O) Club members shall not fight each other.
- P) Absolutely no talking about Club business to persons outside the Club
- Q) Respect is to be shown to all club members, officers, members, member's bikes, spouses/girl/boyfriends, house, job, etc. In other words, 'don't Mess with it'.
- R) Respect your colors.
- S) Nothing will be worn on the back of your jacket except club colors.

ARTICLE V

SECTION 1: BY-LAWS. This Constitution and By-Laws will not be set aside for any reason.

SECTION 2: AMMENDMENTS. The club's Constitution and Bylaws can be amended by the following procedures:

- A) Any Active Member may propose a By-law amendment. A proposed amendment must be presented in writing showing the Section "as written" and "as proposed". The member submitting the change is the amendment's sponsor.
- B) The proposed amendment will be read by the Chair then automatically tabled until next meeting.
- C) During Old Business at the next club meeting, the sponsor may have the amendment brought from the table for discussion. Amendments cannot be amended. Changes to the amendment require the process to begin anew. Sponsors are encouraged to discuss proposed amendments with members and officers before starting to avoid having to repeat the process.

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- D) Any proposed change will require a 2/3rds vote by the eligible voting members present to be adopted.
- E) If approved, the amendment goes into effect and Documented immediately.

Black Jacket Cruizers 2016-2018 Officers are:

President- Gil Driver

Vice President John Phillips

Public Relations- Calvin Gravette Jr.

Sargent-At-Arms- Steve Jackson

Treasure- Darryl Chappell

This Constitution and By-laws placed in effect:

November, 15 2012

Amended November, 20, 2012

Amended March 2017