



**CONSTITUTION
& BYLAWS**

EMPIRE CITY MOTORCYCLE CLUB

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Article I – Name and Preamble

The club shall be known as “Empire City Motorcycle Club”, hereinafter referred to as “(the) club” or “ECMC”. ECMC was founded October 1964 and was incorporated under the Not-for-Profit Corporation provisions of the State of New York in November 1972. Empire City Motorcycle Club is a fraternal and social organization of male motorcyclists.

Article II – Purpose

Empire City Motorcycle Club was founded to:

1. Cultivate brotherhood among its members by engaging in diverse motorcycling and social activities.
2. Create close fellowship within our community and foster its growth and development.
3. Create group identification for members and to be recognized by members of similar clubs.

Article III – Membership

Membership shall be open to all males over the age of twenty-one (21) who understand and are in general agreement with the goals and purposes of this club. The bylaws of ECMC provide detailed requirements and official procedures for acceptance of such applicants. Membership shall be as follows:

A) FULL MEMBER

1. Full membership requirements are outlined in ECMC’s bylaws.
2. A full member shall have all voting rights and privileges, when in good standing.
3. A full member shall have the right to hold office, when in good standing.
4. A full member may request a change of membership status to Reserve Member, Associate Member or Emeritus Member, in writing to the Executive Board.
5. A full member shall attend at least three ECMC official rides each calendar year.

B) RESERVE MEMBER

1. Reserve membership is available to full members who are unable to fulfill the obligations of full membership, as outlined in ECMC’s bylaws.
2. A reserve member shall enjoy all the rights of a full member except for the right to vote, to present a motion or to hold an office.

C) ASSOCIATE MEMBER

1. Associate membership is available as outlined in ECMC’s bylaws.
2. An associate member shall enjoy all the rights of a full member except for the right to vote, to present a motion, to hold office or to wear an ECMC backpatch/cheese grater.
3. An associate member shall attend at least one ECMC official ride each calendar year.

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D) EMERITUS MEMBER

1. Emeritus membership is available as outlined in the ECMC bylaws.
2. An emeritus member shall enjoy all the rights of a full member except for the right to vote, to present a motion or to hold office. Emeritus members may wear ECMC backpatch/cheesegrater.
3. An emeritus member is not required to pay any dues.

E) HONORARY MEMBER

1. An honorary membership may be conferred upon any non-member in recognition of outstanding contributions, exemplified by acts of brotherhood.
2. An honorary member shall enjoy all the rights of a full member except for the right to vote, to present a motion or to hold office.
3. An honorary member is not required to pay any dues.

F) FORMER MEMBER REINSTATEMENT

1. Former members may request reinstatement in writing to the Executive Board.
2. Former members applying for reinstatement must have left the club "in good standing" no more than twelve (12) months prior to their written request. Any request for reinstatement from a former member who has not been a member for more than twelve (12) months shall be treated as an application for new membership.
3. A former member may be reinstated by two-thirds (2/3rds) of the full voting membership, including absentee ballots.
4. The club shall consider the request for at least thirty (30) days and shall act upon the request after a period of no more than sixty (60) days.

Article IV – Officers and Governing Body

1. There shall be at least five (5) elected officers. All officers and the immediate Past President, as "advisor", shall constitute the "Executive Board", having general administrative powers.
2. The officers shall be: President, Vice-President, Road Captain, Secretary and Treasurer.
3. If there are fewer than eight (8) full members in the club, the number of officers may be reduced to reflect current need. In this event, an officer may hold more than one office; however, in no case may there be fewer than three officers.
4. The offices of President and Treasurer cannot be held simultaneously by the same person.
5. When there are eight (8) or more full members, a full complement of officers shall preside.
6. The duties and responsibilities of the officers are outlined in the bylaws.

A) ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. President, Vice-President, Road Captain, Secretary and Treasurer are all elected officers.
2. First nominations for officers shall be held annually in the Open General Meeting held in December.
3. Second nominations for officers shall take place at the Open General Meeting in January immediately followed by election of officers.

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4. Official installation of the new officers shall take place before the 15th of February at either an Open General Meeting or an official ECMC function (i.e. an installation dinner)
5. No officer shall be permitted to serve in their respective office beyond two (2) consecutive terms.

B) VACANCIES

1. When the office of the President has been vacated, the Vice-President shall assume the office and duties of the President. A new Vice-President shall be elected at the next Open General Meeting.
2. When any of the other elected offices are vacated, an election shall be held at the next Open General Meeting to fill said vacancy.

C) MEETINGS

1. There is to be at least one Open General Meeting each month. Meetings are to be announced by the President at the prior meeting and advertised in the Official Club Calendar.
2. All meetings of the Executive Board shall be open to the general membership of the club, except those meetings held in Executive session, when deemed necessary. The Executive Board shall report the content of any such executive session to the full membership at the next Open General Meeting.
3. Meeting requirements and specifications are outlined in the bylaws.

Article V – Established Offices

1. The bylaws provide for appointed offices as deemed necessary by the Executive Board (i.e. AMCC Representative, Sergeant at Arms, Pledge Master, etc.)

Article VI – Committees

1. Any committee shall be led by a chairman appointed by the Executive Board.

Article VII – Finances

1. Empire City Motorcycle Club is a self-sustaining, nonprofit organization.
2. The start of the fiscal year for ECMC shall begin on the first day of the month following elections (i.e. the first of February). The start of the fiscal year shall also be considered the start of the “riding year” or “physical year” for all the club’s record-keeping purposes.
3. Regular club dues, fees and fines shall be outlined in the bylaws.
4. Dues and fees will be used for the benefit of the club as voted on by the majority of the membership. Membership approval is not required for certain typical recurring expenses, such as maintaining an inventory of club patches, website provider fees and rent paid for meeting space.
5. Any member (or members) of the Executive Board may approve the appropriate expenditure of club funds, not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$200.00) when it would be impractical to wait on a club vote; however, take note that such an action is not cumulative (for example: two officers may not authorize a \$400 expenditure.) Spontaneous expenditures of this nature are regulated as outlined in the bylaws.
6. Club functions and activities are “pay as you go” by the membership present.
7. It is not the intention of the club or its membership to acquire funds for profit.

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Article VIII – Amendments

1. Any amendments to ECMC's Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall read proposed amendments at the soonest Open General Meeting.
2. Any amendment, after being read once to the membership in an Open General Meeting, shall be re-read to the membership and called to a vote at the following Open General Meeting.
3. It is incumbent upon the member proposing such amendments that he contact the full voting membership prior to the Open General Meeting where it is read and presented for a vote. He can obtain proxies from those that cannot attend the meeting.
4. Any amendments to ECMC's Constitution require approval by four-fifths (4/5^{ths}) of the full voting membership.

Article IX – Insurance & Liability

1. All members are required to maintain their motorcycle insurance where required by law.
2. ECMC, affiliates, officers and members take no responsibility and accept no liability for any other member's or guest's person, possessions and/or safety while involved in club rides/functions.

Article X – Dissolution

1. The membership may choose to dissolve the club and distribute the club's assets.
2. Four-fifths (4/5^{ths}) of the full voting membership must approve any vote to dissolve the club.
3. The distribution of club assets is subject to applicable state and federal law.

Empire City Motorcycle Club Constitution

Version 1, Adopted: 1st August 2012

Version 2, Revised: 3rd August 2016

Version 3, Adopted: 5th November 2025

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ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP

I. Start Here: Joining Empire City MC (Associate Membership)

All new applications for membership in Empire City MC are at an Associate Member level. As they are seeking/attaining membership, they are referred to as a “Prospect” (prospective member).

A Prospect must identify as male, be twenty-one (21) years of age or older at the time of applying and be a legally licensed and insured motorcycle owner and operator. Prospects, as well as Full and Associate Members, are required to maintain an active motorcycle driving license. They must also own at least one motorcycle in working order, have active insurance, valid registration, and meet all other legal requirements of their state or commonwealth for operating their bike.

Prospects (as well as Associate and Full Members throughout their active membership) are required to hold a valid license with motorcycle endorsement, motorcycle registration, motorcycle insurance and maintain their motorcycle in a safe riding condition, as per the state or commonwealth the member lives in (i.e. inspection). This information is required to be shown to the Road Captain every year prior to the member riding with the club. Prospects and Members may be requested to present their motorcycle to the Road Captain for a general safety inspection prior to riding with the club.

The Prospect must show their intent to join the club by completing the official ECMC membership application, which is available at www.EmpireCityMC.com, and request that it be presented to the General Membership at an Open General Meeting by his Primary Sponsor along with his membership application fee.

Prior to submitting the Membership Application, the Prospect must ensure the document is completed in full. The Membership Application must indicate the Sponsors for the Prospect. Sponsors should have experience riding motorcycles together with the Prospect. The Primary Sponsor must be a Full Member in good standing; the Second Sponsor may be a Full or an Associate Member in good standing. The Prospect’s Sponsors shall monitor the Prospect’s behavior and shall be responsible for the Prospect’s general acclimation into the club for one year from the date of membership application.

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It is a requirement that the Prospect attend the Open General Meeting when his membership application is being presented and that, within 12 months prior to this meeting, the Prospect has ridden their motorcycle in an Official Club Ride, as defined in Article 11 of the By-laws.

At the Open General Meeting, the Prospect's Primary Sponsor shall move to accept the Prospect as an Associate Member, allowing the Full Membership to discuss and vote on the Prospect's Associate Membership application and merit, reserving the right to table the motion until the following meeting to address deficiencies (for up to three meetings before rejecting the application outright.) The vote shall be by secret ballot, and a simple majority of affirming votes is all that is required to pass the motion and grant Associate Membership.

II. Expectations of all Members

Associate members are asked to kindly attend all Open General Meetings whenever they can, full members are expected to attend every Open General Meeting, with the exception of health, family and work conflicts, in which case, they shall inform the President directly of any absences, indicating a proxy for their vote.

All members are expected to know and abide by the ECMC Constitution and By-Laws, including paying any Dues, Fees or Fines required.

All members are expected to acquaint themselves with all ECMC members (familiarily referred to as "brothers").

At all times, all members are expected to respect their ECMC brothers and the club in general, including our club insignia (colors), as well as the members of other motorcycle clubs.

All members are expected to wear their colors, rockers and/or insignia at all appropriate events, rides and meetings, and whenever deemed appropriate.

III. Full Membership (going further with ECMC)

Only Full Members may hold office or vote in Empire City MC.

After an Associate Member has been in good standing in the club for six months or more, they may petition the club for Full Membership at an Open General Meeting. This would be made as a motion by a full member on behalf of the associate

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member. They would then be voted upon by the entire Full Membership in good standing in a secret ballot. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required to attain Full Membership in the club. A newly admitted Full Member may not hold office for six months during their "probationary period".

Full Members of Empire City MC are prohibited from applying for full membership to any other motorcycle club or organization of similar composition or purpose. Full members are prohibited from wearing the back patch of any other motorcycle club or organization of similar composition or purpose.

A former Full Member of ECMC who left the club or changed their membership status to Associate Membership may request reinstatement as a Full Member, provided the request for reinstatement is made within one (1) year of the date of separation as a Full Member.

An application from a former member who has not been a Full Member with the club for more than one year (1) shall be treated as a new application for Associate Membership.

IV. Reserve Membership (putting on the brakes)

A full member in good standing with special circumstances may apply to have his membership level changed from Full Member to Reserve Member. The Full Member applying for Reserve Membership status must do so in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will inform the membership of the request at the earliest Open General Meeting.

A reserve membership status is granted for a period of no more than six (6) months, after which it may be either extended or withdrawn. A reserve member requesting an extension must do so by writing to the Executive Board. Reserve membership status is extended by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the full voting membership.

A reserve member retains all the privileges of a full member except making motions, voting or casting an absentee ballot.

A reserve member may not hold a position on the Executive Board, nor actively chair any committee, however a reserve member is not barred from participating in a committee.

A reserve member shall be required to pay annual membership dues.

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A reserve member is not required to attend meetings, events or rides.

V. Emeritus Membership (what if I can't ride anymore?)

Full Members who have been involved with the club for ten (10) years or more, who can no longer fulfill all the obligations of Full Membership may apply for "Emeritus Membership" either in writing or in-person to the Executive Board.

Emeritus Members retain all the privileges of full membership including the privilege of wearing all club insignia that a Full Member can; however, they will not have the right to vote or present a motion at a meeting or hold a position on the Executive Board.

Prior full members of ten (10) years or more who resigned in good standing may be nominated for Emeritus Membership by any current member.

Emeritus Membership may only be granted by a two-third (2/3) majority of the full voting membership.

Emeritus Members are not required to present a valid motorcycle license, motorcycle registration or proof of insurance to the Road Captain (no bike), nor are they required to meet any rides or participation requirements.

An Emeritus Member is exempt from paying annual membership dues.

VI. Honorary Membership

An Honorary Member is someone who has been recommended for Honorary Membership to the Executive Board by a Full Member in good standing as being instrumental with the development of the club and fostering brotherhood.

The Executive Board must recommend all nominees for honorary membership to the full ECMC membership. Honorary membership may only be bestowed upon a person by a unanimous vote of the full voting membership.

Honorary Members retain all the privileges of full membership including the privilege of wearing all club insignia that a Full Member can; however, they will not have the right to vote or present a motion at a meeting or hold a position on the Executive Board.

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Honorary Members are not required to present a valid motorcycle license, motorcycle registration or proof of insurance to the Road Captain (no bike), nor are they required to meet any rides or participation requirements.

Honorary Members are exempt from paying annual membership dues.

VII. Limits on Membership (we are fraternal, not worldly)

The club should limit its membership to:

- thirty (30) full and reserve members
- fifty (50) associate members
- twenty (20) emeritus Members, and
- ten (10) honorary members

ARTICLE 2 – CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP STATUS

- I. Circumstances Affecting Status: If circumstances arise that affect a person's status within the club, the member must inform the Executive Board and affirm his desired membership status to the Executive Board.
- II. Associate Member to Full Member: If Full Membership is desired after six months of being an Associate Member in good standing, the Member shall inform the Executive Board in writing of such a desire and the process outlined in the Bylaws, Article 1, Section III shall be utilized for the transition.
- III. Full Membership to Associate Member: If a Full Member chooses to reduce their membership status to Associate Member, they only need to return any Full Member insignia (Cheesegrater, ECMC Back Patch and AMCC Patch), retain the small (front patch) and let the Executive Board know of this desired status change in writing. No vote is required for changing from Full to Associate Member.
- IV. Resignation from ECMC: If a member elects to resign from the club, he must do so respectfully in writing to the Executive Board. Upon resignation, the member must immediately return all ECMC property, including but not limited to club colors and insignia. They must also remit any outstanding dues, fines or amounts owed to the club.

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ARTICLE 3 – RULES & CONDUCT

- I. Motorcycle Riding & Safety: All persons who ride motorcycles with the club (herein referred to as “Riders”) are required:
 - a) to keep their motorcycle license, registration and insurance in effect and comply with their state’s legal requirements for inspections and the safe and legal operation of a motorcycle.
 - b) to present proof of motorcycle license, registration, insurance and any state-required inspection to the Road Captain upon request and prior to their first ride with the club for each riding season.
 - c) If the Road Captain determines a rider is demonstrating an inability to operate their motorcycle in a safe and responsible manner, they may be prohibited from riding with the club. If there are repeat offenses, the Executive Board may ask the Member to complete an accredited motorcycle safety class before they can resume riding with the club.
 - d) If a rider is without an operational, registered and insured motorcycle, or is unable to ride for a period of time of more than thirty (30) days, the rider’s membership status may be changed to Reserve Member by the Executive Board until the circumstance is remedied. If the circumstance remains unremedied for period of greater than six (6) months, the rider will then need to state their membership intentions in writing to the Executive Board.
- II. Attending Meetings: Full members are expected to attend the monthly Open General Meeting. Upon request to the President, a full member may be excused from attending a meeting for special circumstances (i.e. an emergency, illness, work requirements et al.). The Executive Board shall determine whether the reason or circumstance for not attending a meeting is appropriate.
- III. Participation Requirements: In a riding year, as defined by Article VII, Section II of the ECMC constitution, to remain a member in good standing:
 - a) Full members are required to participate in at least three Official Club Rides and Associate members are required to participate in at least one Official Club Ride.
 - b) An individual’s participation is only valid when the member is wearing official club colors, as defined by Article 9 of the By-Laws.

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- c) Official Rides are defined in Article 11 of the ECMC By-Laws.
 - d) Failure to meet annual membership participation requirements may result in actions by the Executive Board, such as suspension of voting privileges, censure, probation, or expulsion.
 - e) The Secretary shall keep accurate records of member participation in the club's member participation journal, with data provided by the Road Captain.
- IV. Precedence of Duty: A full member may join other motorcycle clubs or organizations of similar composition or purpose as an Associate Member, but he cannot "pledge" or otherwise assume the responsibilities or like dedication comparable to the full membership in another motorcycle club or organization of similar composition or purpose. Further, full members of ECMC cannot hold an executive office in any other motorcycle club or organization of similar composition or purpose. Internet or web-based clubs, motorcycle ownership groups and riding associations (e.g. Harley Owners Group, Honda Riders Club of America, Good Times Owners Club and STAR Touring and Riding Association) are excluded from this prohibition.
- a. When a full member attends any function, his primary responsibility will be to ECMC.
 - b. Full members of ECMC shall wear only the Empire City Motorcycle Club back patch, and no other club's back patch.
 - c. For a full description of ECMC's insignia, patches and colors refer to Article 9 of the By-Laws and Article 11, Section IV of the By-Laws.
- V. Dues and Fines: Annual dues are to be paid in advance to the Treasurer by March's first Open General Meeting.
- a. Dues are as follows:
 - i. Full members/Reserve members: \$100.00 annually
 - ii. Associate members: \$35.00 annually

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- b. Dues or any outstanding amounts owed to ECMC that are delinquent for two months or more shall constitute an automatic probationary period of two months with written notice from the Executive Board to the member. In addition, the member is no longer in good standing and forfeits his voting privileges during the probationary period or until full remittance is made. The member may appeal to Executive Board and explain the reason for non-payment. The Executive Board may override the automatic probationary period if “special circumstances” so warrant.
- VI. Dues or any outstanding amounts owed to ECMC that are delinquent for six months shall constitute an automatic expulsion from ECMC. Members expelled due to non-payment of dues who wish to reapply for membership shall first make full remittance of past dues owed to ECMC, then shall follow the “Former Member Reinstatement Process”, as outlined in Article III, Section F of the ECMC constitution.
 - VII. While at an Official Club Ride, club-related event or engaged on official club business, all members and their guests must make sure that the club is positively represented. No member or guest shall cause harm to the reputation of the club.
 - VIII. The use or possession of illegal drugs or weapons by a member or a guest of a member at any time is strictly prohibited. Any member found violating this prohibition may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the full voting membership.
 - IX. Disciplinary Actions: The Executive Board shall have the power to impose disciplinary action on any member.
 - a) The following shall constitute a disciplinary action:
 - i. A verbal warning
 - ii. A written warning, with copy of which will be entered in the member’s file
 - iii. Loss of the right to make a motion
 - iv. Loss of the right to vote
 - v. Loss of the right to hold an office
 - vi. Loss of the right to wear club colors or insignia
 - vii. Loss of the right to represent the club in an official capacity
 - viii. Fines for inappropriate conduct
 - ix. Censure, probation or expulsion

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- b) Additionally, the Sergeant-at-Arms has the authority to impose a fine upon a disorderly member as a disciplinary action, as outlined in Article 4, Section VIII, Sub-Section 'b', Sub-Sections 'a-f' of the ECMC By-laws. The fines are:
 - i. Five dollars (\$5.00) for not wearing club colors to a club meeting, a club-sponsored ride or a club-designated event.
 - ii. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for insubordination, behavior disrespectful to the club or other members.
 - c) A member may be expelled for conduct unbecoming an ECMC member. If a complaint is submitted to the Executive Board, the Executive Board shall inform the member of the complaint against him in writing, investigate the complaint, take evidence, then hold a hearing at which the member may appear to rebut the complaint or resign. If the member does not resign, the Executive Board shall report its recommendation to the full membership after the hearing. Expulsion of a member for disciplinary reasons shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the full voting membership.
- X. Obligating the Club: Any obligation, financial or otherwise, made by an ECMC member on behalf of the club must be approved by a majority of the full voting membership, except as is exempt in Article VII, Section 5 of the ECMC constitution. The club shall not be responsible for a member's personal loans or obligations of credit as extended to him by other ECMC members, the members of other clubs or other individuals or businesses. Additionally, ECMC is not responsible for any and all financial obligations based on either current or past financial commitments of the club that have not been approved by the voting membership.

ARTICLE 4 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- I. Officers: Elected officers are responsible for the administration of the club's constitution and the enforcement of the club's By-laws. Members are limited to two (2) consecutive terms as either President, Vice-President, Road Captain, Secretary or Treasurer. After two (2) consecutive terms as President, Vice-President, Road Captain, Secretary or Treasurer, the member may not run for same office for a third term. The member may rerun one (1) year from the date that he no longer held that specific office.

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- II. President: The President shall act as the presiding officer of the club with the authority and duties incidental to the office and serve as an ex-officio member of all club committees.
- a. The President shall act as the official representative of the club in all public relations affairs.
 - b. The President shall assist the other ECMC officers and members in the interpretation of their club responsibilities.
 - c. The President shall advance the club among its members.
 - d. The President, with the advice and assistance of the Executive Board, shall preside over areas not covered in the club's constitution or by-laws.
- III. Vice-President: The Vice-President shall act as the presiding officer in the absence of the President, with the authority and duties incidental to the office during the absence of the President. Additionally, the Vice-President is the club's logistician for club events.
- a. The Vice-President shall assist the President.
 - b. The Vice-President shall plan and schedule all non-riding activities and events (i.e. barnights, parties, fund-raisers, and others). If an event contains a riding element, then the Vice-President shall work with the Road Captain with respect to the "riding" aspect of the event.
 - c. Within sixty (60) days following his election to office, the Vice-President shall present to the club a forecast of proposed official club events for the coming year and maintain club events in the official club calendar.
 - d. The Vice-President shall plan and/or execute at least three events per year.
 - e. The Vice-President shall coordinate the assignment of duties and responsibilities for ECMC events. The Vice-President may delegate his authority to others for such events.

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- IV. Road Captain: The Road Captain shall plan all Official Club Rides and motorcycling activities and has command of the movement of the main group of members traveling to and from all events. The Road Captain shall be the presiding officer in the absence of both the President and Vice-President. Additionally, the Road Captain is the club's chief security officer and logistician for Official Club Rides.
- a. The Road Captain shall plan all Official Club Rides, including mapping out routes to be taken, arranging maintenance stops for rest, refueling and food.
 - b. The Road Captain shall work with the Vice-President to coordinate travel plans to and from events when the club is traveling by motorcycle or by other means.
 - c. Within sixty (60) days following his election to office, the Road Captain shall present to the club a forecast of proposed Official Club Rides for the coming year and maintain club rides in the official club calendar.
 - d. The Road-Captain shall plan/execute at least ten (10) rides per year, giving all members the opportunity to complete their participation requirements as outlined in Article 3, Section III, Sub-Section 'a'.
 - e. The Road Captain shall promote all club rides, including member-proposed rides. When the Road Captain is notified by a member of proposed ride he is organizing or promoting, the Road Captain must review the proposed ride to confirm its eligibility as an "Official Club Ride" as outlined by Article 11, Section I, Sub-Sections 'a-c'. Once verified as an Official Club Ride, the Road Captain must post the ride to the official club calendar and alert the membership as outlined in Article 11, Section I, Sub-Sections 'a-c'.
 - f. The Road Captain shall promote safe riding among the club members and enforce the general riding rules of the club. If, in his judgment, a rider is jeopardizing the safety of others, it is the duty of the Road Captain to inform the Sergeant-at-Arms. If the rider continues to be a safety risk to others, in the absence of the

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Sergeant-at-Arms, the Road Captain has the authority to request that the rider at issue leave the riding group.

- g. The Road Captain shall forward all records of each member's participation in Official Club Rides to the Secretary for recording in the club's member participation journal.

V. Secretary: The Secretary shall be responsible for all official club correspondence, keeping all club records organized and up to date. The Secretary shall be the presiding officer in the absence of the President, Vice-President and Road Captain. Additionally, the Secretary is the club's chief information and technology officer and official recorder for club meetings.

- a. The Secretary shall record and safeguard the recorded minutes of all club meetings.
- b. The Secretary shall provide the minutes from the club meetings to the membership within seven (7) days of the meeting.
- c. The Secretary shall keep an up-to date record of the membership roster, including providing an updated membership roster whenever a change is made, or annually if no changes are made.
- d. The Secretary shall maintain and keep the club's websites www.empirecitymc.com and www.empirecitymc.org up-to-date. The Secretary may delegate his responsibility to the club's website but must still ensure that the website is current.
- e. The Secretary shall maintain the club's constitution and by-laws, including recording any additions, deletions or modifications.
- f. The Secretary shall accurately record all members' club participation, as provided to him by the Road Captain in the club's member participation journal.
- g. The Secretary shall present the club's participation journal on demand at any Open General Meeting for examination, if requested, by the Executive Board or Membership Committee.

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- h. The Secretary shall hold all club records, except financial records corporate record and the list of club's property, which shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer.
- i. The Secretary is responsible for production and distribution of any club newsletter(s) or other inter-club correspondence, although delegation is allowed, the Secretary remains personally responsible for persistence of duty.

VI. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall keep records of all financial transactions of the club. Additionally, the treasurer shall:

- a. Receive and disburse all funds to/from the club utilizing the club's official bank account(s).
- b. The Treasurer shall provide accurate monthly financial reports at each monthly Open General Meeting.
- c. The Treasurer shall notify the Executive Board of any member in arrears of dues and any funds payable to the club.
- d. Keep inventory and actual possession of club property pertinent to the role of Treasurer (patch inventory, cheese graters, bank statements, pins, legal documents, etc.)
- e. Ensure only authorized persons have access to the bank accounts and are on the signature card for ECMC bank accounts.

VII. Discipline of Officers:

- a. If an officer fails to carry out the duties of his office or carries them out in a manner detrimental to the club, and there is evidence supporting the dereliction of duty, he may be impeached by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full voting membership.
- b. Any officer being considered for impeachment or other disciplinary action must be informed in writing of the charges against him. The officer at issue shall have the opportunity to rebut or resign from the office within thirty (30) days.

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- c. If an officer is impeached, the Executive Board shall hold a hearing within thirty (30) days to determine what additional actions need to be taken, including the interim election of a new officer.
 - d. A Vote of No Confidence may be taken at any time after three (3) months from the date of election on any officer, combination of officers, or the Executive Board itself by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full voting membership.
- VIII. Appointments: The Executive Board shall have the power to appoint a member in good standing for any position as required by the needs of the club. Two standing positions are:
- a. Atlantic Motorcycle Coordinating Council ("AMCC") Representative shall:
 - a. Attend, delegate or assign a proxy to represent ECMC at all AMCC meetings.
 - b. Make motions, second motions, discuss motions and generally take any action(s) necessary on behalf of ECMC at AMCC meetings.
 - c. Ensure confirmation of any ECMC events which are to be considered "AMCC sanctioned" and ensure ECMC events are published to the AMCC calendar(s).
 - d. Report to the general membership on all items concerning AMCC.
 - b. Sergeant-at-Arms shall:
 - a. Be responsible for maintaining order at all meetings, events and rides.
 - b. Request from the officer in charge to remove disorderly persons.
 - c. Bar all unauthorized persons from attending club meetings, events and rides.
 - d. Ensure members adhere to club rulings, policies and rules of conduct when dealing with other members or outsiders.

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- e. Defend club members and property from outside threats.
- f. Impose fines on disorderly members as a disciplinary action (*The Executive Board shall have the power to add or remove fines for special circumstances*).

ARTICLE 5 – MEETINGS

- I. Open General Meetings: There is to be at least one Open General Meeting each month. Meetings are announced by the President.
 - a. Except for any confidential portions of the Open General Meeting, Open General Meetings shall be open to members, invited guests, prospects, and the spouses or partners of ECMC members.
 - b. A quorum shall consist of the number equal to more than one-half (>50%) of all full members in good standing.
 - c. The Secretary shall keep a written record of attendance at each meeting. The record shall make note of attending members, excused and unexcused absentees, late arrivals, and guests. The record shall be kept by calendar year.
 - d. All full members are required to wear their colors when attending meetings.
 - e. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the order of business at meetings.
 - f. Unless explicitly stated otherwise, a simple majority rule applies for all meeting votes.
 - g. Talking during the meeting is prohibited, unless the speaker has been given the floor by the President. Anyone not abiding by this rule shall be excused/evicted from the meeting by the Sergeant-at-Arms. If the Sergeant-at-Arms is not present, an interim Sergeant-at-Arms may be appointed.
- II. Voting During Meetings: Only members in good standing have the privilege to vote.

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- a. No voting shall take place without a quorum present.
 - b. A motion shall be carried out by a simple majority vote of those present and voting, including any proxy votes unless otherwise specified in the Constitution or By-laws.
 - c. Any full member in good standing may designate another full member in good standing to vote on his behalf as a proxy if absent during a vote. If there is no proxy and at their discretion, the Executive Board may contact an absent member to obtain their immediate vote.
- III. Executive Board Meetings: All meetings of the Executive Board are to be open to all members of the club and advertised in advance on the Official Club Calendar (if possible).

ARTICLE 6 – CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

- I. Elections of Officers: An election of officers shall be held annually as defined in the ECMC Constitution, Article IV, Section A.
- a. All full members in good standing are eligible to vote or to be nominated for an office.
 - b. If online, the Election of Officers shall be held by ballot via private chat or text message to a non-voting person. If in person, the Sergeant-at-Arms shall preside over all elections.
 - c. Voting for officers shall take place in the following order:
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice-President
 - iii. Road Captain
 - iv. Treasurer
 - v. Secretary
 - d. A full member may be nominated for more than one office; however, any member who is nominated for more than one office and is not elected to the first office for which he is nominated remains a nominee for the next

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office. Once duly elected to an office, the member is no longer a nominee for any other office, except under the special circumstances indicated in the ECMC Constitution, Article IV.

- e. The nominee who receives more votes than any other nominee shall be elected to that office. Any vote ending in a tie must be revoted until a winner is declared.

ARTICLE 7 – COMMITTEES

- I. Committees: It shall be the responsibility of the respective committees to perform all the planning and research necessary to carry out their responsibilities.
 - a. Committee chairmen are responsible for any correspondence necessary to carry out the committee's responsibilities unless the Executive Board has made alternate arrangements. Any correspondence that is pertinent to a club event or ride shall be made in duplicate and forwarded to the Executive Board for proper disposition.
 - b. Audit Committee: An Audit Committee consisting of two members, excluding current officers must be appointed by the President before annual elections. The Audit Committee shall provide certification of the club's finances, ensuring statements and treasurer's reports are in order. The financial audit needs to be presented to the membership at the Open General Meeting prior to the opening of the floor for the first nominations for officers in December's Open General Meeting. Additionally, it shall be the responsibility of the Audit Committee to supervise the transfer of all club records, property, access to property, equipment and keys between the former officers and the newly elected officers.

ARTICLE 8 – FINANCES

- I. Financing Club Activities: Any disbursement of club funds requires a majority vote of the full voting membership.
 - a. Any expense greater than two-hundred and fifty dollars (>\$250.00) must be approved by a motion and voted upon by the full voting membership.

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- b. In the event an expenditure is paid on behalf of the club without a prior vote of the full voting membership and a request for reimbursement is made, the approval of the reimbursement requires a majority vote of the full voting membership.
- II. Annual Finance Report: It shall be the responsibility of the Treasurer to provide an annual finance report to the full membership at the February Open General Meeting for the prior fiscal year.
- III. Accident Fund: In 1974, the "ECMC Accident Fund" was established with a grant from our member Jack Dowling. The Accident Fund assets shall be kept in a separate, interest-bearing account. The purpose of the Accident Fund is to assist any ECMC member (or friend of the club/hanger-on if approved by the e-board) in the event they have a motorcycle accident and/or need financial assistance for motorcycle repairs. Upon request, the assets in the Accident Fund account are available to members as an interest-free loan. Repayment arrangements should be determined between the e-board and the borrower, based on the individual's ability to repay.

ARTICLE 9 – CLUB COLORS AND INSIGNIA

- I. Insignia definitions:
 - i. ECMC Logo: the Empire City Motorcycle Club's official logo is a blue-colored "shield and spear of the Roman god Mars" (♁), outlined in red and center-filled in yellow, containing the text "EMPIRE CITY MC" in red type over the yellow center portion.
 - ii. Cheese-grater: a leather-backed, studded representation of the ECMC logo, measuring 13½ inches horizontally and 18 inches vertically, designed for display on the back.
 - iii. Back Patch: a cloth representation of the ECMC logo, measuring 8¼ inches in diameter.
 - iv. Front Patch: a cloth representation of the ECMC logo, measuring 3 inches in diameter.

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- v. AMCC Patch: a cloth representation of the AMCC logo, measuring 3½ inches in diameter.
 - vi. Top Rocker: a cloth patch containing the text, "EMPIRE CITY".
 - vii. Bottom Rocker: a cloth patch containing the name of the city or state you reside in.
 - viii. Name Tag: a metal tag containing a person's name and/or nickname.
 - ix. Office Pin: a metal tag containing the name of a rank of office
 - x. Club Colors: A jacket, collared shirt or vest containing any combination of the items mentioned above, once the item at issue has been affixed to a jacket, vest or other garment.
- II. Wearing Club Colors and Insignia: The club colors and insignia are to be always respected and worn respectfully. Additionally, ECMC members will respect all other motorcycle clubs and their colors and require the same of them.
- a. Only Full, Honorary, Emeritus and Reserve Members may wear the Cheese-grater and/or Back Patch.
 - b. All Members including Associate Members may wear the front patch.
 - c. Any ECMC member who wears an ECMC Back Patch must also permanently affix the ECMC Front Patch over the left breast pocket of a jacket or vest. If the member is an associate of another club and would like to display the front patch of the other club as a part of their colors, the ECMC Front Patch should take precedence over all other patches.
 - d. It is preferable that Associate Members permanently affix the ECMC Front Patch over the left breast pocket, or any other respectful location on their jacket or vest, if the left breast pocket is not possible.
 - e. Full, Honorary, Reserve and Emeritus members must permanently affix an AMCC Patch over the right breast pocket of a jacket or vest.

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- f. At no time shall any member allow a non-member to wear the club's colors or insignia.
 - g. Each member is required to make a monetary deposit for issuance of club colors, insignia and patches.
- III. Additional Insignia: Any member in good standing may request additional club patch(es) for the purpose of displaying them on a secondary jacket, vest or mechanic's shirt. Associate members may only obtain small ECMC patches. Members entitled to wear a Cheese-grater may only possess one Cheese-grater.
- IV. Use of Club Colors and Insignia: At all times, all ECMC colors, insignia, patches, rockers, tags and pins remain the property of the Empire City Motorcycle Club. Existing colors, insignia, cheese-graters, patches and other items are of great historical significance to the heritage of the club and may not be altered, enhanced or interfered with without due consideration and the approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the full voting membership.
- a. The Executive Board, with the approval of the full membership, shall have the exclusive authority to approve alternate insignia for use on motorcycles, motor vehicles or other appropriate positions.
 - b. Whenever club insignia is used in any publication of any type, including electronic media, it must conform as closely as possible to the historical designs. Stylized or modernized versions of the club's insignia must not be used, unless well-considered and approved by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of the full voting membership.
- V. Return of Club Colors and Insignia: Any person who resigns as a member of ECMC or whose membership is terminated for any reason, is required to return all club property to the Executive Board immediately.

ARTICLE 10 – AMENDING THE ECMC BY-LAWS

- I. Amendments: Any member proposing an amendment to the ECMC By-laws shall submit the proposal in writing to the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall notify the general membership of the proposed amendment at the next Open General Meeting. It is incumbent upon the member proposing the amendment that

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he contact full voting membership prior to the next Open General Meeting where the proposed amendment shall be read, discussed and presented for a vote.

- II. Voting on Amendments: Any amendments to the ECMC By-laws shall require approval by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the full voting membership. The member proposing the amendment may obtain proxy votes from those members who are unable to attend the meeting.

ARTICLE 11 – DEFINITIONS

- I. Official Club Ride: An “Official Club Ride” is an organized riding activity, sanctioned by the Road Captain. In order for the ride to be considered an “Official Club Ride” for the purpose of fulfilling participation requirements:
 - a. The ride must be posted on ECMC’s official calendar no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to KSU (Kickstands Up) time.
 - b. Ride information must be communicated (i.e. telephone, e-mail, text message etc.) to all full and associate members with no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to KSU (Kickstands Up) time. (Automatic Official Calendar notification is considered sufficient.)
 - c. The ride must include at least one (1) member of the Executive Board and one (1) member in good standing OR at least three (3) members in good standing.

(ECMC encourages all of its members and friends to ride together socially as often as possible. There are no requirements that general motorcycle rides nor correspondence promoting the ride be filtered through or “approved” by the Road-Captain; however, it is the responsibility of the Road-Captain to promptly take information pertaining to rides provided to him by the general membership and determine, in his discretion, if the ride should be on the club’s official calendar, as an “Official Club Ride”.)

- III. Motorcycle: The term “motorcycle” is hereby defined by Empire City Motorcycle Club as:
 - a. A two or three-wheeled vehicle originally manufactured, with motive power, having a seat or saddle requiring the rider to sit astride, designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, with

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- b. Steering controlled by handlebars, acceleration and braking controlled by handlebar and foot controls, and
 - c. Capable of reaching speeds more than 30 mph and legally allowed to travel on all United States Interstate Highways, and
 - d. The operator is required to hold a driver's license with a specific endorsement for motorcycle, with
 - e. A front wheel rim no smaller than eleven (11) inches in diameter, and
 - f. Have an engine displacement of no less than three-hundred and ninety-nine (399) cubic centimeters, or equivalent power (torque) in respect to combustion engine displacement.
- IV. Back Patch: A primary club patch, typically the largest patch worn on the back of a jacket or vest. A Back Patch is a representation that its wearer is a full club member. Other smaller secondary club patches, regardless of how they are worn or where the patch is located, only indicate associate, Emeritus, or honorary membership in a club.

Empire City Bylaws

Original – 27th January 2012

Revised – 6th April 2016

Revised – 1st July 2019

Revised – 5th November 2025