

# **EMPIRE CITY MOTORCYCLE CLUB**

## **Constitution and By-Laws**

**Empire City Motorcycle Club, founded in October, 1964 and incorporated under the Not For Profit Corporation law of the State of New York in November, 1972, is a fraternal and social organization of male motorcyclist with its principal office in New York City.**

### **Article I-Purpose**

**Empire City Motorcycle Club has been founded to cultivate brotherhood among its members by engaging in diverse motorcycling and other social activities.**

### **Article II-Membership**

#### **1. (A) Active Membership:**

**Active membership shall be male owner/operators of motorcycles and shall have the right to vote on all club matters unless specifically denied elsewhere in this document, responsibilities of active membership include attendance at nine or more club functions (club rides, meetings, bar nights, parties, etc.) during any preceding twelve month period. Failure to meet attendance requirements will result in suspension of voting privileges pending club action on exoneration, censure, probation or expulsion.**

**Active membership may be retained by those who have been members a reasonable number of years although they no longer own motorcycles or are unable to operate one. Retention of active membership may requested by the member and accepted by the club if a majority of those present vote "yes" and fewer than three members vote "no".**

#### **(B) Emeritus Membership:**

**Emeritus membership may be requested by members in good standing who have been members for a reasonable number of years but can no longer fulfill the attendance requirements of active membership. Emeritus membership carries the full compliment of membership benefits (the right to attend meetings, events and to wear Empire City Motorcycle Club insignias and colors) except the right to vote at meetings. Emeritus membership must be requested in writing by the member requesting it and must be approved as outlined in Article II, Section 2 (Membership Applications).**

#### **2. Membership Application:**

Applicants for active membership must be recommended by two members in good standing. The applicant must attend three meetings or functions and not a following meeting, during which the membership will discuss his qualifications with the sponsors. The sponsors will then advise him for against pledging. Upon payment of an initiation fee the applicant becomes a pledge. Before becoming eligible for active membership he must attend three additional meetings or functions and have a participated in two club-supervised rides. Upon fulfilling these requirements he will not attend a meeting at which his application will be considered. If a majority of those present vote "yes" and fewer than three members vote "no", he will become an active member and upon payment of dues be entitled to all privileges of membership.

**3. Membership Reapplication:**

Members who have resigned without prejudice may, within one year, reapply for membership. The probationary period and initiation fee shall not apply: normal voting requirements shall apply.

**4. Expulsion:**

A member may be expelled for unbecoming conduct. In such an event, a written complaint shall be submitted to the Board of Directors, who shall take evidence, hold a hearing at which the member in question may appear, and report it's recommendation to the membership. Actions on the Board's recommendation shall require two-thirds vote of all active members in good standing.

**5. Dues and Fees:**

Dues and fees for active members and pledges shall be determined by the Club. Members in arrears shall be considered delinquent. Any member two months delinquent shall be disqualified from voting. Any member six months delinquent will be automatically expelled from the Club. A member so expelled who wishes to reapply for membership would first have to pay the delinquent dues and then follow the procedure in Article II Section I.

**Article III-Meetings**

**1. Regular Meetings:**

Regular membership meetings shall be held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. The first meeting of the month is to be set aside for business discussions. The second meeting is to be set aside for non-business gatherings that can be used to engage in motorcycling , socializing and other activities that strengthen, enhance and encourage brotherhood and companionship among members. Exception to this schedule can be made by a prior majority vote. The annual Christmas Party, Installation Dinner and Anniversary Dinner fulfill the regular membership requirements and supersede one of the meetings scheduled for that month. In the event a meeting falls on a legal holiday or should it be

deemed by a two-thirds vote of those present at a regular membership meeting that a special situation exists, an alternative date may be designated.

**2. Special Meetings:**

Special Meetings of the Corporation may be called by the Directors. The Secretary shall be required to notify all member of the board prior to such a meeting in the most expeditious manner.

**3. Order Of Business:**

The order of business at meetings shall be defined by Robert's Rules of Order.

**4. Quorum:**

The attendance of a number equal to more than half the active New York City members in good standing shall constitute a quorum.

**5. Proxies:**

Each active member may designate another to vote on his behalf.

**6. Guests:**

Members may invite guests to attend meetings. No guest may attend more than three meetings within one calendar year.

**Article IV-Officers and Directors**

**1. The Officers:**

The officers shall be:

- President
- Vice-President
- Road Captain
- Treasurer
- Corresponding Secretary
- Recording Secretary

**2. The Directors:**

The elected officers shall constitute the Board of Directors.

**3. Duties of Officers:**

a. The President shall have the general management of the affairs of the Corporation and shall see that all orders and resolutions are carried into effect.

- b. The Vice President shall serve in the absence of the President. He shall enforce all rules of club riding.**
- c. The Road Captain shall plan all club rides and biking activities. He shall enforce all rules of club riding.**
- d. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection and disbursement of funds and maintenance of club bank accounts.**
- e. The corresponding Secretary shall have custody of the seal of the Corporation and shall attend to all official correspondence.**
- f. The Recording secretary shall be responsible for recording , maintaining and reporting the minutes of all meetings and shall maintain a membership roster.**

**4. Elections:**

**Election of all officers shall be held at the second meeting of the year. Neither the President nor the Road Captain shall be permitted to serve more than two consecutive terms.**

**Article V-Amendments**

**1. Amendments:**

**Any proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing at a regular membership meeting. It shall be read and discussed at two consecutive meetings and called for a vote at the third. A vote of two-thirds of all active members in good standing shall be required to pass an amendment.**

(Amended November 7, 2001)