

EMPIRE CITY MOTORCYCLE CLUB

~ CONSTITUTION ~

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, with its principle base in the City of New York.

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 to 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.
3. A full member shall have the right to hold office, when not within a probationary period.
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.

B) RESERVE MEMBER

1. Reserve membership is available as outlined in ECMC’s bylaws to full members who are unable to fulfill the obligations of full membership.
2. A reserve member shall enjoy all the rights of a full member with the exception of the rights to vote, to present a motion or to hold an office.
3. A reserve member shall attend at least two official ECMC club rides or two official ECMC functions each calendar year.

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 with the exception of the rights to vote, to present a motion, to hold office or to wear an ECMC backpatch.
3. An associate member shall attend at least two ECMC official rides or two ECMC official functions 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 with the exception of the rights to vote, to present a motion or to hold office.
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 with the exception of the rights 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. Any former full member requesting reinstatement shall make his request in writing to the Executive Board.
2. Men 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 been out of the club more than twelve (12) months shall be treated as an application for new membership.
3. Men applying for reinstatement will not be required to serve a pledge period.
4. A former member is reinstated by two-thirds (2/3^{rds}) of the full voting membership, including absentee ballots.
5. 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.

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3. Second nominations for officers shall take place at the Open General Meeting in January immediately followed by election of officers.
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 and advertised by the Secretary. Exceptions to this can be made by a majority vote at the prior meeting.
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 present. 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 meetings.

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5. Any member or members of the Executive Board may approve the appropriate expenditure of club funds, not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) when it would be impractical to wait on a club vote. Such an action is not cumulative (i.e. two officers cannot authorize a \$200 expenditure.)
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.

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.