

CVMA TEXAS CHAPTER 23-15 BYLAWS
20151114



Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association
Texas Chapter 23-15
Rio Grande Valley

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ARTICLE 1

Name and Emblem

Section 1 (a)

The name of the association is: Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

a. Principle office of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will be located at the following address: 106 Saturn Street, Mission, TX 78572, USA.

b. Change of Address. The designation of the county or state of Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association principal office may change by amendment of these bylaws. The board of Officers may change the principal office from one location to another within the named country by noting the changed address and effective date below, and such changes shall not be deemed minor, and require an amendment of these bylaws.

1. New Address:

Dated:

2. New Address:

Dated:

c. Other Offices. The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association may also have offices at such other places, within or without its state of incorporation, where it is qualified to do business, as its business and activities may require, and as the board of directors may from time to time, designate.

Section 1 (b)

IRC Section 501(c)(19) Purposes. Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and/or scientific purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 2

The emblem / logo used by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is the sole property of CVMA. The CVMA patch and logo cannot be reproduced without license from the BOD. The emblem of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is in the shape of a skull encompassed by the following colors. The incorporated colors are: Red, representing the blood that has been shed on the battlefield. The Military Gold, representing all branches of the military service of the United States. Black, representing the heavy hearts possessed for those who gave their lives and for those that are considered missing in action or prisoners of war. The Skull and ace of spade represents the death that war leaves in its wake.

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ARTICLE 2
OBJECTIVES

General: Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Protocol. The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is formed for the betterment of communication and camaraderie between other Motorcycle Associations, Veterans Organizations, and or Motorcycle Groups.

Section 1

To promote interest in various forms of motorcycle activity associated with Veterans.

Section 2

To create and maintain camaraderie among Combat Veterans from all U.S. Branches of Service and its allies.

Section 3

To support Veteran Organizations.

Section 4

To raise awareness for the plight of POWs, MIAs and their families.

Section 5

To conduct Association functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and as well as the association's Auxiliary and Support Members.

Section 6

To encourage a better understanding of motorcycle riders as a constructive sport among members of the public, press, and law enforcement agencies.

ARTICLE 3
MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

The qualifications, requirements, and rules for membership, (Full, Auxiliary, and Support), shall be specified in the CVMA National Bylaws, Article 3, Section 1, 2a and 2b which are incorporated herein and made part hereof by reference.

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Section 2

By applying for membership with the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, you are giving the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and its Board of Directors the right to verify any membership application and DD 214 records.

Section 3

Each member should attend a minimum of at least one (1) event hosted by either the Texas Chapter 23-15 Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association or the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, per year or an event in any member's state if prior approval is obtained by the state representative from the governing body of the Combat Veterans Association.

Section 4

All members MUST conduct themselves in a manner that is not an embarrassment to themselves, the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, or the United States of America.

Section 5

All members must possess a valid motorcycle driver's license endorsed by their state, proof of current insurance for their motorcycle, and properly license their motorcycle per state and federal regulations.

Section 6

- a. In the event of misconduct by any member, under the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, the Board of Directors possesses the right to revoke that member's membership. Misconduct is defined as failure to abide by the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and any organization that the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association supports.
- b. Bringing dishonor upon the Combat Veterans Association in action, word(s), or deeds. Always remember WE ARE NOT, NOR DO WE CLAIM TO BE, A MOTORCYCLE CLUB! WE DO NOT HAVE COLORS! We do not prospect. We do have membership dues.

ARTICLE 4
MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1

Membership dues shall be at such rate, schedule or formula as may from time to time be prescribed by the governing body of the association and approved by the general membership.

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Section 2

The governing body of the association shall determine deadlines for payment of renewal membership dues.

Section 3

New members purchasing patches of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will be done so at cost plus shipping and handling.

Section 4

Charter members of Texas Chapter 23-15 are eligible to wear the “Charter Original” chapter ribbon patch designating they are an original starter Full, Auxiliary, or Support member, of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Texas Chapter 23-15.

Section 5

All national dues continue to go straight to national. Dues for all members are payable to the Treasurer or paid via PayPal by 30 June of each year. Dues for new members will cover the balance of the current year and dues will be collected again in June except for all new members joining after 1 January will be considered as paid in full for the balance of the current year and the following year. Checks should be made payable to CVMA Texas Chapter 23-15, and mailed to 106 Saturn Street, Mission, TX 78572.

Section 6

Chapter members of Texas Chapter 23-15 will be assessed local dues of \$10 per member payable to the Chapter Treasurer not later than 30 June annually.

ARTICLE 5
ELECTIONS

Section 1

All nominees for any office must be active and in good standing in the association with a minimum of 1 full year CVMA membership.

Section 2

All elected and or appointed Officers and Board of Directors must remain active members in good standing for the duration of the term while in office.

Section 3

All Officers are to be nominated and elected at a Texas Chapter 23-15 meeting and will assume the office within 30 days of the election. Officers will hold that office for 36 months or until their successors are duly qualified. Consecutive terms are permitted.

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Section 4

Chapter Officer nominations and elections must be held at a Texas Chapter 23-15 meeting. The Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander will vote only in the event of a tie.

Section 5

Chapter regular elections will be held during the month of November. Chapter special elections will be held as needed.

Section 6

Members nominated for office are qualified if he or she is an active paid member in good standing with the CVMA for a minimum of 1 year. Officers must remain active members in good standing for the duration of the term while in office.

Section 7

Texas Chapter 23-15 Officers will be considered for re-election in the following order, Commander, Executive Officer, Sergeant-At-Arms, Public Relations Officer, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Commander, Sergeant-At-Arms, and Secretary positions will be elected in offset years from the Executive Officer, Public Relations Officer, and Treasurer positions.

Section 8

The positions of Road Captain, Chaplain, and Quartermaster will be filled by duty appointment at the discretion of the Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander.

Section 9

Members of Texas Chapter 23-15 must be present with their current CVMA ID card to be eligible to cast a vote for election of Officers. Members deployed to a combat zone may vote for Chapter Officers via email directly to the Chapter Secretary. No other absentee votes are authorized.

Section 10

Should an elected Officer resign from office for any reason, the remaining Texas Chapter 23-15 Officers, with the approval of the Texas State Representative, will appoint a replacement to serve out the term of the vacant office. A special election may be held at the next Texas Chapter 23-15 meeting to elect an interim Officer.

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ARTICLE 6
DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander will preside over all meetings of the Chapter; act as ex-officer member of all committees, issue the call for regular and special Texas 23-15 Chapter meetings, schedule regular elections, and be sure they are held IAW these bylaws, and carry out the directives of the Texas Chapter 23-15. The positions of Road Captain, Chaplain, and Quartermaster are accountable to the Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander. The Commander will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

Section 2

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Executive Officer will perform all duties of the Commander in his or her absence. The Executive Officer will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

Section 3

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Sergeant-At-Arms will maintain order during CVMA meetings, perform member's CVMA ID card check prior to each meeting start, and be responsible to ensure the Chapter Guideon is present for all Chapter meetings and events. The Sergeant-At-Arms is responsible for the security of the Chapter Guideon at all times. The Sergeant-At-Arms will ensure the vest of every member is assembled and kept per the guidelines of the CVMA National MC Protocol. The Sergeant-At-Arms will maintain a file for record of member's in good standing qualification documents. The record will contain a current copy of each member's driver license, copy of proof of current motorcycle insurance, and copy of motorcycle current year registration. The Sergeant-At-Arms will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

Section 4

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Public Relations Officer will maintain a file of all publicity actions. He or she will be responsible for all the Texas Chapter 23-15 Combat Veterans Motorcycle Associations publicity, with and approval by the Chapter Officers. Duties will include but not limited to pictures, newspaper articles, maintaining the Facebook site, maintaining the Chapter website, TV and/or radio announcements, and the Chapter's communication process. Copies of all Public Relations Officer reports will be maintained in the Texas Chapter 23-15 permanent record. The Public Relations Officer will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

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Section 5

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Secretary shall keep minutes of the Texas Chapter 23-15 general membership meetings. Meeting minutes will be developed after every meeting and distributed to the State Representative and Chapter Commander. Minutes will be maintained in the Texas Chapter 23-15 permanent record. The Secretary will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

Section 6

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Treasurer will collect dues and other forms of income received by the association, maintain the accounting records, make payments from the associations funds when so ordered by the Chapter Officers, sign all associations checks and make regular reports of the Chapter financial status to the Chapter Officers, State Representative and the general membership. All checks are required to have two Chapter Officer signatures prior to disbursement. Officers designated check signature authority will be on record at the designated bank records of the Chapter. The Texas Chapter 23-15 Treasurer will be required to file all the necessary forms and documents required by the State and Federal regulatory agencies. Copies of all Treasurer reports will be maintained in the Texas Chapter 23-15 permanent record. The Treasurer will serve as a member of the Chapter Board of Directors and the position will be held by a Full Member only.

Section 7

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Road Captain will be responsible to plan the route and stops, educate riders on group riding techniques, inform riders of group riding hand signals, and lead all Chapter rides in a safe manner. The Road Captain will conduct a pre-ride briefing prior to departure and will have full charge of the group of riders until arrival at the destination. On Chapter rides, the Texas Chapter 23-15 Road Captain will establish and maintain a uniform speed consistent with the ability of the least experienced rider and with consideration of safe road conditions, traffic, and weather conditions. The position will be appointed at the discretion of the Commander. The Road Captain is a staff position and may be held by a Full, Support, or Auxiliary member and will have no limit to term of office.

Section 8

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Chaplain will be responsible for all invocations, benevolence, and other applicable religious activities of the Chapter. The position will be appointed at the discretion of the Commander. The Chaplain is a staff position and may be held by a Full, Support, or Auxiliary member and will have no limit to term of office.

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Section 9

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Quartermaster works in conjunction with the State Quartermaster in the acquisition of CVMA merchandise from the National Quartermaster for use by the Chapter members. The Quartermaster will keep and maintain accurate and complete records of accounts receivable and disbursements. Financial records and reports will be provided to the Chapter Board of Directors and the general membership on a regular and reoccurring basis. The Chapter Quartermaster is responsible and accountable to the Chapter Commander. The position will be appointed at the discretion of the Commander. The Quartermaster is a staff position and may be held by a Full, Support or Auxiliary member and have no limit to term of office.

Section 10

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Officers constitutes the Board of Directors of the Chapter, responsible for the execution, through its Officers of the authorized policies, by majority votes, fills vacancies in any office of the Texas Chapter 23-15 and submits to the Chapter meetings and recommendations affecting the policies of the Chapter which have been previously approved. The Chapter Board of Directors is responsible to report bylaw infractions and appropriate actions taken, to the CVMA Texas State Representative.

ARTICLE 7
MEETINGS

Section 1

A quorum of conducting business shall be those present at any given meeting. Members deployed to a combat zone may vote via email directly to the Chapter Secretary. No other absentee votes are authorized.

Section 2

See DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Article 6, and Section 1.

Section 3

Special meetings of Texas Chapter 23-15 may be called by the Chapter Commander or with the approval of the State Representative, and by two active members.

Section 4

The Roberts Rules of Order will be applied during meetings to affect parliamentary procedures, unless otherwise amended and provided for in the bylaws.

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Section 5

All Texas Chapter meetings will be scheduled well enough in advance to provide all members the opportunity to make arrangements to attend. Meeting locations will rotate in such a manner that all areas of Texas Chapter 23-15 are utilized.

ARTICLE 8

DELEGATIONS

Section 1

Delegations will be appointed by the Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander, but are subject to the approval of the Texas Chapter 23-15 Officers, to represent the Texas 23-15 Chapter at any convention, meeting, rally, or other assembly that may be deemed necessary, and all delegations are authorized to exercise only those powers specifically vested in them by the Texas Chapter 23-15 Officers.

ARTICLE 9

AMENDMENTS

Section 1

These bylaws may be altered, or repealed, and new by-laws adopted only at the Texas Chapter 23-15 meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
(see Article 7, Section 1)

Section 2

Any Changes to any Article and or Section of the Texas Chapter 23-15 bylaws will be discussed and voted on by a quorum. (see Article 7, Section 1)

Section 3

Approved and accepted amendments will be forwarded to the State Representative and the National Board of Directors for review and will take effect immediately upon approval.

ARTICLE 10

DETACHMENTS

Section 1

All Detachments sponsored by Texas Chapter 23-15, are accountable to Texas Chapter 23-15 for all actions.

Section 2

Detachments require a minimum of 8 members.

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Section 3

Detachments may apply for Chapter status provided they meet Chapter guidelines. See the CVMA National bylaws for requirements of a State Chapter.

Section 4

The Texas Chapter 23-15 Commander, with the approval of the Texas State Representative, will appoint the Detachment Commander. The State Representative will be over the Chapter Commander. The Chapter Commander will be over the Detachment Commander.

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