

**RED KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS
MOTORCYCLE CLUB, INC.
PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER # 22
JOHNSTOWN, PA**

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME, PURPOSE AND SEAL

Section 1: The name of this chapter shall be known as Red Knights International Motorcycle Club, Pennsylvania Chapter #22.

Section 2: The mission of this chapter is:

- 1 to share the common interest of motorcycling
- 2 to promote motorcycle safety through a community of firefighters
- 3 to provide support to non-profit charities or distressed firefighters and/or their families
- 4 to assist in any way during area disasters.
- 5 To follow the Constitution and By-Laws, as well as the Rules and Regulations of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club and this chapter.

Section 3: In the event of dissolution of this chapter, any funds remaining shall be donated to a non-profit charity, with such charity being decided by a vote of the membership.

Section 4: The application to and the approval by the International corporation for a charter binds the chapter to the International By-Laws as amended from time to time at the annual meetings of the corporation. This charter may be revoked by the International Executive Board for items that may include, but are not limited to: inappropriate conduct, arrears of annual dues, failing to file annual rosters and reports.

Section 5: This document conforms to the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club Incorporation Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the most current edition accepted by the International Executive Board and Members of the Corporation August 18,2007. They may be changed or altered at any time to comply with the International By-Laws with the approval of the Chapter Executive Board and membership. If a challenge exists in this document, questions will revert back to the International By-Laws Committee, then to the International Executive Board for interpretation and approval.

ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATION IDENTITIES AS DIRECTED BY INTERNATIONAL BY-LAWS

Section 1: The chapter emblem shall be the standard set forth by the International Corporation and will not be altered in any way without the approval of the International Executive Board.

Section 2: The color of the uniform jacket/vest shall be red, black or navy blue, with all lettering being gold, white or blue. The letter color on a particular uniform item shall be consistent throughout the membership. The official 10" patch and rockers will be worn on the back of a vest only.

Section 3: The standard dress and parade uniform shall be navy blue or black trousers, black shoes or boots, white, gray or navy blue polo shirt, with vest or jacket optional. Acceptable patch configuration shall be: Vest: Official Red Knight patch on back with appropriate rockers. No other patches or logos will be permitted on the back except as allowed by the Executive Board – Polo shirt- Official Red Knight patch and appropriate rockers on left sleeve, American flag on right sleeve. Any other rockers, patches, or pins worn shall be in good taste conducive with the Red Knight image.

Section 4: The chapter anthem will be "The Star Spangled Banner", the motto shall be "Loyal to our Duty" and the mascot shall be the Dalmatian.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1: Membership shall be issued in five (5) categories: Active, Associate, Social, Life and Honorary

Active-available to active, retired or disabled firefighters presently owning or having access to a registered motorcycle holding a valid motorcycle license.
Career, part-paid, volunteer, military, industrial, and brigade firefighters, as well as EMT's of an established fire department, are all eligible and shall be treated equally within the chapter. Active members in good standing shall be permitted to hold any office and vote on all chapter matters.

Associate-available to anyone who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted by at least seven (7) active members in good standing. The candidate must have, in the opinion of the executive board, substantially contributed to the promotion of the Red Knights for a minimum period of six (6) months. Associate membership cannot exceed ten (10) percent of the active membership. Associate members shall be permitted to vote on all chapter matters. They may hold any office, with the exception of President and Vice-President, so long as no active member accepts the nomination of said position.

Social- Social members shall be a spouse, partner, boyfriend, girlfriend, son, daughter brother or sister of an Active or Associate member. Social members are permitted to vote on chapter matters and may hold any office, with the exception of President and Vice-President, so long as no active member accepts the nomination for said position

Life- may be granted to a member with 25 years of uninterrupted service to the chapter. Once life membership is granted, the chapter will waive local annual dues and pay the international dues for life members. Life memberships proposals must be submitted for consideration by two (2) members in good standing and be approved by a majority vote at a normally scheduled club meeting. Life members are permitted to vote on all chapter matters and may hold any office.

Honorary- granted to someone who volunteers their time for the betterment of the chapter. Examples of said individuals include business or civic leaders, or a member of a recognized religion who volunteers as chapter Chaplain. Said membership may also be granted to the widow or widower of an Active or Associate member. Honorary members are not permitted to hold office but are permitted to vote in chapter matters.

Section 2: Prospective social membership candidates under 18 years of age must have a release form signed by a parent or guardian before membership is granted.

Section 3: The tenure of Active membership shall be from the close of the annual meeting until the close of the next annual meeting. The tenure of Associate memberships shall be at the recommendation of the Executive Board, with final approval by a majority vote of the chapter membership.

Section 4: Each new member shall pay annual dues in the amount set forth by the chapter membership, payable at the time in which candidate's application is submitted for consideration.

Section 5: Membership renewal dues shall be paid by the end of the fiscal year, which shall begin on December 1st and conclude on November 30th of the preceding year. This will provide ample time for the Executive Board to process the membership roster and forward it to the International before the December 31st deadline.

Section 7: Members delinquent on dues payment after December 31st, shall be notified by the secretary of their delinquency. Members delinquent on dues payment after May 31st shall be considered not in good standing and suspended until dues are paid.

Section 8: No membership candidate shall be denied inclusion based on race, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability or political affiliation. Membership shall not be restricted to a class or manufacture of motorcycle as long as they are licensed, street legal and in safe and working condition.

Section 9: All applications for membership shall be submitted on the designated form and presented at a regular meeting, signed by the applicant and accompanied with the necessary first year's fees and dues. A vote shall be taken on every applicant for membership with a 2/3 vote of members present needed to accept the applicant as a new member. Rejected applicants will have submitted fees and dues returned to them and may reapply for membership after a period of six (6) months.

Section 10: The President (or his/her representative) may, upon his/her discretion, appoint a committee of three members present to investigate the standing of a membership candidate if the members present are unfamiliar with the individual. The committee shall report back its findings at the next scheduled meeting.

Section 11: All new Active members, upon their acceptance, shall be issued a copy of the current Constitution and By-Laws, membership card, ride schedule (if applicable), newsletter, and other information deemed necessary.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP CONDUCT-TERMINATION/SUSPENSION/EXPULSION

Section 1: All members shall conduct themselves in a prescribed manner that reflects the proud history of the fire service. All members shall be accountable to the International and Chapter Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations. All members shall ride in a safe and lawful manner when moving in public and assist the public if possible, without threatening harm to themselves, their passengers and the chapter.

Section 2: Charges leveled against a chapter member must be provided to the Executive Board in writing and signed by two members in good standing. Upon investigation of the alleged charges, the Executive Board shall provide its opinion as to the validity of said charges, as well as a recommendation on the disposition of the investigation (suspension, expulsion, etc.) at the next regular chapter meeting. A majority vote of members present at that meeting will decide the outcome of such incidents.

Section 3: Any member found guilty of a felony, dismissed from the fire service for conduct unbecoming of the fire service, or delinquent in payment of dues shall be dropped from the membership roster. Any member who has cheated, defrauded or stole from the chapter can be suspended by a majority vote of members present at the meeting in which the charges were brought to the membership. The International President shall be notified within thirty (30) days of the dismissal, with an explanation for the dismissal. The International President shall use all resources available prior to accepting or rejecting the decision of the Chapter Executive Board.

Section 4: Any member wishing to terminate membership in Pennsylvania Chapter 22 must return his/her membership card to the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V: CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION

Section 1: The administration of the chapter shall be vested in the Executive Board. That board will be composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Road Captain and Quartermaster.

Section 2: The election of officers shall be staggered bi-annually. The President, Treasurer, and Quartermaster shall be elected in every even year. The Vice-President, Secretary and Road Captain will be elected each odd year.

Section 3: In the event of a vacancy on the Board, the unexpired portion of the term may be filled by any Active member in good standing, with a majority vote of the members present at the meeting proceeding the vacancy. Should the vacancy occur between meeting dates, the President, or in his absence the Vice-President, may appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next regular meeting. Associate and Social members may fill a vacancy in any office, with the exception of the President or Vice-President.

Section 4: The Executive Board shall have supervision of and be responsible for all affairs and property of the chapter, and shall inspect as often as it sees fit all records, books and accounts of the chapter.

Section 5: The Executive Board shall have the right to accept for and on behalf of the chapter, any contributions, appropriations, or grants in aid from whatever source that may be tendered in money, goods, real or personal property or services for the good of the chapter. The Executive Board may pledge the faith of the chapter with or without security if the occasion should arise in the pursuance of its work.

Section 6: The chapter shall not support or affiliate itself with a club, group or organization that does not conform to the principles and dictates of the Red Knights, state or federal laws.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 1: The officers of the chapter shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer, Road Captain, Quartermaster and any other officer that may be elected for the good of the chapter. Officers shall be nominated during the meeting preceding the annual meeting and be elected bi-annually by the membership present at the annual meeting. Nominations for all open offices may also be taken from the floor at the annual meeting. Officers shall serve their duties until the conclusion of their respective election year, at which time their successors shall assume the duties of the office.

Section 2: If after nominations are closed, any current officer holders are nominated unopposed, the secretary shall have the authority to cast a unanimous ballot to retain that officer for the upcoming term.

Section 3: Election of officers shall be by secret written ballot. The President shall then appoint a committee of three (3) members in attendance to tabulate and present the election results. A recess will be implemented until such results are completed. If the office of President is on the ballot, and the current president is a candidate, the Vice-President (or in his/her place, another Executive Officer not on the ballot) will appoint the election committee. The election results will be duly recorded by the secretary and the ballots will then be destroyed.

Section 4: President: The president shall be the executive officer of the chapter and shall preside at all meetings of the chapter and Executive Board. The president shall serve as an ex-officio on all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee and co-sign all notes, mortgages and other legal documents given on behalf of the chapter. The president shall, if required by the Board, give such surety bond as may be required at the expense of the chapter. The President shall be empowered to call meetings of the Executive Board and shall provide complete reports of the chapter and the actions taken by the Executive Board at each meeting of the chapter. The President shall be one of three Executive Board members authorized to sign checks on behalf of the chapter.

Section 5: Vice President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the President. The Vice-President shall be one of three Executive Board members authorized to sign checks on behalf of the chapter.

Section 6: Secretary: The secretary shall attend all chapter and Executive Board meetings, and shall maintain accurate records of all business and membership at such meetings. The secretary shall give "ample advanced notice" to all members of the annual meeting or any special meetings. At the request of the President, the secretary shall provide "ample advanced notice" of all Executive Board meetings. The secretary shall file all legal documents and be responsible for maintaining an accurate and updated copy of the chapter's by-laws, having the authority to make necessary grammatical and spelling changes that will not alter the intent of same.

Section 7: Treasurer: The treasurer shall be responsible for receiving all chapter funds and properly depositing such funds in a bank or trust company so designated by the Executive Board. The treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of annual dues. The treasurer shall maintain an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements and provide a full and accurate report of the chapter's financial situation at each regular meeting or at the request of the Executive Board. The treasurer shall be one of three Executive Board members authorized to sign checks on behalf of the chapter.

Section 8: Dual Appointments: A chapter may choose to combine the positions of Secretary and Treasurer into one office. That option shall be available to the membership at the Nomination Meeting in October.

Section 9: Road Captain: The Road Captain shall be responsible for approving routes of all sanctioned chapter rides, as well as the safe riding of the chapter. The Road Captain shall ride in the lead position and shall appoint an Assistant Road Captain to ride in the last position. In the absence of the Ride Captain, another member shall be appointed to fulfill the responsibilities for that ride. In the event the appointed Road Captain is unfamiliar with the route, an appointed Assistant Road Captain shall take the lead position and the Road Captain shall assume the duties of the Assistant Road Captain. The Assistant Road Captain shall be responsible for reporting any safety issues to the Road Captain and to assist any riders that leave the group.

Section 10: Quartermaster: The quartermaster shall be responsible for the records of all club properties, as well as the purchase and sale of any Red Knight items for the good of the chapter.

Section 11: In the absence of any officer from a meeting or chapter function at which his/her presence is necessary, the presiding officer may appoint a temporary substitute.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Executive Board shall be authorized to appoint committees as it may deem necessary. The committees shall have such authority and power as it may see fit to grant within the limits of its own authority. The committee may be comprised of Active, Associate and Social members, the chairperson being an Active member. The tenure of the committee shall be fixed by the Executive Board, not to exceed the next annual chapter meeting.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual chapter meeting. The committee, which will consist of at least two (2) active members, shall prepare a list of nominees to fill Board positions being vacated in the proceeding election of officers. That list shall be presented to the members present at the annual meeting. This list will not preclude the acceptance of other members for these positions who may be nominated from the floor. The secretary shall provide "ample advanced notice" to all chapters as to the date, time and place of the annual meeting.

SECTION VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1: Seven (7) Active, Associate or Social members will constitute a quorum for conducting any chapter meetings. If a quorum is not achieved, members in attendance shall nonetheless be authorized to pay any outstanding bills of the chapter.

Section 2: The Nomination Meeting shall be conducted during the month of October. Nomination of officers for the upcoming year shall be conducted at the meeting.

Section 3: The Annual Meeting shall be conducted during the month of November. Election of officers for the upcoming year shall be conducted at the meeting. Likewise, all reports and actions of the chapter shall be brought forward

Section 4: Installation of officers shall be the first order of business conducted at the January meeting.

Section 5: By consensus of the Executive Board, or upon the written petition of at least seven (7) Active, Associate or Social members, it shall be the duty of the President (or his/her representative) to call a special meeting, at such time and place as designated by the Executive Board or the petitioners. The secretary shall give “ample advanced notice” thereof to all voting chapter members. Only such business as had been set forth in the notice shall be transacted at that special meeting.

Section 6: Voting by absentee or proxy is prohibited. Only Active, Associate, Life and Social members are permitted to vote on chapter matters. However, those members must be in good chapter standing, as verified by the secretary. Invited guests may be permitted to take part in the discussion of any matters during a meeting, provided the decorum thereof is not unduly disturbed.

Section 7: The Executive Board shall meet subject to the call of the President, or upon the written petition of at least three (3) Executive Board members, as often as deemed necessary by the president or the board. A majority of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for transactions of business at a board meeting.

Section 8: At ALL meetings, provided a quorum is established, a majority vote of eligible voters shall determine the outcome of any matter brought to the floor.

Section 9: Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of any meeting unless inconsistent with the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 10: The order of business at all meetings shall be as follows:

- 1 Call to Order. Roll Call of Officers
- 2 Introduction of members and guests
- 3 Pledge of Allegiance
- 4 Installation of Officers (Annual Meeting)
- 5 Approval of minutes of previous meeting
- 6 Reading of correspondence and actions taken
- 7 Treasurer’s Report-presentation of bills and payment
- 8 Report of other Officers
- 9 Committee Reports
- 10 Proposals for Membership
- 11 Election of Membership
- 12 Unfinished business
- 13 New Business
- 14 Nomination of Officers (Nomination Meeting)
- 15 Election of Officers (Annual Meeting)
- 16 Good of the Order
- 17 Adjournment

ARTICLE IX: FUND RAISING

Section 1: All funds shall be raised by fees, dues, activities, donations and such other means as the Chapter deems necessary. Such fundraisers shall remain within the guidelines of good taste and lawfulness, remaining consistent with the image in which the Red Knights strive to maintain.

ARTICLE X: BUSINESS OFFICE-MAILING ADDRESS

Section 1: Unless otherwise specified by the Executive Board, the chapter’s business office, mailing and e-mail address for said office shall be that of the secretary.

ARTICLE XI: USE OF CLUB IDENTITIES

Section 1: The use of club identities (including, but not limited to patches, membership cards, vest and jackets) is limited to members only.

Section 2: The top rocker identified as “Charter Member” shall be worn only by an Active member who has joined the chapter during the charter period of February 1, 2006 to January 31, 2007. A charter member who transfers a membership from another chapter may retain the charter member rocker.

Section 3: Any violation of this article shall be considered cause for termination or suspension of membership.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: Any portion of the Constitution and By-Laws may be proposed for repeal or amendment at any meeting by a written petition signed by three Active, Associate, Life or Social member. Voting on any repeal or amendment shall be conducted at the next regularly scheduled chapter meeting, at which time a 2/3 vote by eligible voters present shall decide the outcome. The secretary shall provide “ample advanced notice” to all voting members of the chapter.

Section 2: At any time the Executive Board or any seven (7) Active, Associate, Life or Social members recommend by written petition that the Constitution & By-Laws are to be repealed or amended, the president shall direct the secretary to send out “ample advanced notice” of the proposed action as herein set forth to all eligible voting members.

On a motion made by Tom Buchan, and seconded by Terry Christy, it was voted to accept this Constitution and By-Laws as the general rules of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club, Pennsylvania Chapter # 22. Motion passed unanimously.

Vote taken on: March 12,2006

President:	Francis Truscello Sr.
Vice-President:	Francis Truscello Jr.
Sect/Treas.:	Dave Rykala
Ride Captain:	Bill Statler
Quartermaster:	Pending

By-laws submitted to International By-Law Committee for review. Draft returned with suggested changes. Motion by T. Buchan, seconded by Terry Christy, to accept the suggested by-law changes. Motion passed unanimously .

* PLEASE NOTE: ANY REFERENCE TO THE “EXECUTIVE BOARD” SHALL BE THE CHAPTER EXECUTIVE BOARD UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

**Chapter By-Laws submitted to International for review in June 2008. Revisions made per International suggestions and By-Laws accepted by membership present at July 2008 meeting.