



**By Laws of  
The Corps. Marine Motorcycle Riding Club.**

**Article I. Organization Provisions and Club Values:**

Article Sub-Section 1.01 "The Corps", a Marine Motorcycle Riding Club, is a non-profit social club established and protected under the provisions for 501c.3 Tax Exempt organizations. (Pending IRS Approval).

Article Sub-Section 1.02 The organization is founded on the principles that have always placed Marines apart from all others. The Corps is a family organization that shares the common bond of a love for the Marine Corps and motorcycling. God, Family, Country and "The Corps" represent the heart of our values. As a family oriented group of Marine and Corpsman motorcycle enthusiasts, The Corps does not consider itself a Motorcycle Club. The Corps shall not interfere with any Motorcycle Club's business nor participate in any Coalition of Clubs. Any member of The Corps found participating in this type of activity should be immediately discharged from The Corps. The C.O. of The Corps will provide written discharge to the member. Any applicant or member who maintains membership in another motorcycling organization is subject to dual participation review by the membership committee.

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**Article II. Membership:**

Article Sub-Section 2.01 Core Members: All current, former, or retired members of the United States Marine Corps who have completed USMC Recruit Training or received a Marine Corps Commission or received an Eagle Globe and Anchor as a U.S. Navy FMF Corpsman and were honorably discharged are eligible for "core" membership. All core members must have a valid Motorcycle license, registered bike, and proof of insurance.

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Core members will pay dues. Core members will wear the prescribed patch. (See Article 8).

Article Sub-Section 2.02 Family/Other Members: All family members must be related to and sponsored by a core member. Sponsored members will not pay dues. Any family relation, 16 years of age or older, sponsored by a core member, must apply for Family Membership. Family members will not have voting rights towards the business of The Corps.

Article Sub-Section 2.03 Any Core member, who relocates to areas outside of the membership area as described above, shall be allowed to continue their membership status.

Article Sub-Section 2.04 Any Core member, who relocates to areas outside of the membership area as described above shall be allowed to recruit members for expansion and chartering their respective state, upon approval of The Corps' membership committee.

Article Sub-Section 2.05 Expansion shall be closely monitored by The Corps' membership committee and ensure all applications are processed in accordance with the by-laws. The Corps reserves the right to decline any membership request for any reason.

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Article Sub-Section 2.07 Organization:

- (a) Officers: Officers shall serve for a period of two years in the graces of the majority of The Corps. Change of Command will take place during the regularly scheduled meeting in the 2d Quarter of the election year. Removal of an officer from their post in The Corps requires a 2/3 majority vote of the votes cast.
- (b) Platoons: The Corps will be organized into platoons, distributed geographically. The C.O. will appoint Platoon Commanders for these platoons. The X.O. and the Platoon Commanders will act as the membership committee.

### **Article III. By-Laws**

Article Sub-Section 3.01 The by-laws of the Corps will be reviewed and ratified no later than March 15th of each year. The same methods of casting a vote as described in the paragraph on "Voting" will be used. Additionally, 2/3 of votes cast will be required to establish a majority vote in support of a change or addition to the by-laws.

### **Article IV. Voting**

Article Sub-Section 4.01 In order for a vote to be cast the following guidelines shall be used. The C.O. will publish an agenda for an upcoming meeting that will include items that need to be considered. The membership at that meeting will cast their votes. Immediately following the meeting the CommO will distribute to the membership an explanation of the issue. A voting period of ten days will follow allowing members who were not present at the meeting time to vote. All votes will be submitted to the Adjutant and Company Gunny for counting. Unless stipulated in the by-laws a simple majority of the votes cast shall constitute a quorum. Results of the voting will be released by the C.O. at the next scheduled meeting, or via electronic communication, at his discretion.

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Article Sub-Section 4.02 For the election of officers, a volunteer committee of no less than three members, not candidates for office, will be formed by the X.O. to administer the election process. This committee will be responsible for soliciting nominations, obtaining the acceptance of the nomination by each candidate, and collecting a small summary of each candidate's positions on club issues. Election nominations will be tendered by the election committee to all members no later than February 15th each year. The election committee will prepare the ballot for distribution; all members shall present their vote to the Club Adjutant no later than March 15th.

### **Article V. The Corps Dues**

Article Sub-Section 5.01 The Corps members and officers will forward dues to the Adjutant on or before the first day of July each year. Dues are not pro-rated. New members will pay the same amount regardless of the date that they join The Corps. The fiscal goal of the dues is to provide enough capital to cover the operating expenses of The Corps. Active Duty Marines and Sailors will pay half-price dues. Increases in the amount of annual dues will require a simple majority vote of members at a regularly scheduled meeting.

### **Article VI. General Bookkeeping**

Article Sub-Section 6.01 All financial transactions, including member dues and general accounting expenses and overages will be tracked by the Adjutant. Financial reporting for account balances and expenditures will be presented at each formal meeting of The Corps. The C.O. will audit the financial reporting and serve as final signatory for the monthly reporting. Periodic review of account balances may be held to determine how best to allocate overages requiring a simple majority vote of members to approve a reallocation. The adjutant will distribute an account status quarterly to the membership via the most convenient method available.

### **Article VII. The Corps Patch**

Article Sub-Section 7.01 The Corps Patch shall be purchased and worn in compliance with the standards set forth by the organization. The standard for the Members Patch is designated by the Eagle Globe and Anchor in the center of the patch. The Patch will be worn on the back of the vest, no other patches or devices will be worn aft of the side seam of the trouser, extended to the arm hole.

Article Sub-Section 7.02 Plank holder Designation – Plank holders will be designated by a small identifying patch as core members who transitioned from the Leathernecks of Virginia to The Corps as an active or pending member who has applied for or joined prior to Memorial Day, May 2005.

### **Article VIII. Officers**

The following definitions outline the basic responsibilities of each of The Corps' Officer Billets. Non-voting, unelected officer positions may be created by the C.O. to undertake club business on his behalf. Each elected Officer agrees to these requirements as a minimum:

C.O.:

In support of The Corps, the C.O. shall:

- Run The Corps in a manner that conforms with the By-Laws of The Corps
- Keep the Club organized.
- Ensure that Club business is carried out.
- Oversee and audit the Club's funds.
- If needed, appoint an interim Officer to fill vacancies until a special election can be conducted. Interim officers will serve for a period not to exceed ninety days.

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X.O.:

In support of The Corps the X.O. shall:

- Assist the C.O. in the operation and oversight of the Club.
- Assume responsibility for recruitment, advertising, and public affairs.
- Serve as the C.O. during the C.O.'s absence.
- Serve as Road Captain for a Club ride if the duty Road Captain is not present.
- Serve as the coordinator of all committees.

Company Gunny:

In support of The Corps, the Company Gunny shall:

- Ensure that Club meetings are conducted in an orderly fashion.
- Assist the Road Master in control of the road march.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the C.O.

Adjutant:

In support of The Corps, the Adjutant shall:

- Be responsible for the processing of applications for membership. This includes the distribution of colors and patches.
- Maintain The Corps recall roster and emergency contact list for all members.
- Maintain constant vigil over any and all funds for which The Corps may be held responsible.
- Present to The Corps at each formal meeting a report on balances and expenditures.
- Draft and send to all Members the minutes of each meeting.
- Prepare the financial records for transference to incoming Adjutant by March 15th

Chaplain:

In support of The Corps, the Chaplain shall:

- Minister to the moral and spiritual well-being of Club members, families, friends, and all others that we may encounter.
- Organize and lead annual "Blessing of the Bikes" during the April meeting.
- Offer a blessing, for those who would like to attend, prior to each meeting, meal and ride.

Road Master:

In support of The Corps, the Road Master shall:

- Be responsible for the safety of motorcycles and riders on any Club ride.
- Organize and conduct training sessions for any new member who may either be new to riding or lacks experience riding with large formations.
- Oversee the training of new members in regard to riding in formations
- Publish a handout that describes riding in formations and safety issues.

Commo: (Appointed and may be held by a member serving in another office of the Club.)

In support of The Corps, the Commo shall:

- Oversee the design and maintenance of The Corps web-site and publications on behalf of The Corps
- Monitor any abuse of the site and take measures to protect members from receiving harmful, threatening or offensive communications.

### Article IX. Functions and Rides

Article Sub-Section 9.01 Road Captain:

The Road Captain is a voluntary position held by a member. A Road Captain along with the Road Master will plan Club functions/rides. The Road Captain will determine rally points, order of battle, chow intervals, re-fueling depots, and H- Hour. The Road Captain shall issue the five-paragraph order to all Marines by the most efficient means available. The

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Road Captain will retain the recall roster and emergency contact info for all members attending a function/ride.

Article Sub-Section 9.02 The Road Captain may also demonstrate the initiative to prepare some form of presentation or activity.

Article Sub-Section 9.03 Ride Formation:

- Ride formations will be headed by The C.O. to the left front and the Road Captain to the right front; the second row will include the X.O. to the left and the Chaplain to the right. The third row left will be the Company Gunny. If an officer from another Club is present, he/she will ride beside the X.O.
- Any non-Club members riding as guest(s) of a Club Member will form at the back of the formation.
- Members will wear Patches as the outer most garment on rides.

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- (b) Any non-Club members riding as guest(s) of a Club Member will form at the back of the formation.
- (c) All Members will serve as Road Guards where appropriate.
- (d) Members will wear the Patch as the outer most garment on rides.
- (e) Guests and members riding in formation will demonstrate, at all times, common driving courtesies and will not perform or display any acts that may endanger the group or other motorists or, bring discredit to The Corps and or the United States Marine Corps. Any substantiated violations of these courtesies will be handled at the discretion of the officers.

### **Article X. Recruits:**

Article Sub-Section 10.01 When a Marine or FMF Corpsman requests to join The Corps they must be sponsored by a core member in good standing, and will be required to complete an application and attend 3 regularly scheduled meetings and / or Club rides. During this period the new candidate will attend a formal introduction to The Corps. This will include, but not be limited to, riding in formations (presented by the Road Master or his delegate), the expectations of The Corps (conducted by the X.O. or his delegate), an educational introduction to the motorcycle club and riding club community (presented by the Company Gunny or his delegate). At the third function those members present shall vote on acceptance of the candidate. A simple majority vote of members present is required for approval.

Article Sub-Section 10.02 Members will not sponsor more than one recruit at a time.

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### **Article XI. Firearms:**

Article Sub-Section 11.01 If any Member or other person participating in a Club event is exercising his/her right to bear arms, The Corps requests that you notify the Company Gunny. If the Company Gunny is carrying a concealed weapon he will advise either the C.O. or X.O. The primary concern with this article is to ensure that if someone was hurt or otherwise incapacitated the officers would know that a weapon is present and that the weapon would need to be secured.

### **Article XII. Drugs and Alcohol:**

Article Sub-Section 12.01 No Member shall ride in a way that may cause harm to the rest of the Club or ride while intoxicated. If any Member believes that a fellow Member is not fit to ride it should be brought to the immediate attention of a Club officer. The Officers of The Corps will assume or delegate the responsibility of escorting the Member home or to a safe retreat and take actions to secure and transport the Member's ride.

### **Article XIII. Club Meetings:**

- (a) No drinking, swearing, or smoking or inappropriate behavior will be allowed during the official meeting. Members will not be under the influence of any substance prior to or during a meeting. The Company Gunny will enforce this standard.
- (b) Meetings will be held, at a minimum, once quarterly and limited to not more than one hour. The focus of each meeting shall be on a collective opportunity to ride together. A simple majority of those in attendance is required to extend the allotted time for the meeting.
- (c) An agenda for each quarterly meeting shall be published to the membership approximately one week before the scheduled meeting. At a minimum the agenda will address the planned ride and any pending business of the Corps.
- (d) Meetings shall be rotated geographically to offer members in every part of the state an opportunity to participate, or located in a central location that is equally accessible to the majority of members.
- (e) If an officer from another Club is present he/she will be treated in high regard and will sit with the Officers of The Corps.
- (f) Families and friends are welcome at all functions including meetings.
- (g) Members will wear Club Patch to meetings.
- (h) If any Member has an issue that he would like to discuss at a meeting they shall attempt to send via e-mail to The Corps membership a brief on the subject so that each Member may have an opportunity to consider the issue prior to the meeting.
- (i) Every reasonable attempt will be made to allow all Members a voice in all votes. The reality of deployments and other commitments dictate that on minor issues a majority vote by the Members present at a meeting will serve as an acceptable quorum.
- (j) Members are required to attend at least one meeting or Club ride every calendar year. If a member has not attended any meetings or rides during the calendar year, the membership will consider removing this member from the roster. Formal attendance will

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not be taken, rather The Officers shall monitor participation, and nominate to the membership prospective names for removal due to zero participation.

- (k) Rides for the Corps will be scheduled monthly during the riding season, March-October. Platoon rides will be scheduled at the discretion of members of that platoon.
- (l) No member that will be operating a vehicle after the meeting shall indulge in alcoholic beverages during the meeting. No public displays of intoxication, swearing, smoking, or inappropriate behavior will be allowed during the official meeting. Members will not be under the influence of any substance prior to or during a meeting.