

MINUTES OF INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING HELD IN FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA ON SATURDAY 22, AUGUST 19, 2009.

(WORDING FOR ALL MOTIONS IS FOUND IN THE MOTION LEDGER)

President Downs called meeting to order at 8:12 AM

Roll call of Officers:

Board members present were:

Jack Downs, President	Dick Morse, Vice President
Bill Snodgrass, Secretary	Leo Patry, Treasurer
Henry Heideman, Eastern Canada	Jack Jarvis, Southern Director
Gil Rekken, Western Director	Kent Armstrong, Quartermaster
Spike Ostiguy, Eastern Director	

Excused: Jeff Peters, Central Director

1. President Downs welcome all members to the 2008 Convention and Annual Business Meeting. He gave his President's report to the membership. He advise the rules for discussion on motions, 3 in favor, 3 against, 3 minute limit each.
2. The Secretary reported that we had 34 chapters in attendance.
3. President Downs ask for a motion **(033-2009)** to accept the 2008 Annual Business Meeting minutes as published. Motion was made by Alan Tyler (NY 37) and seconded by Joy Ellis (VT 2). Motion passed.
4. President Downs ask for motion to accept all officers' reports as published in the International Convention Handout. Motion **(034-2009)** was made by Chris Gadway (MD 4) and seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed.
5. John Rucinski gave a report on the Right Of Way bill that the AMA is working on.
6. The International Treasurer presented the 2008 Financial and Audit report and made a motion **(035-2009)** to accept the report. Chris Gadway (MD 4) seconded motion. Motion passed.
7. Convention reports were given.
 - For 2009 there are 107 members registered for this convention.
 - 2010 John Rucinski gave the following report. The 2010 convention will be hold in Grand Island, NY. The hotel is the Holiday Inn Grand Island Resort and Convention Center, 15 minutes from Niagara Falls. The room rates are \$139 for the standard and \$149 for the river view rooms. All rooms are being remodeled and will have new furniture, flat screen TV and new amenities. The meal choices are London broil, Chicken Marsala and Haddock with three choices of vegetables and salads. The price was quoted at the 2008/2009 prices and locked in. There will be a band at the dinner scheduled to play for 4 hours. As of this time there are plans for up to 3 rides, one in the wine country, one of the Erie Canal and one possible to Canada with Ontario 10 joining in. The hotel has the Grand Lady Cruise lines at it and I am

working on one or possibly two cruises of the Niagara River. They are 2 hours long and would be very entertaining. The local Red Knights NY Chapter is working on having the BBQ at a state park

- 2011 Maryland 3, No report
 - 2012 Pennsylvania 12, No report
 - 2013 Dave Emery gave report that the convention is in the planning stages with hotels being contacted for the best price.
8. President Downs gave a report on the Help A Knight program and its benefits to the membership.
 9. Nominations Chairperson, Steve Mickle, opened the nominations for Officers.

President: Dave Emery and Gene Downs
Treasurer: Leo Patry and Jack Downs (nominated from the floor by Gil Rekken)
Quartermaster: Kent Armstrong
Eastern Director: Spike Ostiguy and John Rucinski
E. Canada Director: Henry Heideman
Central Director: Jeff Peters and Tom Cooke (nominated by Bob Merriman PA 11).

Motion **036-2009** was made by Butch Chapman to close the nominations, seconded by Flint Breeding (TX 20). Motion passed

10. Eddie Brouillet gave a report on Americada. 270 members attended this year.
11. Secretary Snodgrass gave a report on the insurance program. 57 chapters to date have been insured for their event. Our rate has stayed the same for the past three years. There is no additional on the charge by the International. The rate is what the insurance company sets.
12. Secretary Snodgrass gave a membership report. We now have 324 chapters with 8,654 members in good standing. To date this year, there have been 77 requests for new chapter information, 41 new chapters application has been send out and 15 new chapters have been approved.
13. Don Parker gave a report on the RKMC memorial. There will 20 names added this year members who have passed.
14. Treasurer Patry gave a report on the donations for the memorial. In 2009, we have received \$1764.35 from the sale of the Heaven One patch. This amount is added to the maintenance fund for the memorial, which leaves a balance of \$3970.91. In 2009, we have received \$679.75 in donations, which was applied to the RKMC loan for the construction of the memorial, leaving a balance of \$14,971.25.
15. The Grand Tour Chairperson, Henry Heideman, gave a report the program and introduced an additional rocker that the members may earn. It is for an alphabet ride where members would visit firehouses beginning with every letter of the alphabet.

OLD BUSINESS

16. Motion 039-2008 (tabled from the 2008 ABM) was open for discussion. The motion reads as follows:

Motion 039-2008 “An Active member can if they so wish be a member of more than one chapter at a time. They must pay the same dues as other members of the chapter that they chooses to join and shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of an Active member in that chapter, except that they may only hold office in one chapter at a time. The chapter in which they hold office will be considered the members home chapter”.

Motion **037-2009** was made by Henry Heideman calling for a vote on Motion 036-2009 and was seconded by Steve Mickle (MA 13). A roll call vote was taken and motion passed by a vote of 22 for and 12 against.

NEW BUSINESS

17. Treasurer Patry made Motion **038-2009** that the International makes a donation in the amount of \$150.00 to the Convention Host Chapter's Charity of Choice. Motion seconded by Dennis Gobey (ON 9). Motion passed.
18. Treasurer Patry made **Motion 039-2009** that the International makes a donation in the amount of \$150.00 to the AMA Legislator fund. Motion seconded by John Rucinski (NY 12). Motion passed.
19. Treasurer Patry made **Motion 040-2009**, that the following chapter's charters be recalled due dues being in arrears for tow years:

Florida 12, Crestview, Florida	Illinois 15, Kenney, Illinois
New York 28, Peru, New York	Wisconsin 1, Sliver Lake, Wisconsin

Motion was seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed.

20. Treasurer Patry made **Motion 041-2009** that the regional Directors notify the following chapters that they are one year behind in their dues:

Alabama 7	Alberta 6	Alberta 8	Arkansas 3	Georgia 11
Illinois 13	Indiana 7	Kentucky 1	Kentucky 4	Maine 2
Massachusetts 7	Missouri 2			
New Jersey 6	New Mexico 3	Ohio 11	Oregon 1	Pennsylvania 31
Pennsylvania 33	Texas 6	Texas 9	Virginia 3	Virginia 10

Motion was seconded by Bob Merriman (PA 11). Motion passed

(A DETAILED LIST OF THE BY-LAW PROPOSALS AND THE RESULTS ARE FOUND IN THE APPENDIX AT THE END OF THE ABM MEETING MINUTES)

21. Henry Heideman gave the instructions for the voting of the by-law proposals. He will make all motions and he will only ask for a second on the motions. The by-law proposals were posted on the International web site and in the convention handout booklet.

- **Motion 042-2009** to approved the adding of Junior Membership Classification (Section 2:01),

Motion seconded by Allan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 043-2009** to approve Section 2;01 (I) to read Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a chapter to a member in good standing that has been a continuous *dues paying* member for 25 or more years. *Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Executive Board, to a member for outstanding service that may not have 25 years of continuous dues paying membership* or to a member that due to disability, declining health or age, no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall pay such membership costs annually.

Motion was seconded by Dennis Gobey (ON 9). Motion passed by a vote of 34 for 0 against

- **Motion 044-2009** to remove the word “continuous” from Section 2:01 (I) was made by Chris Gadway (MD 4) and seconded by Tom Caisse (MA 4). Motion passed by a majority vote
- **Motion 045-2009** word change due error in typing and to add *”be the amount payable in US funds at 50% of the rates paid by the North American applications”* for book keeping purposes in Section 2:02 (V).

Motion seconded by Gary Schubert (OH 5). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 046-2009** to add *“The funding allowance to maintain the \$65.00 or lower registration for a convention will only be issued after the above mention reports have been filed within the stated timeframe”* at the end of Section 2:02.

Motion seconded by Chris Gadway (MD 4). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 047-2009** for the wording of Section 3:02 to read, “Only Active Members of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club, who have previously served on their Chapter Executive Board, may serve on the International Executive Board or as a State Representative. *Once elected to the International Executive Board they must within 60 (sixty) days resign as the State/Provincial Representative they currently hold.* “ 8/05, An Active Member-at-Large may run for election of the International Executive Board with the previous of a majority vote of the International Executive Board. An Active Member-at-Large may run for election as a State or Provincial Representative.

Motion was seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 048-2009** for Section 3:13 to read “The Officers of the International Executive Board shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Quartermaster, Eastern Region Director, Southern Region Director, Central Region Director and Western Region Director and an Eastern Canadian Director. No one person of the International Executive Board may hold more than one office on the International Executive Board. *If a member of the Executive Board runs for another position on the International Executive Board and is elected, his current position will be immediately vacated and the International Executive Board will appoint a replacement to fill the remaining term of the vacated position.* The duties of the Officers, if not specifically enumerated in this document, shall be the duties specified by law of similar Officers in similar non-profit Corporations.

Motion was seconded by Tom Caisse (MA 4). Motion failed by a roll call vote of 18 against and 16 for.

- **Motion 049-2009** for the following wording to be added at the end of Sections 3:13, 3:17, 3:18, 3:19 and 3:20.
He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office. A copy of this manual shall be filed with the International Board

Motion was seconded by Tom Caisse (MA 4). Motion passed by a roll call vote of 33 for and 1 against.

- **Motion 050-2009**, for Section 3:22 to read “The State /Provincial Representatives are Representatives for all Chapters and Members-at-Large in his/her particular geographical State or Province in which they are an Active Member of a Chartered Chapter within that State/Province. He/she shall automatically become the President of the Red Knights ® International Firefighters Motorcycle Club Incorporation State/Province Association of that State/Province. If there is only one (1) Chapter in a State/Province, the Chapter will elect a member from the Chapter’s Executive Board to be the State/Province Representative. If there are two (2) or more chartered Chapters in a State/Province, each Chapter may submit a member from their Chapter’s Executive Board to be elected by a unanimous *majority* vote of all Chapters to be the State/Province Representative. This election should occur at the State/Province Annual Meeting, with each member *Chapter President or Authorized Delegate* present being entitled to one (1) vote. *Any Delegate must have a letter signed by the Chapter President authorizing them to vote the Will of the Chapter they represent.* If only one (1) name is submitted, that member will become State/Province Representative by default. He/she will have the following duties and responsibilities:

Motion was seconded by Gary Schubert (OH 5). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 051-2009** to add the following to Section 3:22 C, It is the duty of the Newsletter Editor to publish a semi-annual *Chapter’s President Newsletter* concerning the reports and activities of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club ® Inc. and *to be placed on the International Web site under the link for International Posting.* This publication shall be sent after the *Spring Executive Board Meeting and after the Fall Executive meeting.* This may be done with the assistance of other members of the International Executive Board or a Committee assigned to the detail.

Motion was seconded by John Rucinski (NY 12). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 052-2009** wording change to Section 3:26 to read:

The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any Chapter *or Member* for cause. Such action by the International Executive Board shall be effective immediately. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapters *or Members* of their suspension or removal by mailing, by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board’s action to the Chapter’s or members last know address. Any Chapter *or Member* so removed or suspended shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board, if such a hearing is requested in writing by Registered Mail to the International Executive *Secretary* within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Motion seconded by Steve Hux (AL 1). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 053-2009** to approve Section 3:27 to read:

The International Executive Board by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any member of the International Executive Board for just cause. Such action of the Board shall be effective immediately, pending further investigation. Any member suspended or removed from their position shall be notified by Registered Mail within fifteen (15) days. In all cases, the International Executive Secretary shall notify all Chartered Chapters *International Board members* of the suspension or removal of the person from that position. Any person suspended or removed shall be granted a

reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board or a Special Committee appointed by the International Executive Board. If such a hearing is requested in writing and sent to the International Executive President **Secretary** postmarked within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of suspension or removal, the Executive Board member being suspended or removed shall have to opportunity to submit documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board and/or Special Committee appointed shall issue its final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Motion seconded by Joy Ellis (VT2). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 054-2009** to amend Section 3:27 to read:

The International Executive Board by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any member of the International Executive Board for just cause. Such action of the Board shall be effective immediately, pending further investigation. Any member suspended or removed from their position shall be notified by Registered Mail within fifteen (15) days. In all cases, the International Executive Secretary shall notify all International Board members of the suspension or removal of the person from that position. **Regional Directors shall notify all Chartered Chapters Presidents of the suspension or removal of the person from that position within 30 (thirty) days.** Any person suspended or removed shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board or a Special Committee appointed by the International Executive Board. If such a hearing is requested in writing and sent to the International Executive Secretary postmarked within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of suspension or removal, the Executive Board member being suspended or removed shall have to opportunity to submit documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board and/or Special Committee appointed shall issue its final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

Motion was made by Chris Gadway (MD4) and seconded by Steve Hux (AL 1). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 055-2009** for Section 3:27 A to read:

Any Chapter who removes or suspends a member for just cause, shall within thirty (30) days, notify the International Executive President **Secretary** in writing as to the members Name, Address, Phone Number and Chapter, giving full details for the removal or suspension. **The International Secretary shall notify all the International Board officers of such suspension or removal.** The International Executive Board shall have the power to **endorse or reject such suspension or removal. The International Executive Board shall also have the authority to suspend any Chapter or Chapter member for just cause.**

Motion seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 056-2009** for Section 4:01A to read:

A Regional body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. Region Associations can be formed under the direction of the Regional Representative. A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. It shall be called “The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. Region Association of “_____.”

The Associations shall have their own approved Constitution and By-Laws that will conform to the International Constitution and By-Laws. They shall elect their own Region Association Board. **(REMOVE)The Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the Region**

Association. The Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a Region Association upon written request of a State/Province Representative. The International Executive Board Regional District shall assist in forming an Association. When Region Constitution and By-Laws do not enclose a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

Motion was seconded by Eddie Brouillett (MA 2)

There was discussion on this motion from both sides (For and Against). Don Parker (MA1) called for the Question (resulting in the vote).

Motion passed by a majority vote to remove **“The Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the Region Association”** from this section.

- **Motion 057-2009** for Section 5:04 to read:

Commercing with the passage of this ammentdment as Active membership shall be available to Active and Retired Firefighting personnel *of an established Fire Depatment, which are under the command of a Fire Chief* whether they are Career, Part Paid, On Call, Volunteer, Military or Industrial and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. A past Active member who no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. (8/05) Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two thirds 2/3 acceptance vote (66%) of members present with no probation period. *Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement shall be grandfathered as an Active member.*

Motion was seconded by Dennis Gobey (ON 13). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 058-2009**, is an amentment to Section 5:04 to read:

Commercing with the passage of this ammentdment as Active membership shall be available to Active and Retired Firefighting personnel *of an established Fire Depatment, which are under the command of a Fire Chief or public Service Director*, whether they are Career, Part Paid, On Call, Volunteer, Military or Industrial and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. A past Active member who no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. (8/05) Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employed by an established Fire Department. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two thirds 2/3 acceptance vote (66%) of members present with no probation period. *Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement shall be grandfathered as an Active member.*

Motion was made by Matt Nichols (FL 10) and seconded by Gary Schubert (OH 5). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 059-2009** to add the following at the end of Section 5:05,

There shall also be an Associate membership available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership, this type of associate membership

shall not be restricted to the 10% rule as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and master rosters of the Organization.

Motion was seconded by Joy Ellis (VT 2). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 060-2009** to add Mother and Father to Section 5:06 (Social membership)

Motion made by Edward Fairbanks (Tiger). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 061-2009** for section new 5:09A to read:

To qualify for Junior membership, dependent children of Active members must be under the age of sixteen (16) years.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list a Junior member on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, Junior membership must be switched to a Social membership and pay dues.

Motion seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37) and passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 062-2009** is an amendment to motion 061-2009 for Section 5:09 A to read:

To qualify for Junior membership, dependent children of Active **and Associate members** must be under the age of sixteen (16) years.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list a Junior member on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, Junior membership must be switched to a Social **or Active (if they qualify as a firefighter)** membership and pay dues.

Motion was made by Chris Gadway (MD 4) and seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37)

- **Motion 063-2009** to change the time frame from 30 days to 45 days in Section 7:02.

Motion was seconded by Ron Mott (FL 1). Motion passed by a majority vote

- **Motion 064-2009** for Section 5:01 to read:

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations relating to the granting of Chapters for the formation of Chartered Chapters. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt *the* By-Laws ~~that are consistent with~~ and *Constitution of* the International for the administering of its business A Chartered Chapter so established may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business *SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines)* to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including without limitations, the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing the requirements of the Chapter membership and compliance by the Chapter members with the overall purpose of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State or Province applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. will be designated under a State or Province identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. After a Chapter is no longer active for five (5) years, that Chapter's number may be reissued with the exception of the number 1.

This motion will do away with the requirement of chapters/associations having to devolved a set of by-laws to be submitted to the International for approval. All chapters/associations would follow the International By-Laws and devolved a set of SOGs for the running of their chapters/associations. These would not be sumitted for approval.

Motion was seconded by Chris Gadway (MD 4). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 065-2009** is an amentment to motion 064-2009 for Section 5:01 to read:

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations relating to the granting of Chapters for the formation of Chartered Chapters. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt the By-Laws and the Constitution of the International for the administering of its business or, **if needed for the purpose of incorporation of their chapter in their governmental area, may develop Chapter By-laws** that are consistent with the International Constitution and By-Laws.

A Chartered Chapter, so established, may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business SOG (Starndard Operating Guidline) to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business SOG is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including without limitations, the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing the requirements of the Chapter membership and compliance by the Chapter members with the overall purpose of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State or Province applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. will be designated under a State or Province identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. After a Chapter is no longer active for five (5) years, that Chapter's number may be reissued with the exception of the number, # 1

Motion was made by Tom Caisse (MA) and Seconded by Chris Gadway (MD 4). Motion passed by a majority vote.

- **Motion 066-2009** to correct the wording in the follow eight sections ot be in line with the approved Section 5:01;

Section 1:04, 3:10, 3:22A, 3:22B, 3:25A, 4:01, 4:01A, 4:04

Motion was seconded by Alan Tyler (NY 37). Motion passed by a majority vote.

22. The Election of Officers was held with Chairperson Mickle casing one vote for the following:

Quartermaster	Kent Armstrong
E. Canada Director	Henry Heideman

A ballot vote for the Offices of President, Treasurer, Central and Eastern Director was to be held.

Each nominee was given 5 minutes to address the membership. This started with the nominees for President.

Dave Emery stated his qualifications having served as Eastern Director, Vice Chairman of the Board and Vice President. His goals were to see the International continute to grow and work on the plans that were inplace for that growth.

Gene Downs spke about his qualifications as Southern Director and the problems that he saw with the current boad and the need to give the running of the club back to the membership.

The nominees for the Treasurer's position was next to address the membership.

Jack Downs discussed his qualifications by having served as the International President, Vice President and Florida State Representative. His qualifications to the position of Treasurer is based on him have been the treasure with the IAFF and awards that were given to him as a result of this work. He discussed concerns with the system in place and with the current Treasurer.

Leo Patry spoke next and went over his qualifications, having served as International President, Chairman of the Board and Treasurer since 1998. He then discussed each of the concerns that Jack had raised.

The nominees for the Eastern Director addressed the membership.

Spike Ostiguy thanked the membership for allow him to served the membership as the Vice Chairman of the Board, Vice President and Eastern Director. He would like to continue to serve.

John Rucinski advied the membership that he have served as the Eastern Director before and would like to to serve again.

Chairman Mickle held the elections in the following order, President, Treasurer, Central Director and Eastern Director.

The results were of the elections are:

President	Dave Emery
Treasurer	Leo Patry
Central Director	Tom Cooke
Eastern Director	John Rucinske
Quatermaster	Kent Armstrong
E. Canada Director	Henry Heideman

23. **Motion 067-2009** was made by Chairman Steve Mickle to destory the ballots and was seconded by Joy Ellis (VT 2). Motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

24. Three chapters submitted requests for the 2014 convention. They were:

Florida 13	Panama City, Florida
Texas 8	Clute, Texas
PEI 1	Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada

As a result of hand vote PEI 1 was awarded the 2014 Annual Convention.

25. Motion 068-2009 to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded by many members

Meeting was ajourned at 2:38 PM

Submitted By:

Bill Snodgrass
Int. Executive Secretary

APPENDIX

1. By-law proposals and results

PASSED

SECTION 2:01.

SECTION 2:01 MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION AND TENURE (LEO)

The **nine** membership classifications are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Charter Member | Ref; Section 5:08 |
| 2. Active Member | Ref; Section 5:04 |
| 3. Associate Member | Ref; Section 5:05 |
| 4. Social Member | Ref; Section 5:06 |
| 5. Special Honorary Member | Ref; Section 5:07 |
| 6. Member-at-Large | Ref; Sections 2:01- II, IV, A, B, & C. |
| 7. Life Member | Ref; Section 2:01- I. |
| 8. Compassionate Honorary Member | Ref; Section 5:09 |
| 9. Junior Member | Ref; Section 5:09A |

PASSED (REMOVED “CONTINUOUS”)

Section 2:01 (I) (proposed by Jeff Peters, Ohio 5 and Michael McInyre ON 2)

Life Membership may be granted by the International Executive Board or the Executive Board of a chapter to a member in good standing that has been a continuous **dues paying** member for 25 or more years. **Life membership may also be granted, at the discretion of the International Executive Board, to a member for outstanding service that may not have 25 years of continuous dues paying membership** or to a member that due to disability, declining health or age , no longer has a motorcycle license or the ability to ride a motorcycle. The organizational level proposing the member for Life Membership shall pay such membership costs annually.

PASSED

Section 2:01 V (proposed by Leo Patry)

V. New Chapter dues shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) application fee and ~~eight~~ **Sixteen** dollars (\$16.00) per new member. The membership dues portion of the application will be prorated for applications received after August 1st at a rate of twenty-five percent (25%) reduction for the third (3rd) quarter and fifty percent (50%) reduction for the fourth (4th) quarter of the year. All dollar amounts stated herein shall be in U.S. Currency. The amounts charged for any Chapter application or Member-at-Large fee and dues for applications from outside Continental North America shall, because of restricted amount of service and participation that a Chapter or Member may be able to have with the parent group, ~~be the amount payable at the same rates as the North American applications but shall be prorated to the currency of their own country payable in United States~~

~~funds. **be the amount payable in US funds at 50% of the rates paid by the North American applications.**~~ This rule shall also apply to all regalia sold by the International Quartermaster to these Chapters and Members-at-Large. The exception to this rule shall be countries whose currency is equal to or higher than the United States dollar. Those countries shall pay the same rate as the North American Chapters and Members-at-Large.

PASSED

SECTION 2:02: added to the end of the section (proposed by Jeff Peters)

Any hosting chapter that doesn't comply with and meet the requirements of the report submissions required as outlined in the Procedures Manual for the hosting of the annual convention shall put at risk their entitlement to any or all funding from the International as per Section 10:05 of the International SOG's. **The funding allowance to maintain the \$65.00 or lower registration for a convention will only be issued after the above mention reports have been filed within the stated timeframe.**

For your information:

This proposed change in Section 2:10 will completely rewrite the section. The changes would make it possible for every member of the club to elect the International Board, not just the members who show up for the Annual Board Meeting at the convention.

**THIS SECTION AND ALL SECTIONS DEALING WITH THIS ISSUE IS
TABLED UNTIL THE 2010 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**SECTION 2:10 VOTING PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BOARD**

(Proposed by *Bill Snodgrass and Leo Patry*)

~~Voting for the election of the International Executive Board shall be by secret ballot at the International Annual Meeting. In the event of a tie ballot, the candidates will be given an opportunity to speak to the membership for a maximum of five (5) minutes each. Another session of secret ballot voting will then take place. This procedure will continue till a candidate is elected. An appointed Committee of the International State Representatives or Chapter Representatives shall tally the ballots and announce the results to the Membership. After a candidate is chosen, the ballots will be destroyed.~~

Voting for the election of the International Executive Board shall be special mail ballot. All candidates seeking office on the International Executive Board shall

request information of the job duties for the position that they seeking between April 15 and May 15.

The qualifications to seek election to the International Board are found in Section 3:02 of the International By-Laws.

The nomination committee will submit to any candidate the job duties and Procedure Manual for that position.

The candidate shall notify the Chairperson of the nomination committee by June 1 of their intent to seek election. The candidate at that time should submit a Bio, photo, why they are running and any plans they may have f elected. This information will be placed on the International website for review by the membership. June 1 is the cut off date for all nominations. No candidate's notation to run for office shall be accepted after the postmark of June 1.

The voting procedure will be based on one vote per chapter. All nominations shall be posted on the International website and in the International newsletter on June 1. On June 1, the ballots with the candidates listed for each position for election will be send to the Chapter President and the Chapter Secretary electronically by the nominating committee. This notice will be followed up with by the Regional Directors.

All ballots shall be received by the nominating committee by July 15. No ballots will be accepted after the postmarked date of July 15. All ballots shall be mailed by certified mail to the nominating committee with a return receipt.

In the case of the Members At Large (MAL), the Nomination Committee Chairperson shall on June 1 send electronically a ballot tot all MAL at the e-mail address of record. The International Vice President responsible for the MAL program will follow up on this notice. All MAL ballots will be mailed to the International Vice President by certified mail and shall be postmarked on later that July 15. Nor will ballots be accepted after the postmarked date of July 15.

The International Vice President will bring the un-opened ballots to the Annual Business Meeting. The International Vice President, the elected MAL representative and one other MAL will open the ballots and count the ballots. The MAL Representative will cast one vote for each candidate having the majority from the ballots submitted for each office. He will place the ballots in a sealed envelope and deliver it to the Nominations Committee Chairperson for inclusion with the other mailed in ballots.

In the case of a tied vote on the mailed in MAL ballots, the MALs at the annual business meeting will follow the same procedure as the chapters.

The Nomination Committee Chairperson will store the un-opened returned ballots and bring them to that year's Annual Convention, whereas, the Chairperson and his committee will on the evening prior to the Corporation's Annual Business Meeting will open and tally the ballots. The results of the elections shall be announced at the Annual Business meeting under the agenda of new business.

In the event of a tie for any office, the Bio of the tied candidates will be read and if present, each candidate will be given 5 minutes to address the membership. After that, ballots will be distributed to the registered chapter delegates who will case one vote for each chapter. This procedure will continue until a candidate is elected.

In the event that there is no candidate for an office, the International Board, by a majority vote under Section 3:05 of the International By-Laws will declare the office vacate and shall fill the office until the next election.

After a candidate is chosen, the ballots will be destroyed by the Nominating Committee Chairperson. This will be witnessed by the Nomination Committee.

The successful candidates will be sworn in at the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting.

The duties of the Nomination Committee will listed in the International Standard Operating Guideline Manual.

For your information:

This proposed change to Section 2:08 will only be submitted if the Proposed change to Section 2:10 is accepted by the membership. That is why it is out of sequence here.

SECTION 2:08 PROHIBITION OF PROXY VOTING (proposed by Bill Snodgrass)

Voting by absenteeism ballots prior to the Annual Business Meeting for the purpose of election will be allowed according to Section 2:10 of the By-Laws of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Organization.

PASSED

SECTION 3:02 QUALIFICATION AND ELECTIONS (proposed by Leo Patry)

Only Active Members of the Red Knights International Motorcycle Club, who have previously served on their Chapter Executive Board, may serve on the International Executive Board or as a State Representative. *Once elected to the International Executive Board they must within 60 (sixty) days resign as the State/Provincial Representative they currently hold.* 8/05, An Active Member-at-Large may run for election of the International Executive Board with the previous of a majority vote of the International Executive Board. An Active Member-at-Large may run for election as a State or Provincial Representative

FAILED

For your information:

This particular proposed Section 3:13 bylaw change is not endorsed by the International Board

SECTION 3:13 NUMBER INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Jeff Peters, Ohio 5)

The Officers of the International Executive Board shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Quartermaster, Eastern Region Director, Southern Region Director, Central Region Director and Western Region Director and an Eastern Canadian Director. No one person of the International Executive Board may hold more than one office on the International Executive Board.

If a member of the Executive Board runs for another position on the International Executive Board and is elected, his current position will be immediately vacated and the International Executive Board will appoint a replacement to fill the remaining term of the vacated position.

The duties of the Officers, if not specifically enumerated in this document, shall be the duties specified by law of similar Officers in similar non-profit Corporations.

PASSED

SECTION 3:16 PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:17 VICE-PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:18 SECRETARY, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:19 TREASURER, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:20 QUARTERMASTER, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

(proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:21 REGIONAL DIRECTORA, INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE

BOARD (proposed by Int. Board)

Add to the end of first paragraph

He/She shall also produce a Procedural manual for his position within the first year if one is not already in existence and if one has already been drafted then it shall be updated as needed outlining the duties of the office and how they are carried out and shall be passed on to His/Her successor upon leaving office a copy of this manual shall be filed with the International

PASSED

SECTION 3:22 STATE AND PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES (proposed by Tom Caisse MA 4)

The State /Provincial Representatives are Representatives for all Chapters and Members-at-Large in his/her particular geographical State or Province in which they are an Active Member of a Chartered Chapter within that State/Province. He/she shall automatically become the President of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Incorporation State/Province Association of that State/Province. If there is only one (1) Chapter in a State/Province, the Chapter will elect a member from the Chapter's Executive Board to be the State/Province Representative. If there are two (2) or more chartered Chapters in a State/Province, each Chapter may submit a member from their Chapter's Executive Board to be elected by a unanimous **majority** vote of all Chapters to be the State/Province Representative. This election should occur at the State/Province Annual Meeting, with each member **Chapter President or Authorized Delegate** present being entitled to one (1) vote. **Any Delegate must**

have a letter signed by the Chapter President authorizing them to vote the Will of the Chapter they represent. If only one (1) name is submitted, that member will become State/Province Representative by default. He/she will have the following duties and responsibilities:

PASSED

Section 3:22C Newsletter Editor (proposed by Int. Board)

It is the duty of the Newsletter Editor to publish a semi-annual **Chapter's President newsletter** concerning the reports and activities of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. and **to be placed on the International Web site under the link for International Posting.** This publication shall be sent after the **Spring Executive Board Meeting and after the Fall Executive meeting** This may be done with the assistance of other members of the International Executive Board or a Committee assigned to the detail. He/she shall also have the following duties and responsibilities:

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SECTION 3:25 NOMINATING COMMITTEE (proposed by Int. Board)

At least ~~ninty (90)~~ **one-hundred and eighty (180)** days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting of the International Corporation and the Election of Officers, the International Executive Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of a Chairperson and no less then two (2) Members who are Active Members of the International Corporation.

They shall present a list of nominations to the International Executive Board to fill whatever vacancies may occur at the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall elect it's own Chairman who will report the Committee's findings and recommendations to the members present at the Annual Meeting. Such report will not preclude the nomination of other qualified Active Members from the floor of the Annual Meeting for vacancies on the International Executive Board.

PASSED

SECTION 3:26 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF CHAPTERS/MEMBERS BY THE INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD (proposed by Int. Board)

The International Executive Board may, by its own majority motion, suspend or

remove any Chapter **or Member** for cause. Such action by the International Executive Board shall be effective immediately. In all cases, the International Executive Board shall notify such Chapters **or Members** of their suspension or removal by mailing, by means of Certified Mail, a notice of the Board's action to the Chapter's or members last known address. Any Chapter **or Member** so removed or suspended shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board, if such a hearing is requested in writing by Registered Mail to the International Executive **Secretary** within thirty (30) days of their receipt of the notice of suspension or removal. The Chapter suspended or removed shall have the opportunity to submit written documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board shall issue the final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

PASSED (AMENDMENT TO READ IN RED)

SECTION 3:27 SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL OF INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS (proposed by Leo Patry)

The International Executive Board by its own majority motion, suspend or remove any member of the International Executive Board for just cause. Such action of the Board shall be effective immediately, pending further investigation. Any member suspended or removed from their position shall be notified by Registered Mail within fifteen (15) days. In all cases, the International Executive Secretary shall notify all ~~Chartered Chapters~~ **International Board members** of the suspension or removal of the person from that position. **REGIONAL DIRECTORS SHALL NOTIFY CHARTED CHAPTERS PRESIDENTS WITH-IN 30 DAYS.** Any person suspended or removed shall be granted a reconsideration hearing before the International Executive Board or a Special Committee appointed by the International Executive Board. If such a hearing is requested in writing and sent to the International Executive ~~President~~ **Secretary** postmarked within thirty (30) days of receipt of the notice of suspension or removal, the Executive Board member being suspended or removed shall have to opportunity to submit documentation and appear before the International Executive Board at the reconsideration hearing. The International Executive Board and/or Special Committee appointed shall issue its final decision within sixty (60) days of the date of such hearing.

PASSED

SECTION 3:27A REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION OF A MEMBER (proposed by Int. Board)

Any Chapter who removes or suspends a member for just cause, shall within thirty (30) days, notify the International Executive ~~President~~ **Secretary** in writing as to the members Name, Address, Phone Number and Chapter, giving full details for the removal

or suspension. ***The International Secretary shall notify all the International Board officers of such suspension or removal.*** The International Executive Board shall have the power to ***endorse or reject such suspension or removal*** ***The International Executive Board shall also have the authority to suspend any Chapter or Chapter members member for just cause.***

PASSED

SECTION 4:01A REGION ASSOCIATIONS

A Regional body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Region Associations can be formed under the direction of the Regional Representative. A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. It shall be called “The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Region Association of “_____.”

The Associations shall have their own approved Constitution and By-Laws that will conform to the International Constitution and By-Laws. They shall elect their own **Region Association Board.** **(REMOVE)The Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the Region Association.** The Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a Region Association upon written request of a State/Province Representative. The International Executive Board Regional District shall assist in forming an Association. When Region Constitution and By-Laws do not enclose a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

PASSED

5:05 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership shall be offered to a person who has been proposed, in writing, for such membership and accepted in good standing and, in the opinion of a majority of the Chapter's Executive Board, has substantially contributed to the promotion of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. for a minimum period of six (6) months. Final approval shall be by a majority vote of the Chapter members at a meeting held at the conclusion of the six-month (6) period. Associate members shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the Chapters Active Members. Once a member has been accepted as an Associate member and for various reasons no longer is able to ride a motorcycle they may, at the pleasure of the chapter majority retain his/her membership as an Associate member.

There shall also be an Associate membership available to any person who is an employee of a Fire department and not qualified for Active membership, this type of associate membership shall not be restricted to the 10% rule as stated above and will be recorded as a FD Associate in the chapter and master rosters of the Organization.

PASSED (AMENDMENT IN RED)

SECTION 5:04 ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP (proposed by Bill Snodgrass)

Commercing with the passage of this ammentdment as Active membership shall be available to Active and Retired Firefighting personnel ***of an established Fire Depatment, which are under the command of a Fire Chief OR PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTOR*** whether they are Career, Part Paid, On Call, Volunteer, Military or Industrial and who presently own or have access to a Motorcycle and have a current legal Motorcycle endorsement. A past Active member who no longer can ride a motorcycle may retain their active status. (8/05) Emergency Medical Technicians and Medics are eligible to be members if they are employees by an established Fire Department. Upon receiving an application for Active Membership, the candidate shall receive a two thirds 2/3 acceptance vote (66%) of members present with no probation period. ***Any Active member whose membership started prior to the passage of this membership requirement shall be grandfathered as an Active member.***

PASSED

SECTION 5:06 SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP (proposed by Tom Caisse MA 4)

Social members shall be a Spouse, Partner, Boy Friend, Girl Friend, Son, Daughter, Brother, Sister, ***Mother or Father*** of an Active Member, Associate Member or a Member-at-Large. The minimum age for a Social member shall be 16 (sixteen) years of age before joining.

For your information:

The Junior Member is already a recognized classification that is mentioned in the SOG manual Section 5:03. This would just be making it an official entry in the International Bylaws.

PASSED (AMENDMENT ID RED)

SECTION 5:09A JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP (proposed by Int. Board)

Junior membership is available for all dependent children of active **IF QUALIFIED OR ASSOCIATE** members under the age of sixteen (16) years of age.

There shall be no dues collected for Junior Membership by the International and chapters shall be allowed to list such Junior members on their rosters until age 16. At age 16, the Junior member must switch to a Social or **Active member (if they qualify as a firefighter)** pay dues.

For your information:
As denoted below, this proposal would eliminate two of the four items in this section and increase the day limit.

PASSED

SECTION 7:02 AGENDA FOR THE INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING (proposed by Ed Brouillet)

1. Any topic to be discussed at the International Annual Meeting must be sent to the International Executive Board no later than ~~thirty (30)~~ **forty-five (45)** days before the International Annual Meeting.
 - ~~2. Motions to be placed on the agenda must be sponsored by a Chapter or Association. The count of votes must accompany motions sent to the International Executive Board for it to be placed on the agenda.~~
 - ~~3. The agenda will be sent to all Chapters at least sixty (60) days prior to the meeting. This will allow each Chapter unable to attend; time to spend any written statements they would like read.~~
 - 2.** Any unpublished topic may be discussed under New Business and may be acted upon by the International Corporation at that time.
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SECTION 7:03 VOTING (proposed by Bill Snodgrass)

1. All Chartered Chapters in good standing will have one (1) equal vote on each motion, **with the exception of voting for officers of the International Board,** presented on the floor at the Annual Meeting
2. Votes taken at the International Annual Meeting will be final. Votes taken on roll call basis and kept on record sheets. **The results are to be posted on the International Website with the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting.** *Ballots for electing the International Executive Officers will be destroyed, Ref: Section 2:10.
3. All votes will be held binding on the International Executive Board and they will enact all business of the International Annual Meeting as soon as possible.
4. Members-at-Large will be considered one chapter and will have one (1) vote on each motion presented on the floor at the annual meeting. The vote will be cast by the MAL representative.
5. Any Board Member may vote on behalf of his chapter if there is no other chapter Member signed in as the chapter voting member.

For your information:

This section is separated from the other proposed bylaws because of the need to explain the interconnectivity of all the proposed bylaw changes.

The main objective of the proposed change to Section 5:01 is to eliminate Chapter bylaws and replace them with Chapter SOGs which will not have to be submitted to the Bylaws Committee for approval.

The proposed change to Section 5:01 Chapter Government, will state that the chapters (and thus the state, provincial and regional associations) will no longer have their own Chapter, State, Provincial or Regional bylaws. They will run under the general rule of the International Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and SOGs and in addition, they will adopt a set of SOGs under which they will run business at their organizational level.

If the proposed change to Section 5:01 is accepted, then the remainder of the proposed changes listed below must also be changed to reflect adherence to the change of Section 5:01.

If the proposed change to Section 5:01 is not accepted, then the remainder of the proposed changes, listed below, will not be submitted to the membership for a vote.

PASSED (AMENDMENT IN RED)

SECTION 5:01 CHAPTER GOVERNMENT (proposed by Jeff Peters)

All Chartered Chapters must be established by the International Executive Board in accordance with all the provisions of the International Constitution, By-Laws and Rules

& Regulations relating to the granting of Chapters for the formation of Chartered Chapters. Each Chartered Chapter shall adopt **the** By-Laws ~~that are consistent with~~ and **Constitution of** the International for the administering of its business **OR MAY DEVELOP CHAPTER BY-LAWS THAT ARE CONOISTANT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS IN THEIR AREA IF NEEDED FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCORPORATION OF THEIR CHAPTER..**

A Chartered Chapter so established may exercise full power and authority of a Chapter business **SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines)** to the extent that the transaction of Chapter business is consistent with the International By-Laws. Chapter Government is responsible for the organization of Corporate activities at the Chapter level, including without limitations, the collection of International dues from Chapter members and overseeing the requirements of the Chapter membership and compliance by the Chapter members with the overall purpose of the International Corporation. Any proposed Chapter of a State or Province applying to become a Chartered Chapter of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. will be designated under a State or Province identification with the next consecutive number or number selected and approved by the International Executive Board. After a Chapter is no longer active for five (5) years, that Chapter's number may be reissued with the exception of the number, # 1.

(BY AVOTE OF 7 FOR AND 3 AGAINST, THIS PROPOSAL IS ENDORSED BY THE INT. BOARD)

The remaining eight proposed bylaw changes will only be submitted for approval if the Proposed change to Section 5:01 is accepted.

ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PASSED

SECTION 1:04 A INSIGNIA PLACEMENT

2.CLUB VEST

The Club vest color shall be at the discretion of the members, RED being the recommended color of choice of the International Executive Board. If a Chapter chooses to write into their ~~By-Law~~, **SOG** that only Red can be worn then it will be up to the Chapter to enforce that rule. Cresting on the back shall consist of.

SECTION 3:10 DUTIES AND POWERS (proposed by Int. Board)

5. The International Executive Board may grant to any group of seven (7) or more persons who are qualified as Active Members, a **Charter** for the formation of a Chapter of the Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. A minimum of seven (7) persons qualifying as Active Members is required before a **Charter** will be issued to such a group. Chartered Chapter Membership below the level of five (5) may be granted at the discretion of the International Executive Board. ~~Each new Chapter may adopt any legal form of organization, but must adopt By-Laws consistent with the By-Laws of the International Corporation. Chapter By-Laws shall not be effective until approved by the International Executive Board, as being in general conformity with the purposes of the International Executive Board.~~ **Each new Chapter will adopt the By-Laws of the International Corporation.**

SECTION 3:22A STATE AND PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS

It is the aspiration of the International Executive Board to have State/Provincial Associations established in all States and Provinces that have two (2) or more Chartered Chapters. Recommendations and guideline for implementing an Association are available from the International Executive Secretary. All Associations must be approved by the International Executive Board. ~~The Associations must have a Constitution and By-Laws that do not conflict with the Constitution and~~ **adopt the** By-Laws of the International Corporation. ~~The International Executive Board may forward the Association's By-Laws to the International By-Laws Committee for review of changes or approval.~~ The State/Provincial Representative will be the Presiding Officer of the Association and will work in concert with the Regional Director to keep the Associations active and strong, Ref: Article IV.

SECTION 3:22B REGION ASSOCIATIONS

It is the aspiration of the International Executive Board to have Region Associations established in all States and Provinces that have two (2) or more Chartered State/Province Associations. Recommendations and guideline for implementing an Association are available from the International Executive Secretary. All Associations must be approved by the International Executive Board. ~~The Associations must have a Constitution and By-Laws that do not conflict with the~~ **adopt the** Constitution and By-Laws of the International Corporation. ~~The International Executive Board may forward the Association's By-Laws to the International By-Laws Committee for review of changes or approval.~~ The Regional Director will be the Presiding Officer of the Association and will work in concert with the International Board to keep the Associations active and strong, Ref: Article IV.

SECTION 3:25A BY-LAWS COMMITTEE (proposed by Int. Board)

The duties and power of the By-Laws Committee will be responsible for maintaining the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations that govern the operations of the International Corporation. This Committee shall be responsible for reviewing and updating all changes submitted to the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations. All changes shall be submitted to the International Executive Board for their majority approval prior to being presented to the membership. Changes and additions sponsored by Chartered Chapters will be presented to the By-Laws Committee for review, duplication and wording prior to being advanced to the International Executive Board.

The Committee shall have the authority to make necessary changes in grammar, spelling, punctuation and wording that will not alter or change the intent of the By-Laws or Rules & Regulations, without the voting approval of the International Executive Board or the Membership .

All Chapter Presidents shall be notified of all Constitution, By-Laws and Rules & Regulations changes or additions within sixty (45) days prior to the International Annual Meeting.

~~The By-Laws Committee shall review Chartered Chapters' Constitutions and By-Laws when presented, confirming that they observe the intent of the International Constitution and By-Laws. It shall make recommendations as needed and file the completed document for future review with the International Secretary.~~

SECTION 4:01 STATE / PROVINCE ASSOCIATIONS

A State/Province body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. Chapters can be formed under the direction of the State/Province Representative. It shall be called "The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club[®] Inc. State/Province Association of _____."

The Associations shall ~~have their own approved Constitution and By-Laws that will conform to the~~ **adopt the** International Constitution and By-Laws **and adopt their own set of SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines) to the extent that the transaction of State/Province business is consistent with the International By-Laws.**

They shall elect their own State/Province Representative and State/Province Executive Board as defined in the International By-Laws, Section 3:22 and 3:22 A. The State/Province Representative shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the State/Province Association. The State/Province Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a State/Province Association upon written request of a Chapter President, Chapter

Representative or State/Province Representative. The International Executive Board Regional District shall assist in forming an Association.

When State/Province ~~Constitution and By-Laws~~ **SOGs** do not enclose a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

SECTION 4:01A REGION ASSOCIATIONS

A Regional body of Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Region Associations can be formed under the direction of the Regional Representative. A minimum of Two State/Province Association must apply to the Regional Director to form a Region Association. It shall be called “The Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club® Inc. Region Association of “_____.”

The Associations ~~shall have their own approved Constitution and By-Laws that will conform to the~~ **adopt the** International Constitution and By-Laws **and adopt their own set of SOG (Standard Operating Guidelines) to the extent that the transaction of Regional Association business is consistent with the International By-Laws.**

They shall elect their own Region Association Board. The Regional Director shall serve as President or Presiding Officer of the Region Association. The Region Associations will support the International Corporation and the International Executive Board in its goals and activities and be an extension of the International Executive Board for the purpose of serving the members. The International Executive Secretary will forward guidelines for organizing a Region Association upon written request of a State/Province Representative. The International Executive Board Regional District shall assist in forming an Association.

When Region ~~Constitution and By-Laws~~ **SOGs** do not enclose a particular item or issue, the International Constitution and By-Laws will control.

SECTION 4:04 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS DUTIES (proposed by Int. Board)

8. Committees

Committees and Committee Chairmen may be appointed as needed by the State/Province/*Region* Executive Board under the direction and advisement of the State/Provincial Representative *or Regional Director*. The mandatory Committees shall be: Nominating Committee, ~~By-Laws~~ **SOG** Committee, Audit & Finance Committee, and Safety Committee. All committees may institute their own rules and policies with the approval of the State/Province/*Re*

