



CHAPTER 19-8

Proposed Bylaws

Article 1 – NAME AND EMBLEM

Section 1

The name of the association is: New York Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 19-8 (NY CVMA Chapter 19-8). We are a state-run chapter of the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

- a. Principal office of the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will be located at the following address: 1019 Highland, Liberty, MO 64068 USA (The designation of the country or state of Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association principal office may change by amendment)
- b. Other Offices. Then National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association may also have offices at such other places, within or without its state of incorporation, where it is qualified to do business, as its business and activities may require, and as the Board of Directors (BOD may from time to time designate.

Section 2

IRS Section 501(c) (3) Purposes. Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is organized exclusively for Past or Present Members of the Armed Forces as specified in Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The NY CVMA's Officer's, State Representative or the National CVMA Board of Directors has the authority to change the CVMA bylaws if any part is found to be in conflict with Federal or NY state tax laws.

Section 3

The emblem / logo used by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and its Chapters are sole property of the CVMA. The CVMA patch and logo cannot be reproduced without license from the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association BOD.

Section 4

The emblem of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is in the shape of a skull encompassed by the following colors: The incorporated colors are:

- The Skull and Ace of Spade- represents the death that war leaves in its wake
- Red – represents the blood that has been shed on the battlefield.
- Military Gold – representing the many ethnic background of all nations.
- Black – represents the heavy hearts possessed for those who gave their lives and for those that are considered missing in action or prisoners of war.

Article 2 – Objectives

General: New York Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 19-8 Protocol.

The New York Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 19-8 is formed for the ***betterment*** of communication and camaraderie between Veterans, Veterans Organizations, families of veterans other Motorcycle Association, and or Motorcycle Groups. **We are not a Motorcycle Club.**

Section 1

Create and maintain camaraderie among Combat Veterans from all Branches of the United States Armed Forces and allies.

Section 2

Promote interest in various forms of motorcycling activities that are **associated with and supports Veterans**

Section 3

Promote and support Veteran Organizations.

Section 4

Raise awareness for the plight of U.S. soldiers that are/where prisoners of war (POW), missing in action (MIA), wounded in action (WIA), or killed in action (KIA) and their families.

Section 5

Conduct Chapter functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and the United States Armed Forces.

Section 6

Encourage a better understanding of motorcycling and motorcyclist among members of the public, press and law enforcement agencies.

Article 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

All Chapter memberships shall be IAW CVMA National Bylaws. Section 2 Members who fail to keep National dues current will be dropped from the Chapter rolls as soon as the Chapter Secretary has determined that the member's dues are delinquent.

Section 2

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

Section 3

Each member must attend a minimum of at least one (1) event hosted by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association per year. This requirement may be met by attending an one (1) of the following within the calendar year. Members not in compliance will have their status (via 201 file) annotated as “Not in Good Standing due to attendance”.

Section 4

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

- a. In the event of misconduct by any member, under these by-laws and those of the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, the Board of Directors possesses the right to revoke their membership. Misconduct is defined as failure to abide by the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and any organization that the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association supports.
- b. Bringing dishonor upon the Combat Veterans Association in action, word(s), deeds. Always remember while we do have membership fees, **WE ARE NOT, NOR DO WE CLAIM TO BE A MOTORCYCLE CLUB! WE DO NOT HAVE COLORS!** We do not prospect.
- c. Bringing dishonor upon the Combat Veterans Association in action, word(s), or deeds to include as example but not limited to this list:
 1. Personal relations with another member’s significant other.
 2. Criminal misconduct: drugs, theft, felonies etc.
 3. Conviction of Drinking and Driving

Section 5

All members must possess a valid motorcycle driver’s license endorsed by their state as well as proof of insurance for their motorcycle. This proof must be validated by one of the Chapter officers prior to issuing any back patch.

Article 4 – MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1

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

Section 2

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

Section 3

New members purchasing patches of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will be done so at cost plus shipping and handling. The initial back patch will be ordered through one of the Chapter's Officers, State Quarter Master or the State Representative and will be issued to new members in person.

Section 4

Charter members will not be required to pay annual dues and may wear the 45-patch designating that they are an original starter member, or support member, of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association

Section 5

Chapters can collect local dues. A cap of \$20.00 annual chapter dues can be assessed. All national dues continue to go straight to national.

Article 5 – ELECTIONS

Section 1

Members may accept a nomination for any Chapter officer position if he/she is a paid member in good standing with the CVMA and has a minimum of 1 full year CVMA membership with at least six (6) months in the Chapter. Only the six (6) month minimum requirement rule may be immediately amended with a majority vote of the general membership.

Section 2

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

Section 3

Officers are to be nominated and elected at the NY CVMA state Meeting held in September. Elected members will assume positions immediately after elections are complete and hold that office for 24 months or until their successors are duly qualified. Consecutive terms are permitted.

Section 4

Chapter Officer Nominations can be made electronically (email) but the nominee must accept the nomination (in person or by phone) at least 14 days prior to the elections being held. The Commander will vote only in the event of a tie.

Section 5

NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 Officers will be considered for re-election on alternation years in the following order, Commander / Secretary / PR (Odd numbered years); XO / Treasurer / SGT at Arms (even numbered years) This is to ensure continuity and provide new Officers with a smooth transition.

Section 6

Should any NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 Officer (other than the Commander) resign or be removed for any reason the Chapter Commander has the authority to replace the officer at his/her discretion. However, the new officer will be put up for approval by the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 officers and a majority vote will decide. The Commander will vote only in the event of a tie. Should the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 Commander be removed, the position will be assumed by the Chapter's Executive Officer (XO) and the XO's position will be reassigned.

Section 7

Should an elected officer resign from office for any reason the remaining NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 Officers will appoint a replacement to serve until the next NY CVMA State Meeting. If suitable replacement cannot be determined the missing Officers duties and responsibilities will be delegated by the Commander and assumed by the remaining NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 Officers.

Section 8: Elections

Election of local officers

All officers are to be nominated and elected at the Chapter level. All officers will assume office within 30 days of the election and hold that office for the 36 months or until their successors are duly qualified. Consecutive terms are permitted by discouraged. Any officers who misses six (6) meetings without extenuating circumstances will be removed from the position and a special election will be held.

1. Every November of the odd year will be an election of Commander, Secretary, SGT at Arms and Quartermaster.
2. Every November of the even year will be an election of Executive Officer, Treasurer and Public Affairs Officer.

Article 6 – Officer Qualifications

Section 1: Requirements for Commander

Must be a member in good standing, served successfully a full term as an officer, have at least 3 years membership and working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 2: Requirements for Executive Officer

Must be a member in good standing, be a prior officer, and have at least 2 years membership and working knowledge of Robert Rules of Order

Section 3: Requirements for Secretary

Must be a member in good standing, chaired at least 3 committees or served as an officer, have 2 years membership.

Section 4: Requirements for Treasurer

Must be a member in good standing, chaired at least 3 committees or served as an officer and at least 1-year membership.

Section 5: Requirements for SGT at Arms

Must be member in good standing, chaired at least 2 committees or served as an officer and at least 1-year membership.

Section 6: Requirement for Public Relations Officer

Must be a member in good standing, chaired at least 2 committees or served as an officer, and at least 1-year membership.

Section 7: Requirements for Quartermaster

Must be a member in good standing, chaired at least 2 committees or served as an officer, and at least 1-year membership.

Section 8: Requirements for Ride Captain

To be appointed by the Chapter Commander. Must be a member in good standing, chaired a committee, have a working knowledge of road safety rules and good knowledge of local roads and byways. Members must also have a roadworthy motorcycle.

Section 9: Voting by Proxy

Deployed active duty military members may vote by proxy if the ballots are emailed directly to the Chapter Secretary. The Chapter Secretary will immediately send an email back to the originator to confirm receipt of said ballots.

Section 10: Voting by Conference Call

Members that are not able to attend a meeting may vote by Conference call as long as FM# is on record. Any matters that are required to be voted on must be addressed by email 1 week prior to the vote to allow members to read and review any matters that are needed to be voted on. The Chapter Secretary will send out all items to be voted on in a timely manner and record all votes

via phone conference call. A member will not be allowed to propose a vote or matter to be voted on via phone, in person proposals will be required.

Article 7 – OFFICERS

Section 1

The **Commander** will preside over all meetings of the Chapter; act as the Executive Officer for all committees, issue the call for regular and special NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 meetings, schedule regular elections, and be sure they are held IAW the National CVMA bylaws, and carry out the directives of the National CVMA Board of Directors. The Commander may appoint additional duties as required to Chapter Officers and may designate Officer Positions if said position is vacant.

Section 2

The **Executive Officer** will perform all duties of the Commander in the absence. He/She will be the point of contact for all new applications to ensure the correct paperwork (to include motorcycle license and proof of insurance) is in order before releasing it to the NY State Representative. The Executive Officer will perform duties of the Public Relations Officer (Article 6 Section 5) if that position is vacant.

Section 3

The **Secretary** shall keep ‘minute’ of the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 general membership and Board of Directors meetings held at Nationals. He/She will keep attendance records, keep and maintain an updated NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 membership roster as well as updated the website roster. Other duties may include updating the NY CVMA 19-8 website, correspondence with inactive members, and ensure to have all points of contact (phone numbers/emails) for meeting locations and members and keep the Bylaws of NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 up to date in the occasion of an addendum.

Section 4

The **Treasurer** will collect dues and other forms of income due to the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 and the National CVMA as required. Maintain the accounting books, make payments from the association funds when so ordered by the Commander, sign all of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Associations checks (along with another officer’s signature) and make regular reports of the associations financial status to the Chapter Board of Directors and State Representative and the general membership.

Section 5

The **Public Affairs Officer** will maintain a file containing the Chapters mission, tax ID numbers and copies of event flyers (at a minimum) and have it ready to present at each meeting and all association functions. He/She will be in charge of all the Combat Veterans Motorcycle

Associations publicity, in conjunction with and approved by the associations Commander. Duties will include: Historian, Chapter file, Pictures, Newspaper Articles, TV and Radio Announcements and associations website and Facebook page.

Section 6

The **SGT at Arms** will maintain order during CVMA meetings and has the authority to check members ID cards before the start of each meeting. While every member is responsible for their own actions the SGT at Arms is looking out for the Chapter's actions as a whole. He/She will speak directly to any member or guest at any event if their actions may jeopardize or call into question the integrity of the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8's reputation. He will maintain the Chapter's guide on and make present at each event only in the presence of the Commander.

Section 7

The **Quartermaster** will maintain all chapter equipment, maintain the inventory of all Chapter stores, including but not limited to patches, apparel, accessories, coins and fundraising inventory. The Quartermaster shall keep an accurate record of acquisitions, received donations and current inventory. The Quartermaster shall be prepared to provide a report of the Chapter's stores at regular business meetings. All receipts shall be remitted to the treasurer as soon as possible. For purposes of accurate financial reporting, the Quartermaster will not use "cash on hand" for purchases, all purchases and/or reimbursement for previous purchase shall be made with a disbursement by the Treasurer.

Section 8

The **Road Captain** is appointed by the NY CVMA Chapter Officers. The Road Captain will plan routes for rides and meetings. He/She will ensure the routes are safe for use by large groups of motorcyclists and that no major construction will prevent the use of said routes. He/She will be the point of contact when working with police escorted rides. He/She will brief riders on safety, stops along the way, any tolls associated with rides and time hacks before the start of each ride.

Section 8

The **State Representative** will be elected by the full members of the state. State representative's responsibilities include carrying out the bylaws of the National CVMA BOD and to watch over their membership. Although every opportunity will be given to allow the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8's Officers to handle all situations within their Chapter the State Representative can dismiss or discipline unruly member with National CVMA BOD approval. He/She will act as a liaison between the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8's Officers and the National CVMA BOD. The State Representative would be over the State Chapter Commanders and will ensure activities associated with all Chapter of the NY CVMA 19 adhere to the bylaws as outlined by the National CVMA BOD.

Section 9

The **National Board of Directors** constitutes the Executive Board of the National CVMA Association. The duties and responsibilities are described within the National Bylaws Article 6 Section 7.

Section 10

Duties and responsibilities are subject to change IOT support any requirements or justified request of the Chapter's Officers, State representative or the National CVMA BOD

Article 8 – MEETINGS

Section 1

Every effort will be made to hold meetings in facilities that support, defend and bring honor to all the U.S. Military Veterans. Meetings will be at various times and locations in the State of New York to include (but not limited to) VFW's, American Legions, Monuments, Veterans' Parks, Memorial sites, business establishments and private homes. A quorum of conducting business shall be those present at any given meeting.

Section 2

The NY Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Chapter 19-8 encourages their members to attend all meetings. The meetings are the forum to present old and new NY CVMA 19-8 business and any concerns therewith. Meetings are used to build camaraderie among Veterans, their families and their supporters IOT create a sense of unity within the Chapter and the CVMA as a whole.

Section 3

See Duties of Officers, Article 6, Section 1

Section 4

Special membership meetings and special Chapter Officers meetings can be called by the Commander or two active members. An active member is any member that has not missed three or more consecutive meetings and is in good standing with the Chapter.

Section 5

The Chapter Commanders rule of order will be applied during meetings to affect parliamentary procedures, unless otherwise amended and provided for in the by-laws.

Article 8 – DELEGATIONS

Section 1

Delegations will be appointed by the Commander (but are subject to the approval of the officers) to officially represent the Chapter at any convention, meeting, rally, or other assembly that may be deemed necessary, and all delegations are authorized to exercise only those powers specifically vested in them by the NY CVMA 19-8's Officers.

Article 9 – AMENDMENTS

Section 1

The general membership may present amendments to the bylaws when ratified by three fourths of the members present at a NY CVMA 19-8 meeting. Amendments passed will take place immediately.

Proposals for amendments to these bylaws may be submitted to the general membership meeting for consideration for a maximum of two consecutive years. If the proposal is denied for two consecutive years, it shall not be place on the agenda again unless one of the following criteria is met:

1. A two-year time limit has elapsed
2. The State Representative approves the item for placement on the agenda.

Section 2

The State Representative and Chapter Commander will not vote on amendments. A majority vote of the general membership must be obtained. If the result is a tie, the amendment will be denied.

Section 3

The State Representative will be informed of amendment request to the CVMA 19-8 bylaws and may pass those requests on to the NBOD at their discretion. All bylaw changes are subject to review and approval by the National Board of Directors.

Article 10 – PATCHES

Section 1

No Chapter Location Bars, territorial rockers, rocker patches or anything giving the appearance of a rocker are to be worn with a CVMA backpatch. Additionally, no state flags, state images or state logos, which could be interpreted as claiming territory, are to worn on the front or back of the vest, jacket and soft colors. Diamonds and/or any cube shaped patch that could be taken as a 1% MC (front and back), any % patch (2%, 3%, 99%, 100% etc. regardless of the shape) and/or rib/side rockers (worn on the lower front of the vest or jacket) will not be worn on the vest or jacket. “Property-Of” patches will not be worn with any CVMA back-patch. Placement of patches would be appropriate to follow the same guidelines as the Military, with your Chapter identification patch placed above your heart (left side) and your road name (if assigned) on below your Chapter identification. However, it is up to you to decide on placement of your patches. Chapter officers are responsible for knowing what is and is not acceptable within the region.

Section 2

The back patch is the sole property of the CVMA. Authorization to wear this patch is given as long as the member is in good standing as set forth in Article 3. The back patch will **not** be referred to as “colors”, it is a patch. Should a member decide to terminate membership for any reason it will also void that members authorization to wear the CVMA back patch and said

member will be **required** to return the patch **within 30 days** of termination with **no** return of funds.

Section 3

It is the desire of the NY CVMA Chapter 19-8 officers and members to make the day a new member receives his/her back patch a memorable one for all. Therefore, we ask that any members make every effort to be present at a general meeting in order to receive the back patch. While this not a forcible requirement it is **strongly** recommended.

Article 11 – ACCOUNT ACCESSES

Section 1

CVMA 19-8 may create and maintain accounts on various social media and communication platforms. Members are prohibited from using such accounts to post, communicate or comment while signed in as or appearing as any CVMA 19-8 platform. Members whose duties would typically require them to assume the CVMA 19-8 role would be the Public Relations Officer, Commanding Officer, Secretary and his delegates.

Section 2

Members may be tasked with creating, maintaining or otherwise interacting with CVMA 19-8 accounts and platforms in the course of running the organization. Members with special access shall be required to surrender passwords, account credentials and ownership rights for any accounts they are given access to and may not retain ownership of, lock out, transfer to others, said accounts.