

VFW

Motorcycle Association

Constitution

The VFW Riders is a motorcycle group made up of members of the VFW and VFW Auxiliary members in good standing. We are a group within the VFW that enjoys the past time of motorcycling. We are not currently an official part of the VFW or any other organization.

We are a family oriented group and are pro-military. We encourage our members to support other veteran's rider groups.

Distinction of class, nationality, or gender will not be recognized nor tolerated by our organization. Our members act in good faith with other members and uphold the traditions of the VFW.

Although we are self governed and are not currently an official part of the VFW, we will follow the by-laws of the VFW and support the Armed Forces and the Commander in Chief of the United States of America.

Our members come from all walks of life and have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States in times of conflicts. We ride all types of motorcycles, 500 cc or larger, of both foreign and domestic manufacture. A motorcycle by our definition is a two wheeled vehicle and we do allow "trikes" which are three wheeled motorcycles. We do not allow any sort of all terrain vehicle (ATV) as part of the group as they have been manufactured for off road use only and are not intended for street or highway use.

Purpose

- To ride safely and have fun.
- To participate in parades and other ceremonies which are in keeping with the aims and purposes of the VFW.
- To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for VFW members who share the same interest.
- To use our association to promote and support the programs of the VFW.
- Raise money to support the Arizona Cottage of the VFW National Home for Widows and Orphans.
- Raise money to support at least one local charity/charities of the chapters choice.

This document is intended to serve as a standard for all Arizona Chapters of the VFW Riders Motorcycle Association, aka, VFW Riders, and henceforth known in this document as VFWR. The Veterans of Foreign Wars shall be known as the VFW henceforth

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in this document. Individual Chapters sanctioned by the VFW, Department of Arizona shall abide by all rules and regulations in this document.

Admittance into the VFW:

1. **Membership:** There are two recognized "classes" of involvement with the VFWR as defined below.

1.1. **Full Members** Prospective full members in the VFWR **must** meet requirements in Paragraphs (1.1.1), (1.1.2) and either Paragraph below, without exception:

1.1.1. Must be a current member in good standing in the VFW, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, or the VFW Men's Auxiliary.

1.1.2. Must not at any time hold membership in more than one chapter of the VFWR.

1.1.2.1. This provision does not preclude a member from holding office in any Governing or Guiding Chapter organized from amongst groupings of Chapters, including District, Department, Regional, or National Chapters, as seen fit by any commensurate organizational level within the VFWR. This is in keeping with the constitution and structure of the VFW and its family of organizations.

- AND EITHER -

Must be the legally registered owner of a motorcycle of at least 500cc engine displacement and must possess a valid driver's license (with motorcycle endorsement) in their state of residence (military equivalents acceptable as well).

- OR -

Must be the legal spouse of a VFWR member in good standing within the Chapter of application.

1.1.2.2 Each Chapter will submit a roster of its members to the State Captain in December of each year. The State Captain will coordinate with the Department Adjutant to verify the eligibility of each member to ensure compliance with par. 1.1.1.

1.2. **Chapter Supporters** Chapters, at their own discretion, may allow Chapter Supporters (aka "Supporting Members").

1.2.1. The Chapter Supporter classification does not constitute full membership in the VFWR, but is intended as a means to provide recognition to those who show strong support to the VFWR Chapter.

1.2.2. Chapter Supporters will have a voice at meetings, but will not have a vote.

1.2.3. Prospective Chapter Supporters must, without exception, meet the requirements of Paragraph 1.1.1 above.

1.2.4. All articles of clothing worn by Chapter Supporters displaying the VFWR emblem must also contain the words "Supporter".

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- 1.2.5. Pursuant to Paragraph 1.2.1, the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status must not be made in connection with the promise of any material, financial, or political benefit to the Chapter, its members or its officers; nor to any other member at any other organizational level within the VFWR; nor must there be any similar gains for the honoree through the conferring of "Chapter Supporter" status.
- 1.2.6. Chapter Supporters may be issued a membership card which clearly denotes their status as a Chapter Supporter.

1.3 Charter Members Each Chapter may determine eligibility for Charter Membership within its own Chapter and/or within the individual Chapters within its Department.

- 1.3.1 The designation of "Founding Member" is reserved to honor those members who originally founded the VFWR and will not be substituted for the designation of "Charter Member".
- 1.3.2 Charter members are those members who helped to start a chapter and are listed on the chapter's charter. They shall have certain privileges and responsibilities for as long as they remain a VFWR member in good standing:
 - 1.3.2.1 Be allowed to wear a rocker/tab stating they are a charter member.
 - 1.3.2.2 Be allowed to attend all executive board meetings and have a vote at such meetings.

1.4 Continuous Years of Membership Chapters, at their option, may provide benefits based on age and VFWR membership longevity. In support of this, formal means of tracking a member's affiliation with the VFWR are contained in these bylaws.

- 1.4.1 Chapters are encouraged, but not required, to consider non-concurrent (pursuant to Paragraph 1.1.2) membership in other VFWR Chapters when determining length of membership.
- 1.4.2 Each Chapter shall maintain membership records sufficient to establish the continuous length of time any member has been affiliated with that Chapter of the VFWR. These records are to minimally include:
 - 1.4.2.1 Date member joined Chapter
 - 1.4.2.2 Record of membership renewals
 - 1.4.2.3 Date of separation from Chapter
- 1.4.3 A copy of these records shall be provided to any member surrendering their membership in the Chapter, whether voluntary or not, within thirty (30) days of their written request for same.
- 1.4.4 A copy of this record shall be provided to other Chapters upon written request of the subject Chapter.

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- 1.4.4.1 Written request must include a signed statement of consent from the subject member.
 - 1.4.4.2 No statement regarding the character of the member's membership shall be provided to the requesting Chapter unless explicitly indicated in their request.
- 1.4.5 This section constitutes a courtesy to the membership. No Chapter of the VFWR shall be held legally accountable for any deficiencies in record keeping which impede a member's ability to establish continuous years of affiliation when leaving one Chapter for another.

1.5 Membership responsibilities and privileges:

- 1.5.1 Resolve and vote on VFWR resolutions.
- 1.5.2 Attend VFWR rides, meetings and other VFWR activities.
- 1.5.3 Help organize and conduct VFWR activities.
- 1.5.4 Hold elected offices.
- 1.5.5 Hold and wear the VFWR patch.
- 1.5.6 Pay dues as required.

A member at large is defined as any member who meets all membership criteria and is in good standing. This member is entitled to all privileges of the VFWR as long as they maintain a good membership standing. They will follow all by laws, rules and regulations. The member at large may be exempt from monthly meetings and VFWR functions due to their being located outside of a reasonable traveling distance or frequent travel due to work obligations.

1.6 Member Participation Award:

Appropriate recognition will be given each year to the VFWR members determined to have given the most time and energy to the VFWR. A 3-person committee will be appointed by the Director each year to select the award recipients. All VFWR members in good standing are eligible to receive appropriate recognition.

1.6.1 The rider who is named as the overall Chapter Rider of the Year will receive a trophy that they maintain at their residence throughout the year.

1.6.2 As there are many noteworthy contestants for this award, the committee may elect to bestow an award to other riders in the form of a tab/rocker with the year and letters "ROTY" (Riders of the Year). These tabs will be presented to riders who have constantly demonstrated motivation and dedication above and beyond the norm to this organization.

2 Organization: The VFWR is not an official Post, District or Department-Level Program of the VFW. In Arizona, the VFW Department Commander has agreed to allow us the use of the name VFW Riders. A VFWR State Captain will be appointed by the Department Commander to oversee all chapters.

2.3 Each Chapter exists at the discretion of the Department Commander and VFWR State Captain.

2.3.1 The chapter remains the organizational level at which any VFWR Chapter having individual members exists. The individual chapter is the "atomic level" of the VFWR.

2.3.2 Pursuant to Paragraph 2.3.1 above, no individual can be an VFWR member without affiliation with a Chapter; i.e.: no "at-large", District, or Department VFWR members can exist without also being a registered and recognized member of a VFWR Chapter, having fulfilled applicable Chapter requirements for membership.

3 Officers:

3.3 Officers of the Chapter: Each Chapter of the Association must have elected officers. Officers must first be members of the Chapter, having fulfilled the requirements as laid out in Section 1 above, and fulfilling any additional requirements for membership as determined by the Chapter or Department.

There are required offices as well as those which can be filled at the discretion of the Chapter, defined as follows:

3.3.1 *Elected Offices*

3.3.1.1 Director / President:

3.3.1.1.1 Serves as Chief Administrative Officer of the Chapter and presides over all meetings.

3.3.1.1.2 Oversees the Chapter Officers in the execution of their duties.

3.3.1.1.3 Supervises all affairs of the Chapter.

3.3.1.1.4 Appoints committee or special function chairmen as needed.

3.3.1.1.5 Performs such other duties as directed by the general membership.

3.3.1.2 Assistant Director / Vice President:

3.3.1.2.1 Assumes the duties of the Director in his/her absence.

3.3.1.2.2 Assists the Director in the performance of his/her duties when called on to do so by the Director.

3.3.1.2.3 Serves as the Public Affairs Officer unless a chairman is appointed to assume these duties.

3.3.1.2.4 Serves as the Membership Officer in charge of recruitment unless a chairman is appointed to assume these duties.

3.3.1.2.5 Keeps membership records as may be required by the general membership.

3.3.1.3 Sgt. At Arms

3.3.1.3.1 The SAA will act on behalf of the Assistant Director during any absences.

3.3.1.3.2 Oversees the Road Captain in the performance of his/her duties.

3.3.1.3.3 Maintains order during chapter meetings.

3.3.1.3.4 Ensures eligibility of those participating in Chapter elections, and ensures ineligible persons are not allowed to participate in the vote.

3.3.1.3.5 Performs such other duties as directed by the Executive Board or general membership.

3.1.1.4 Secretary

3.1.1.4.1 Keeps a full and accurate record of all proceedings at the meetings.

3.1.1.4.2 Provides detailed minutes of prior meeting at each regular meeting.

3.1.1.4.3 Handles all correspondence of the chapter.

3.1.1.4.4 Performs such other duties as directed by the Executive Board or general membership.

3.1.1.5 Treasurer

3.1.1.5.1 Responsible for all finances of the Chapter.

3.1.1.5.2 Disburses and collects funds as directed by the general membership, pursuant to Paragraph 7 below.

3.1.1.5.3 Provides detailed financial reports at each regular meeting.

3.1.1.5.4 Performs such other duties as directed by the Executive Board or general membership.

The above five elected officers will comprise the Executive Board. At the direction of the general membership, all appointed officers and chairpersons may attend the Executive Board meetings and have a vote.

3.1.2 Appointed Officers

3.1.2.4 Historian / Webmaster

3.1.2.4.1 Appointed by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.

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- 3.1.2.4.2 Compiles and maintains records to document activities of Chapter, including written and photographic documentation.
- 3.1.2.4.3 If the Chapter is so equipped, the Historian may also serve as webmaster.
- 3.1.2.4.4 Performs such other duties as directed by the Executive Board or general membership.

3.1.2.5 Membership Chairman

- 3.1.2.5.1 Appointed by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.
- 3.1.2.5.2 Relieves Asst Director of responsibility for maintenance of membership records as may be required by the general membership.
- 3.1.2.5.3 Collects membership dues as determined by the Chapter by-laws, and provides same to Treasurer on a regular basis.
- 3.1.2.5.4 Reviews and/or collects eligibility documentation as required by the general members, Department, or State and Local laws.
- 3.1.2.5.5 Provides detailed membership reports at regular meetings of the Chapter.

3.1.2.6 Chaplain

- 3.1.2.6.1 Appointed by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.
- 3.1.2.6.2 Provides invocation at regular meetings or other activities as may be required by the general membership.

3.1.2.7 Road Captain / Safety Officer

- 3.1.2.7.1 Appointed by the Executive Board and approved by the membership.
- 3.1.2.7.2 Responsible for all logistics of organized rides of the Association, including determination of dates, times, routes, and meeting places for those taking part in a VFWR activity.
- 3.1.2.7.3 Responsible to plan for the safety of Chapter members during participation in any VFWR or activity; and to plan for the safety of other participants in any Chapter-sponsored ride or activity.
- 3.1.2.7.4 Appoints, directs, and dismisses assistant road captains and/or security personnel as may be required by activities and/or circumstances of the Chapter.
- 3.1.2.7.5 Ensures all standing and perspective members are instructed in VFW riding rules and formations.

- 3.1.2.7.6 Performs such other duties as directed by the Director or general membership.
- 3.1.3 ***Additional Positions*** The Chapter may, at their discretion, appoint or elect individuals to fulfill various other roles required for operation of the Chapter. These appointments may be intended to relieve Chapter Officers of certain of their roles, or to fulfill Chapter-specific requirements.
- 3.1.3.4 These roles and the manner of filling them must be defined in the Chapter Bylaws at inception or through amendment.
- 3.1.3.5 Examples of such roles include addition of Communications or Liaison Officer; Quartermaster, Public Affairs Chairman, etc.
- 3.1.3.6 These individual roles will be considered Chapter officers or committee chairmen at the discretion of the Chapter, and as defined within the Chapter bylaws.
- 3.1.4 ***Considerations for Office*** Any full member in good standing, having fulfilled the requirements of Paragraph 1.1, are eligible to serve in any office of their Chapter, with the following exceptions:
- 3.1.4.1 Pursuant to Paragraph 1.1.2, no one shall hold more than one elected office in any Chapter of the VFW.
- 3.1.4.2 Pursuant to Paragraph 1.1.2, no one shall hold elected office in more than one Chapter of the VFW. This provision does not preclude a member from holding office in any Governing or Guiding Chapter organized from amongst groupings of Chapters, including Department, or National Chapters, as seen fit by any commensurate organizational level within the VFW. This is in keeping with the constitution and structure of the VFW and its family of organizations.
- 3.1.4.3 To ensure that prospective members are fully aware of the personality of, and issues at their Chapter, no member having been so for less than one calendar year shall be considered for any office of their Chapter, unless the Chapter itself has been in existence for less than one calendar year. In the event that no members fulfilling this requirement are available or willing to serve, compliance to Paragraph 3.1.4.3 is waived in favor of survival of the Chapter.
- 3.1.5 **Officers of the District and/or Department** Where so organized, Districts and/or Departments will have officers as required and designated by the organizing District or Department. These officers will be appointed by the District or Department Commanders and have oversight of the affiliated Chapters as defined by the Chapters within the District and Department, or as required by the VFW Department Officers.

4 ***Elections:***

- 4.1 Officers of the Chapter shall be elected through an annual nominating and balloting process as determined by the general membership and defined within the Chapter bylaws.
 - 4.1.1 Election of officers will take place annually in December, at such time as determined by the general membership and reflected within the Chapter bylaws.
 - 4.1.2 A nominating method will be employed as determined by the general membership and reflected in the Chapter bylaws.
 - 4.1.2.1 Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the time of nominations shall be allowed to make a nomination.
 - 4.1.2.2 Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the time of nominations and who will fulfill requirements for officers (Paragraph 3.1.4) by the time elections are held shall be allowed to accept a nomination.
 - 4.1.2.3 Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sgt. At Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.
 - 4.1.3 A balloting method (show of hands, secret ballot, etc) shall be consistently employed as determined by the general membership and reflected within the Chapter bylaws.
 - 4.1.3.1 Only those members of the Chapter in good standing (fulfilling Paragraph 1.1 and any local requirements) at the time of election shall be allowed to vote.
 - 4.1.3.2 Determination of eligibility shall be made by the Sgt. At Arms using membership records of the Chapter and whatever means of identification of the member as deemed necessary by the general membership.
 - 4.1.4 If an elected officer misses three unexcused consecutive meetings, their office may be considered vacated and the Executive Board may appoint, with the advice and consent of the membership, a replacement to fill the position until the next regular elections. If the office vacated is that of the Director, the Assistant Director assumes office and the Executive Board appoints a new Assistant Director with the advice and consent of the membership. Should both offices of Director and Assistant Director be vacant, a special election will be held to fill these positions for the remainder of their annual terms. A special election will be held in the

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same manner as an annual election and is presided over, in descending priority order, by the SAA, Secretary and Treasurer.

- 4.1.5 Elected Officers shall be allowed to conduct phone conferencing with other Officers for meeting purposes.
- 4.1.6 The Executive Board consists of all elected Officers. This board meets at the discretion of the Director. The responsibilities of the Executive Board are as follows:
 - 4.1.6.1 Considers and drafts VFWR policy and guidance to be presented to the general membership for discussion and resolution.
 - 4.1.6.2 Advises on candidates to fill appointed positions and unexpected vacancies of elected Officer Positions. (except for the Director).
 - 4.1.6.3 The Executive Board is limited to \$150.00 in both spending and purchasing with VFWR funds. If over \$150.00, they must obtain prior approval by the VFW majority vote at a scheduled meeting.
 - 4.1.6.4 Appointed Officers and other members may be invited to the Executive Board meetings to discuss special interest topics.
- 4.2 The Department of Arizona will name the State Captain of the VFWR. The State Captain will oversee the District Captains and Chapters. The State Captain will perform the following duties:
 - 4.2.1 Serves as Chief Administrative Officer of the State.
 - 4.2.2 Report to the Department Commander and Council of Administration at all C of A meetings.
 - 4.2.3 Oversees the District / Chapters in the execution of their duties.
 - 4.2.4 Supervises all affairs of the VFWR.
 - 4.2.5 Appoints committee or special function chairmen as needed.
 - 4.2.6 Serves as the Public Affairs Officer unless a chairman is appointed to assume these duties.
 - 4.2.7 Serves as the Membership Officer in charge of recruitment unless a chairman is appointed to assume these duties.
 - 4.2.8 Is responsible for leading, or appointing a VFWR Captain to lead, Arizona's VFWR's to the National Convention each year.
 - 4.2.9 Performs such other duties as directed by the Department Commander and C of A.

5 Meetings:

- 5.1 Meetings will be held at a date, time and location as determined by a majority vote at the Chapter organizing meeting.
 - 5.1.1 Meeting date, time and location may be changed by majority vote at any regular Chapter meeting

- 5.2 Seven members will constitute a quorum.
- 5.3 Meetings will be conducted under “Roberts Rules of Order”. (*ref: www.constitution.org/rror/rror--00.htm*).
- 5.4 Any member may be dismissed from a meeting or activity as a result of inappropriate behavior. Such warning(s) will come from a VFWR elected officer, road captain, or event coordinator for a specific event/ride. The following shall be a basis for, but not limited to, inappropriate behavior and disciplinary measures:
 - 5.4.1 Wild, unsafe riding habits, especially any activity which jeopardizes the safety of other persons.
 - 5.4.2 Obnoxious behavior that is detrimental to the image of the organization.
 - 5.4.3 Consumption of alcohol or any other potentially impairing substance by a vehicle/motorcycle operator prior to or during any riding event.
- 5.5 Alcohol may be consumed during meetings and activities. As the VFWR abides by the laws of the state, no alcohol will be allowed on any rides until kickstands are down at the end of the ride. Any member who consumes alcohol after “kickstands down” does so at their own risk and the organization will not be held accountable for that individuals actions.

6 Membership Dues:

6.1 Membership dues:

The VFWR fiscal year will ride from January until the end of December of the same year. Annual dues are set by chapter.

6.1.1 Any member who has not paid his/her dues by the due date will be considered in arrears and will not be allowed to participate in VFWR activities until his/her dues are paid. If dues are still in arrears after a three-month period, the concerned member shall be dropped from the VFWR membership roles.

6.1.2 Currently no portion of dues will go to the District or Department level. If at such time fees are needed at the Department level for VFWR related items (i.e. annual LLC fees or insurance fees), such fees will be divided by the number of Riders in good standing throughout the state. Each chapter will then become responsible for raising such funds to be turned over to the State Captain by the determined deadline. The State Captain will provide a full accounting of such funds to the leadership of the Department and each Chapter.

7 Finances: Finances of each chapter will be from membership dues or such other sources, as approved by the membership.

- 7.1 Disbursement of funds will be only those authorized at any regular meeting of the Chapter. Each Chapter is a nonprofit organization and may only disburse funds in a manner in accordance with all Federal (IRS), State, and local laws applicable to non-profit organizations.

Liability Waiver:

This waiver absolves the VFW of all liability

All members upon being voted in will sign a Members Liability Waiver prior to participating in any events. Members will be required to sign the Members Liability Waiver annually in January for the entire upcoming calendar year.

All guests will sign a guest waiver before all VFWRs/events.

8 Expulsion: Methods for the expulsion or suspension of members are outlined below.

8.1 Any member may be expelled or suspended from the Chapter by a majority vote of the general membership at a regular Chapter meeting.

8.1.1 Such expulsion does not preclude the individual from joining at another Chapter

8.1.2 Pursuant to Paragraph 2.3.2, the individual is no longer a member of the VFWR upon expulsion from a Chapter; unless or until said individual is a member in good standing within another Chapter.

8.2 Any member no longer fulfilling the requirements of Paragraph 1.1 is immediately expelled from full membership in the VFWR until such time as the requirements as outlined Paragraph 1.1 are again fulfilled.

8.3 If a member sells their motorcycle, the member must possess a motorcycle, that complies with membership requirements as described in paragraph 1 of this document, within 90 days or forfeit membership.

9 Chapter Designation:

9.1 Each Chapter will be named by the chapter and the name shall be approved by the VFW Department Commander and State Captain for the VFWR.

9.2 At no time shall a Chapter refer to itself or present itself as an M/C.

10 Amendment:

10.1.1 The standing rules or bylaws set forth by this document shall be amended by those means set forth within the applicable standing rules or bylaws.

10.1.2 Where means of amendment are not explicitly defined, amendment shall be made through motion, second, and majority vote of representatives selected from the Chapters while at Department meetings of the VFWR.

10.2 Chapter Bylaws

10.2.1 The standing rules or bylaws set forth by the Chapter shall be amended by those means set forth within the applicable standing rules or bylaws.

10.2.2 Where means of amendment are not explicitly defined, amendment shall be made through motion, second, and majority vote of members in attendance

at any regular Chapter meeting.

11 Uniform:

11.1 *The American Flag*

11.1.1 When worn by a VFWR member, the Flag must not be subjugated by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.

11.1.2 When worn by a VFWR member, the Flag must not be obscured or covered by any other emblem or standard on the item of apparel to which it is affixed.

11.1.2.1 The Flag is never to be worn on the seat of the pants, or on any other location that could be considered disrespectful to the Flag

11.2 *The VFWR Back Patch*

11.2.1 The VFWR Back Patch, configured as put forth by the Founding Members and available through The VFW Emblem Sales, may be worn by all members of the VFWR in good standing.

11.2.2 If desired by the Chapter, the following lower rocker configurations may be worn with the Back Patch, assuming the listed provisions are met:

11.2.2.1 The designation ***Veteran*** is only to be worn by those who satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 1.1 and can produce a DD214 indicating they have served on Federal active duty during the periods of conflict prescribed for VFW membership, were honorably discharged, and are members in good standing of The VFW. A current, valid VFW membership card shall suffice as evidence of these requirements

11.2.2.2 The designation ***Supporter*** is only to be worn by those who have been elected as Chapter Supporters. These individuals may not wear any of the aforementioned rockers regardless of their military status or VFW membership type, unless and until such time as they satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 1

11.2.3 It is the intent of these bylaws that those who are not Full VFWR Members and have not been elected as Chapter Supporters do not wear the VFWR Back Patch.

11.2.4 Specification of the garment upon which the Back Patch is to be worn is left to the discretion of the individual.

11.2.5 While we have earned the distinction of being members of the VFW, through having served in a foreign war or conflict, our VFWR back patches are bought, not “earned” in the sense of traditional motorcycle clubs (we are not a motorcycle club – reference <http://home.earthlink.net/~rcvsmc-edu/index.html> for proper protocol when dealing with an MC).

11.2.6 As the chapter patches are bought through the chapter, they become the personal property of the individual members. If a member decides to no longer be a part of the organization, the chapter can decide to purchase the individuals patch back on a case by case basis.

11.3 *Dress*

11.3.1 Each Chapter is free to set the standards to which Chapter members are attired, unless superseded by the oversight of a formally recognized Department Chapter's requirements, pursuant to the following:

- 11.3.1.1 The VFWR is a program of The VFW, and as such, members are representatives of The VFW. It is strongly recommended that members dress in a manner that promotes a positive image for The VFW, particularly when operating in group activities or interacting with the community.
- 11.3.1.2 The VFWR Back Patch and other related articles of clothing incorporating the VFW emblem must be worn in a manner consistent with the VFW emblem requirements.
- 11.3.1.3 The VFWR is a family oriented group and all dress and apparel worn should be in good taste that can be worn in any environment that has women and children present. No offensive patches or pins should be worn at any time.
- 11.3.1.4 Individuals may carry a weapon in accordance with state laws while traveling. In Arizona you must carry the weapon in the open unless you have a Concealed Carry License (CCL), however as the VFWR is not a motorcycle club, weapons will not be worn or carried in the open during any VFWR event.

11.4 *Control and Surrender of Items Incorporating Emblem*

11.4.1 Since items incorporating the VFWR emblem are available to the public through The VFW Emblem Sales, there is no mechanism by which to restrict their use and display by non-members.

11.4.2 There is no mechanism by which the VFWR can legally reclaim items incorporating the VFWR emblem from those ex-members who choose to sever their relationship with the VFWR.

Appendix 1.0 Change Log

- A1.0.1 Appendix 1.0 is intended to track modification and/or amendment to this bylaws template.
- A1.0.2 Entries shall include the date, the effected paragraph, the identity of the person or group initiating the change, and the status of the change.
- A1.0.3 Change status shall be one of the following:

