

**Mason-Dixon Conference By-Laws**  
**Voted on and passed February 2005**  
**Last Revision May 2014**

**Article I**  
**NAME AND PURPOSE**

Section 1. The name of this Conference shall be BLUE KNIGHTS LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTORCYCLE CLUB INC., MASON-DIXON CONFERENCE.

Section 2. The purpose of this Conference is to:

- A. Provide for the mutual assistance, enjoyment, entertainment, education, physical, mental and social benefit of its members and the general public.
- B. To promote and advance the sport of motorcycling and the safety of motorcycling.
- C. To serve the interests of motorcycle owners and users.
- D. To promote by example and any other acceptable means, safe use, operation and enjoyment of motorcycles.
- E. To develop a fraternal spirit between law enforcement personnel and the general public.

**Article II**  
**CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. There shall be two (2) classes of memberships: Regular and Associates.

Section 2. Regular membership shall be afforded to all Blue Knight Chapters and Members at Large located within the geographical boundaries of the Mason-Dixon Conference as set forth by International.

Section 3. Associate membership is afforded to all Blue Knights Chapters and members at large with the International.

Section 4. Dues shall be any amount as specified by the Executive Board of the Conference, provided it is approved by two thirds of the membership (*Chapter Presidents or representatives in good standing*) in attendance.

Section 5. All chapters who have paid their Conference dues in full shall be deemed members in good standing.

## Article III

### MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be a minimum of three (3) business meetings per year:

- A. Spring meeting where the Conference shall conduct all Conference business as well as announce nominations for Conference Officers on even years.
- B. Fall meeting where the Conference shall conduct all Conference business as well as elect Conference Officers and new Officers assume responsibilities of the elected position.
- C. Winter meeting where the Conference shall conduct all Conference business as well as sanction the Mason-Dixon Conference activity list for the current year.

Section 2. A special meeting may be called by the Executive Board as long as the membership is notified at least fifteen (15) days prior to such meeting.

Section 3. There shall be no voting by proxy at any Conference meeting. In the election of Conference Officers, only chapters in good standing, holding regular membership may vote. There shall be only one vote per chapter.

Section 4. At all meetings of the Conference, it being established that no less than *ten (10)* chapters are present herein set forth a majority of the votes cast on any matter before the meeting shall rule.

Section 5. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of any meeting unless inconsistent with the by-laws *of the MDC or the International*.

## Article IV

### CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Section 1.

- A. The Officers of the Mason-Dixon Conference shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and International Representative.
- B. A single person may hold the office of Secretary and Treasurer.
- C. Only regular members of the Conference who have been Past Presidents or current Presidents of a chapter may hold elected office.
- D. In the event there are no nominations of a member that is a President or Past President, any regular member may hold the office of Secretary or Treasurer.
- E. Candidates for office shall have attended four (4) of the previous six (6) Conference meetings.

- F. Any qualified member wishing to run for office shall notify the Conference Secretary in writing by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the election year (even numbered years). The letter shall contain the position they wish to run for, their current chapter, and years they were President. If they were a president of another chapter then that chapter's name shall be included.
- G. The Conference Secretary shall verify the candidate's qualification with the International Office. They shall then forward a list of all qualified candidates to the Chairman for inclusion in the Spring Meeting Agenda.
- H. No candidate's shall campaign for office until after the conclusion of the business meeting at the Spring Mason-Dixon Conference. *(Amended Spring 2014)*

Section 2. The term of office for all Mason-Dixon Conference elected positions shall be two (2) years. Any vacancy in an elective office may be filled by the Executive Board at any time and will be reported at the next Conference meeting. *(Amended Spring 2014)*

Section 3. The powers and obligations of the Conference Officers shall be commensurate with the powers and duties of the International Officers as outlined in the International by-laws, with respect to Conference business.

Section 4. In the absence of any officers from a meeting, at which his presence is needed for an orderly conduct of the business thereof, the Presiding Officer may appoint a temporary substitute thereof.

Section 5. The following procedure for balloting during the Fall Mason-Dixon Conference election meeting (every two (2) years (even numbered years) shall be used.

- A. If all the candidates for office (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and International Representative) are running unopposed then the Mason-Dixon Conference Secretary shall cast 1 vote for each candidate.
- B. If any office is contested then the Chairman shall appoint an Election committee of three members, not running for office or voting, to include the Sergeant-at-Arms to collect and count ballots.
  - a. The President of each Chapter or his designee, who must be a Regular member, shall be entitled to vote in the election of officers at the Fall meeting of the Mason-Dixon Conference.
    - i. The President of each Chapter or his designee eligible to vote shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates.
    - ii. The President of each Chapter or his designee shall cast their ballots in secret.
    - iii. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.

- iv. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.
- b. In the event of a tie:
  - i. A second paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates shall be issued to the President of each Chapter or his designee and they shall cast their ballots in secret.
  - ii. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.
  - iii. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.
- c. In the event of a second tie:
  - i. The members of the Mason-Dixon Conference Board present at the meeting, to include the following; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, International Representative, Chaplain and all seven (7) appointed State Representatives shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates.
  - ii. They shall cast their ballots in secret.
  - iii. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.
  - iv. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results.
- d. In the event of a third tie:
  - i. The members of the Mason-Dixon Conference Executive Board to include the following; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and International Representative shall be given a paper ballot listing the names and offices of the candidates.
  - ii. They shall cast their ballots in secret. The ballots will then be collected and counted by the Election committee.
  - iii. The Election Committee shall report back to the board and voting members the results. *(Amended Winter 2014)*

## Article V

### FUND RAISERS

Section 1. The Mason-Dixon Conference shall retain exclusive rights, ownership, trademark and express approval to the name and logo of the Mason-Dixon Conference.

## Article VI

### BY-LAW AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These by-laws may be repealed or amended at any meeting of the Conference where by it has been established that *ten (10)* chapters holding regular membership in the Conference and are in good standing are present provided notice of the proposed action setting forth the substance thereof has been given to all chapters with the call of the meeting.

Section 2. Proposals for by-law amendments must be submitted in writing to the Conference Secretary at least thirty (30) days prior to a Conference Meeting. Upon receipt of a proposal for a by-law amendment, the Mason-Dixon Conference Secretary will then distribute the proposal to all MDC Chapter Presidents in order that the proposal can be discussed at the Chapter level prior to the forum and vote. The Conference Secretary will also ensure the proposal is on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Conference meeting. (Amended Winter 2014)

## Article VII

### CODE OF ETHICS

Section 1. All members shall adhere to and abide by all rules set forth by the International.

Section 2. All members shall adhere to the grievance procedure board as set for by the International.

Section 3. All chapters shall be responsible for securing Blue Knight colors from any member leaving the organization.