

CHARTER and BY-LAWS OF THE

MOUNTAIN WARRIORS RIDERS CLUB
(*MWRC*)

AND

MOUNTAIN WARRIORS AUXILIARY CLUB
(*MWAC*)



Archive Images:



www.mountainwarriors.org



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MWRC was formally known as the "Pine Camp Riders Club"
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CHARTER

ARTICLE I Name and Authority

SECTION A: The name of this organization shall be the Mountain Warriors Riders and Auxiliary Club and hereafter referred to as MWRAC. The MWRAC shall have the authority to operate on Fort Drum, New York only with the consent of the garrison commander. The operation of the MWRAC depends on compliance with the requirements and conditions of this charter, U.S. Army instructions, installation instructions, state laws and associated by-laws and all applicable directives and policies.

SECTION B: Mountain Warriors Riders and Auxiliary Club is established at Fort Drum, New York, as a private organization with the consent of the Garrison Commander under the provisions of AR 210-22 and Fort Drum Regulation 210-17, contingent upon the following requirements and conditions:

1. That programs and activities conducted by this organization do not prejudice or discredit the military services or other agencies of the United States Government.
2. That activities of this organization will not be conducted in the name of an installation or organization of the Army establishment.
3. That this organization will not use any image of the 10th Mountain Division Monument without the permission of the artist, nor will MWRAC use the following in its letterhead: the seal, insignia, or other identifying device of the 10th Mountain Division or the U.S. Army or any of the other DoD components.
4. That neither an appropriated fund activity nor a non-appropriated fund instrumentality will assert any claim to the assets of this organization, nor incur or assume any obligation of any private organization, except as may arise out of contractual relationships.
5. That this organization will not engage in activities which are in conflict with authorized activities of non-appropriated fund instrumentalities as defined in AR 215-1.
6. That the nature, function, and objectives of this organization, together with provisions for proper disposition of residual assets and liabilities upon dissolution, will be established in this constitution.
7. That this organization will be self-sustaining and receive no support, assistance, or facilities from the Army or from non-appropriated fund instrumentalities as defined in AR 215-1, except as provided in AR 215-1.
8. That the Garrison Commander has the authority to enforce compliance by this organization with the conditions enumerated herein, to inquire into the activities, and to

withdraw his consent for the existence of this organization on Fort Drum if deemed necessary in the interest of the U.S. Government.

9. That this organization is not established to provide morale, welfare, and recreation services essential to the operation of the U.S. Army.

10. That this organization will not seek to deprive individuals of their civil rights.

11. That this organization will neither propagate extremist activities nor advocate violence against others or the violent overthrow of the government.

12. That this organization will reimburse the Army for utility expenses, unless use is incidental (i.e. that it would cost more to bill and collect than it costs to provide the utility).

13. That this organization is not created for a commercial or monetary purpose that is prohibited by AR 210-22 or other applicable laws or regulations.

14. That this organization will not engage in the distribution or sale of alcoholic beverages at any time.

15. That this organization shall not engage in any acts of public persuasion on Fort Drum, nor use Fort Drum as a public forum to host free discussions on matters of public policy or public concern.

16. That the operation of this organization on Fort Drum will be consistent with Army values, the Joint Ethics Regulation (DoD 5550.7-R), AR 210-22, and other related regulations.

17. That any fundraising by this organization will comply with the requirements of the Joint Ethics Regulation, DoD Directive 5035.1, AR 210-7, and AR 600-29.

18. That this organization will obtain all necessary operating permits necessary to operate on Fort Drum. Such permit(s) will be revocable at will by the Fort Drum Garrison Commander. Requests for validation of all necessary permit(s) will comply with Fort Drum Regulation 210-17.

ARTICLE II

Purpose, Goals, and Objectives

PURPOSE: To establish and maintain a spirit of comradeship and esprit de corps that will enhance the prestige of all motorcycle riders; encourage on-going rider education and skills development; and reduce the potential of motorcycle mishaps; to set an example for all personnel according to the standards, traditions, and customs of the U.S. Army; and to operate and conduct itself in a manner that provides equal opportunity and treatment for all motorcyclists.

GOALS:

1. The *MWRAC* will seek to improve morale, and promote rider awareness and skills improvement. The *MWRAC* will seek to enhance the relationship between the installation and local community through community service efforts and events by using the unique and individual talents of the organization's members.

2. To encourage each member to actively participate and support the objectives of the organization. Our goal is to also promote the safety and welfare of all members.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide each member with the collective knowledge, experience, and influence of the *MWRAC* to positively affect motorcycling on and off the installation.

2. Improve rider skills through mentorship for new riders and continuing education for all riders.

3. Establish an effective means of communication with all members to exchange ideas and keep attuned to changes in attitudes and behaviors of installation motorcycle riders.

4. Promote the positive status of motorcycle riders in the U.S. Army.

5. Promote and support motorcycle safety recognition programs.

6. Introduce new riders to the *MWRAC* and familiarize them with the goals and objectives of the *MWRAC*.

7. Promote social gatherings on Fort Drum as well as with local community leaders.

8. Plan for and promote the use of designated drivers and other effective DUI prevention programs at all *MWRAC* sponsored, organized or attended events where alcoholic beverages will be consumed.

9. Provide a forum wherein any policy, program, or problem of interest to the members in general, along with unit leadership in particular, may be discussed freely.

10. Assist in maintaining a high state of group moral and esprit de corps, while encouraging the highest standards of safety, bearing, and behavior.

11. Improve the morale and welfare of the *MWRAC* members and their family members.

12. Invite guest speakers to talk about topics of interest to the members, with emphasis on safety, rider skills, community, and family enhancement.

ARTICLE III

Qualification of Members and Fees

SECTION A: Membership in the *MWRAC* shall be strictly voluntary and without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, gender, lawful political affiliation, or labor organization membership. Membership will not be granted to any prospect or member of a known or previously unknown outlaw motorcycle club. Active members of the *MWRAC* must have a motorcycle endorsement on their license and maintain insurance as required by law. All active duty military members and civilian employees (as required by DoD and service instructions) will have a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) RiderCourseSM completion card. All members must be aware that they are jointly and severely liable for the obligations of the *MWRAC*. Membership shall consist of five categories as defined below:

1. **Active Member:** Any individual who is federal employee, or a civilian, or a member of the military, working on Fort Drum, New York. An active member is authorized to vote upon and discuss all matters in which the member has interests.

2. **Mountain Warriors Riders Auxiliary Member:** Any individual who rides as a passenger with an active member. An auxiliary member is authorized to vote upon and discuss all matters in which this member has interests. No active member can sponsor more than two Auxiliary members who are not within their direct family. No auxiliary member can be someone eligible to become an active member.

3. **New Rider Member:** Any new member who has less than 1 year riding experience upon applying for active membership or is intending to purchase a motorcycle in conjunction with joining the *MWRAC*. A mentor must be selected from the general membership to observe and advise the new rider for a period of six months. The mentor is selected by an agreed upon decision of the Director, Assistant Director, and Secretary. After completion of the six month period, with mentor concurrence, the individual becomes an active member. If the mentor feels the member has not lived up to the principles or rules of the club, then a majority vote at a membership meeting is necessary for the individual to remain a member of the club. New rider members have full voting privileges.

4. **Honorary Member:** This distinction may be extended to any adult person with a simple majority vote of the active members present at any membership meeting, except as mentioned below. Such membership shall be restricted to individuals who have taken positive actions that support the *MWRAC's* principles, purposes, and objectives. Said members are not authorized to vote.

5. **Inactive Member:** Any individual mentioned above who has conducted himself/herself in an unsafe manner and thereby was placed on probation. An inactive member is not authorized to vote nor make any motions. However, an inactive member may present information that may be critical to the *MWRAC* during debates if approved by the Director. Individuals will be issued a 30-day probational notice prior to being placed on the inactive member roster.

SECTION B: Active participation and support of projects, activities, and functions of the *MWRAC* are encouraged and are the responsibility of every member.

SECTION C: Membership may be denied or withdrawn from active, honorary, or inactive members under the conditions prescribed by the officers of the *MWRAC* in accordance with Article III, sections A and D, of this charter and Article I of the by-laws (See Road Captains). Membership may terminate at the written request of the member.

SECTION D: Any member convicted of a DUI will be suspended from active membership status in the *MWRAC*, thereby *becoming* an inactive member. Such a member shall forfeit all rights as an active member. Suspension of active membership will be based upon actual loss of installation privileges as deemed appropriate by command authorities, based on legal authority. Once driving privileges have been restored and the member wishes to reinstate himself as an active member, they must participate in the mentorship program again — in full.

FEES

1. Active Member: \$0.00 annually — may change in the future
2. Associate Member: \$0.00 annually — may change in the future
3. New Rider Member: \$0.00 annually — may change in the future
4. Honorary Member: \$0.00 annually — may change in the future

ARTICLE IV

Administration

SECTION A: The *MWRAC* shall be administered in accordance with this approved constitution and other applicable directives under the supervision of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR). In accordance with 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) and Fort Drum Regulation 210-17, Private Organizations on Fort Drum, the following paperwork will be forwarded to MWR:

Minutes of meetings, submitted within 30 days of approval.
Annual financial statements.
Annual audit reports.
Copies of insurance, if required.
Current names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of officers.
Any major changes in organization activities, membership requirements, officers, objectives, organization, constitution, bylaws, or management function.

ARTICLE V

Insurance

SECTION A: The organization agrees to obtain a Certificate of Insurance for any and all events held on Fort Drum to protect against public liability and property damage claims or other legal actions that may arise as a result of activities of the organization or one or more of its members acting in its behalf, or the operation of any equipment, apparatus or device under the control and responsibility of the private organization. This Certificate of Insurance will name Fort Drum as a

third party insured. Neither Fort Drum, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, nor the U.S. Government will have any liability for the MWRAC's actions or debts.

SECTION B: The organization will be responsible for ensuring applicable fire and safety regulations, environmental laws, local, State, and Federal tax codes, applicable laws on labor standards, and any other applicable statutes and regulations are complied with within the operation of the private organization.



BY-LAWS

The following By-Laws are set forth for the normal operation and administration of the *MWRAC*, and will serve as a guide for the *MWRAC* officers and members.

ARTICLE I Officers, Their Duties, and Elections

SECTION A:

(Elected Officers) The following *MWRAC* officers will be elected in accordance with the charter of the *MWRAC* to serve a period of one year (“*recurring dates*”) or upon relocation due to the needs of the Army.

1. Director
2. Assistant Director
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Road Captains (One per every 10 members)
6. Events Coordinator

(Unelected Officers) The following *MWRAC* officers will not be elected, but appointed to the organization from the Fort Drum Garrison Chain of Command.

Garrison Representative

The *MWRAC* officers’ election, removal, powers, and responsibilities shall be governed according to the rules contained in “The New Robert’s Rules of Order” except when it is inconsistent with this charter and associated by-laws.

SECTION B: (Duties of Officers)

DIRECTOR

The duties are as follow:

1. Manage the *MWRAC* according to its Charter, By-laws, and “The New Robert’s Rules of Order.”
2. Preside at all membership and special meetings.
3. Set dates for membership, special, and executive committee meetings.
4. Appoint committee members on a voluntary basis, except Nominating Committee.
5. Appoint members to fill elected officer positions if there are three months or less remaining on present term when the elected officer is unable to complete the current term. A special meeting will be scheduled for a temporary election for the vacant position when more than three months are remaining on their term.
6. Appoint points of contact (POCs).

7. Act as *MWRAC* spokesperson.
8. Chair Executive Committee.
9. Between scheduled meetings of the membership, authorize expenditures – with the concurrence of the Treasurer – not to exceed \$300.00 per purchase.
10. Establish Special committees and appoint committee chairpersons as required.
11. Distribute a tentative agenda for the next membership meeting.
12. Appoint officers to the following non-elected positions as he/she sees fit.

a. **MENTOR(S)**

- (1) Will observe and assist New Rider Members.
 - (2) A mentor is defined as “a trusted counselor or guide.” Mentoring, therefore, is a relationship in which a person with greater experience and wisdom guides another person.”
 - (3) The mentor will use available training and promotional resources to encourage safe responsible riding techniques and skills.
- b. **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS** (Administers discipline and is responsible for recovery of *MWRAC* property).
- c. **HISTORIAN** (Maintains documentation of *MWRAC* history).
- d. **PHOTOGRAPHER** (Photographs *MWRAC* events and members participating in/at events — The photographer may be the same person as the historian).

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The duties are as follows:

1. Assume duties of the Director in his/her absence.
2. Appoints Nominating Committee members.
3. Serve as member of Executive Committee.

SECRETARY

The duties are as follows:

1. Record the minutes of membership meetings and take attendance.
2. Distribution of minutes within 4 (*four*) calendar days (via e-mail if capability exists).
3. Receive approval of previous month minutes at next regular scheduled meeting.
4. Maintain a completed file of *MWRAC* correspondence.
5. Issue annual election ballots.
6. Chair Social Committee.
7. Serve as member of the Executive Committee.
8. Provide other administrative support required by the *MWRAC*.
9. Attest to the authentication of documents and any other actions by the Director in the name of the *MWRAC*.
10. Maintain a *MWRAC* e-mail folder (if capability exists).

TREASURER

The duties are as follows:

1. Collect membership fees and issue receipts.
2. Issue and accept membership applications/resignations.
3. Maintain POC roster and make it available to the *MWRAC* (via e-mail if capability exists).
4. Maintain *MWRAC* checking account(s).
5. Maintain membership roster and make it available to the *MWRAC*.
6. Read monthly financial report at each membership meeting.
7. Provide financial report to the *MWRAC* (via e-mail if capability exists).
8. Serve as member of the Executive Committee.

ROAD CAPTAINS

The duties are as follows:

1. Lead the *MWRAC* in formation riding or parades. The Road Captains will give riding instructions to all riders prior to the start of a ride.
2. Enforce all rules of group riding.
3. Road Captains shall have the unchallenged right to terminate a member's participation in a given ride or event for *MWRAC* safety or image. Upon request of a Road Captain, the Director may suspend the member pending an official complaint. All members have the right to appeal complaint outcomes before the members and they must abide by the decision of the members--majority rules.
4. One Road Captain will always ride point and set the pace. Another Road Captain will always ride drag to assure the safety of the *MWRAC* from behind and assist members with mechanical problems.

EVENTS COORDINATOR

The duties are as follows:

1. Help the other *WMRAC* officers come up with a plan for events.
2. Insure events have all the logistical and media coverage needed for a successful mission and maintain high visibility within the community.
3. Insure that all the officers know their limits for conducting the events and suggest alternatives when needed.
4. Directly work with the Treasurer in determining the scope and abilities for all events.
5. Work directly with the club secretary to establish all the necessary paperwork for all events.

GARRISON REPRESENTATIVE

The duties are as follows:

1. Is a direct link between the MWRAC and the Garrison Commander.
2. Will have limited voting rights. Will not be able to vote or run for elected positions, but will be able to vote for By-Law changes, functions, and other items not dealing with the elected officers.
3. May hold an appointed position such as Mentor or Ride Captain.

SECTION C:

MEMBER DUTIES AND LAWS

1. Members will, above all, uphold the basic club principles of honor, truth, respect, support, loyalty and commitment.
2. When representing the organization on and off the installation, all members will conduct themselves with the highest regard of MWRAC principles. MWRAC must not be tarnished by unrestrained behavior, disrespect of fellow citizens, or acts that generally reflect poorly on the organization's image and reputation.
3. Members will not endanger the Club or any member by an illegal act or acts. If a member is arrested for illegal activities then they are automatically suspended from club activities, and if found guilty of the offense(s), they are dismissed from the club.
4. Each member serves as a safety officer. Each member is responsible to identify and correct any condition that threatens the welfare of club members or the general public. Any willful act of unsafe riding witnessed by a fellow club member(s) could result in denial of membership. Members may plead their case at the next meeting.
5. Activities will be conducted to encourage participation by all club members and no laws will be enacted which favor or separate members by the type of motorcycle they ride.
6. No member will ride under an impaired physical condition. Every member will always try to prevent another member from riding in an impaired condition.
7. Members will always hold the club in high regard. A member will never angrily accost, assault, or slander any other fellow club member.
8. Members will embrace and encourage an atmosphere of skill improvement, responsible riding, and riding enjoyment and discourage aggressive, competitive, and potentially self destructive riding behaviors.

SECTION D: (Elections, Voting, and Officer Removal)

ELECTIONS

Election of *MWRAC* officers shall be done annually during the initial riding season membership meeting in February. The *MWRAC* Assistant Director at the *February* membership meeting will

appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three members. The committee will deliver to the second February regular membership meeting a "Candidate Affidavit of Eligibility and Solicitation of Office" proposal. Members seeking to serve as officers of the MWRAC will have until the *March* regular membership meeting to return to the Nomination Committee a completed affidavit. The committee will submit a slate of candidates and accept nominations from the floor at the *Second March* membership meeting. Floor nominations will not be accepted unless the candidate is present and verbally accepts, or has provided an affidavit to the Nomination Committee. Nominees must have enough retainability to complete the term for which they are being nominated. If a member of the Nominating Committee becomes a candidate, that member shall be removed from the committee and a new member shall be appointed.

VOTING

Voting for the election of officers will be by secret ballot. Voting on all other MWRAC business will be by a show of hands with the majority ruling, or as stated below. Ballots for the annual election will be provided to all members in good standing. For those active members unable to attend the *March* general membership meeting, absentee ballots may be obtained from the MWRAC secretary. Members of the nominating committee will tabulate ballots. The candidate for each position with the most votes wins.

OFFICER REMOVAL

Organization officers may be removed from office for cause by a signed petition request from two-thirds of the active membership.

ARTICLE II **Meetings of the MWRAC**

SECTION A: (General Membership Meeting) Shall be held once a year, in *February*, for the purpose of electing new officers, disseminating other business, and inviting new riders to join. To convene a general membership meeting, a quorum of at least one-fourth (1/4) of the active membership is necessary. Motions/solutions and revisions/amendments will carry a simple majority of positive votes except when the issue involves a request for complete written financial reports. In this exceptional case, a two-thirds (2/3) majority of positive votes is required.

SECTION B: (Regular Membership Meeting) Shall be held on the 1st Wednesday of every month for the purpose of conducting business that may be brought before the organization. To convene a regular membership meeting, a quorum of 30 percent or more of the active membership is necessary. Motions/resolutions and revisions/amendments will carry a simple majority of positive votes except when the issue involves a request for complete written financial reports. In this exceptional case, a two-thirds (2/3) majority of positive votes is required.

ARTICLE III **Revisions, Adoptions, Amendments, and Review**

SECTION A: (Revisions/Adoptions) The adoption and or revision of this charter and associated by-laws require the approval of a majority of positive votes of the active members present at any meeting, provided a two-week oral or written notice is given to the organization. Any revision to this charter and associated by-laws will not conflict with any installation or higher headquarters directives. This charter and associated by-laws will not take effect until reviewed by the first acting and/or subsequent elected positions of the Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. All revisions/adoptions must also have garrison commander approval.

SECTION B: (Amendments) This charter and associated by-laws may be amended or abolished in whole or in part by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of positive votes of the active members present at any meeting, provided a two-week oral or written notice is given to the *MWRAC*. Any amendments to this charter and associated by-laws will not conflict with any installation or higher headquarters directives. This charter and associated by-laws shall be automatically amended to conform with all directives from the installation or higher headquarters without submission to the *MWRAC*. All amendments will not take effect until reviewed by the first acting and/or subsequent elected positions of the Director, Assistant Director, Secretary, and Treasurer. All amendments must also have garrison commander approval.

SECTION C: (Review) An appointed Parliamentarian Committee shall review this charter and associated by-laws annually to ensure completeness, applicability, and compliance with current Army directives, and policies.

ARTICLE IV Dissolution

The *MWRAC* may be dissolved by request of two-thirds (2/3) or more of the active membership in the form of a signed petition or upon withdrawal of consent by the garrison commander. Upon dissolution, all *MWRAC* funds and properties, in excess of liabilities and expenses of dissolution, shall be donated to any military/civilian organization as decided on by a simple majority of positive votes of the active members present and upon approval by the garrison commander.

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