

GENERALS YARD AND CHENNAULT

CHINA POST 1®



SOLDIERS OF FORTUNE - OPERATING IN EXILE®

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**China Post 1 - Dragon Riders**  
**Standard Operating Procedures**  
*“For the Cause, Not the Applause”*



# American Legion - Department of France

## THE GENERALS WARD & CHENNAULT

Post. No 1 (China)

13359 N Hwy 183 Ste 406-566

Austin, Texas 78750

### Chapter:

China Post 1 American Legion Riders

A.K.A. - *Dragon Riders*

Founded September 2005 @ CP1 Reunion

First Official Forms 2006

### Founding Members:

Ronald Burkett

Marlys Burkett

### Charter Members:

Gerald Griffin	Robert Senko
Art Muzzicato	Joel Eisenberg
Gregory Rogers	Gerald Damewood
Gary Howe	Lee Hammoch
George White	Randy Bridges
Scott Hilton	Milt Brown
Tony Riddle	Michael Maloy
Barry Cauley	Stanley Waite
Chip Britton	Kenneth Jones

### CP1 DRAGON RIDERS HISTORY PRESERVATION

*In Honor of our Founding Members and Charter Members, these individuals' names will forever be kept on member roles and identified on the CP1 Dragon Riders Website Page.*

*They shall be assigned the first members numbers which are to not be recycled or issued to another rider. They shall be permitted to wear "Founding Member" and/or "Charter Member" flash on their rider's vest.*

*In the event they are not physically able to ride, they will automatically retain their Dragon Riders membership and be permitted to continue wearing their rider's vest with patches/ashes.*

*The Dragon Riders Director will be responsible to ensure these members legacy are maintained.*

### **PREAMBLE:**

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES: TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER; TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A ONE HUNDRED PERCENT AMERICANISM, TO PRESERVE THE MEMORIES AND INCIDENTS OF OUR ASSOCIATIONS IN THE GREAT WARS; TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION; TO COMBAT THE AUTOCRACY OF BOTH THE CLASSES AND THE MASSES; TO MAKE RIGHT THE MASTER OF MIGHT; TO PROMOTE PEACE AND GOOD WILL ON EARTH; TO SAFEGUARD AND TRANSMIT FOR PROSPERITY THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY; TO CONSECRATE AND SANCTIFY OUR COMRADESHIP BY OUR DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES OF THE CP1 ALR DRAGON RIDERS AND ITS SCATTERED MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE TO PROMOTE THE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES SET FORTH IN THE FOREGOING PREAMBLE, THE NATIONAL AND DEPARTMENT CONSTITUTIONS AND BYLAWS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION & AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS, AND THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF CHINA POST 1.

### **ACROYNMS / TERMINOLOGY**

AL: American Legion

CP1: China Post 1

Host Program refers The American Legion, The Sons of American Legion, or The American Legion Auxiliary

ALR: American Legion Riders

Dragon Riders: Members of China Post 1 American Legion Riders Program

PUFL: Paid Up For Life (American Legion Host Program dues option)

### **ARTICLE I. NAME, LOCATON, AND AUTHORITY**

Section 1. The name of this organization will be The American Legion Riders – Chapter “Dragon Riders”, China Post 1, Department of France.

Section 2. This Chapter was sponsored by the American Legion China Post 1 through resolution of the membership at the reunion convention in September 2005 with first official memberships in 2006.

Section 3. This Chapter is chartered by the American Legion Riders Committee of the Department of France

Section 4. American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter Dragon Riders operates under such rules and procedures as the Department of France may establish and within the guidelines of Resolution 5 dated May 05-06, 2021, and any subsequent resolutions as adopted at the National Executive Committee of The American Legion.

Section 5. American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter Dragon Riders also operates under the Constitution & By-Laws of the American Legion China Post 1. Where a conflict may arise between AL China Post 1 and ALR Chapter Dragon Riders, AL China Post 1 By-Laws takes precedence.

### **ARTICLE II. Purpose**

Section 1. To ensure The American Legion Riders (ALR) Chapter Dragon Riders operates by the Department of France rules and procedures and operate within the guidelines of Resolution 5 as adopted May 05-06, 2021, and any subsequent resolutions as adopted at the National Executive Committee of the American Legion.

Section 2. The American Legion Riders (ALR) is a program of the American Legion. Members of the ALR come from The American Legion, The Sons of the American Legion, and The American Legion Auxiliary, collectively “The American Legion Family,” who share an interest in motorcycling. They can be found participating in parades, participating in motorcycle events and

supporting the communities in which they live, work and play. The American Legion Riders, Department of France (hereafter Department ALR) is formed as a program of the American Legion Department of France:

- To promote the aims and purposes of The American Legion as a family-oriented motorcycling activity for members of The American Legion Family.
- To promote and support eh programs and charities of The American Legion
- To promote and support the programs and activities of The American Legion, Department of France
- To promote and support the programs and activities of China Post 1
- To promote motorcycle safety programs and to provide a social atmosphere for members who share the same interest
- To participate in events and ceremonies which are in keeping with the aims and purposes of The American Legion
- To organize and participate in charity events helping our veterans, their families, and the local community.

### **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. ALR Chapter Dragon Riders shall be comprised of current members in good standing of The American Legion, The Sons of American Legion, or The American Legion Auxiliary.

Section 2. A rider may not hold membership in more than one Chapter of the ALR.

Section 3. Each ALR member shall establish and maintain ALR membership by owning (individually, through marriage, a common-law marriage, a life partnership or a long-term relationship) a motorcycle or trike registered and insured according to local law, and the operator must have a license with the proper endorsement. Trike is identified as a three wheeled motorcycle whereas the rider rides it straddles just as they would a two wheeled motorcycle. Trike can be either a manufactured trike (such as Harley, Gold Wing, Can-Am, etc.) or a converted motorcycle with the trike bolt on kit.

Section 4. Upon submission of a Dragon Rider application for membership, the requesting member shall provide proof of qualifying membership with The American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion and attest that he/she is not currently a member of any other Chapter of the ALR.

Section 5. Members will be required to provide proof of renewed membership within their qualifying Legion organization prior to annual renewal of ALR Chapter Membership. In the event of a Life Member membership being established, members will continue annually to provide the same proof of current insurance and renewal to the ALR Director.

Section 6. All applications for membership will be reviewed by the Dragon Riders Director and/or Assistant Director in a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed five working/business days, for acceptance, rejection, or referral for further investigation and consideration.

Section 7. Annual dues will be set at \$25 per year and are due by no later than 1 October of the preceding year.

Section 8. A Dragon Riders Life Membership will be set up in the amount of \$ **625.00**. This set amount will not be reduced/prorated based on prior years of membership. This life membership will also only be applicable for the China Post 1 Dragon Riders program. This life membership will not be transferable to another ALR Chapter if the member leaves to join another ALR whereas they would be responsible for rider dues through their new chapter. Members who choose Dragon Riders Life Membership will still be required to pay their host program annual dues unless they complete a PUFL Membership through their host program.

Section 9. Continued membership in the Dragon Riders is authorized for those members who have given up motorcycle ownership due to age, illness, injury, or other reasons beyond a member's control assuming they were fully qualified and held membership for at least one year prior to giving up motorcycle ownership. Exception clause: Dragon Riders who stopped riding due to listed approved issues more than 1 year prior to this revision of the by-laws will be given an opportunity to return to the Dragon Riders membership provided they pay the annual dues or life membership.

Section 10: Support / Honorary members are individuals within China Post 1 who provide significant support to the Dragon Riders (ex: an individual that can fill a role as Chaplain but does not meet the requirements to join the Dragon Riders). An individual

interested in being a Support / Honorary member will be reviewed/approved by the Director. Support members must be a member in good standing with their host program; will not be included on total membership count; will have a voice but not vote within the Chapter; and may wear a vest with appropriate patches that identify them as a “support member” of the Chapter.

## **ARTICLE IV. CHARTER MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Charter Members of the Dragon Riders are identified at the beginning of this document.

Section 2: All Charter Members shall be entitled to wear a Charter Member patch and wear a gold border around their patch signifying that they are a Charter Member.

Section 3: Charter Members will be permanently identified on the Dragon Riders member roster and identified by “Charter” designation on the roster. Charter Members will be permanently identified on the China Post 1 Dragon Riders website page. In the event that a Founding Member / Charter Member passes on post everlasting, they will continue to be listed on the Dragon Riders webpage and roster with member status as “Charter Member – In Memoria”; however, they will not count toward membership total counts.

## **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS**

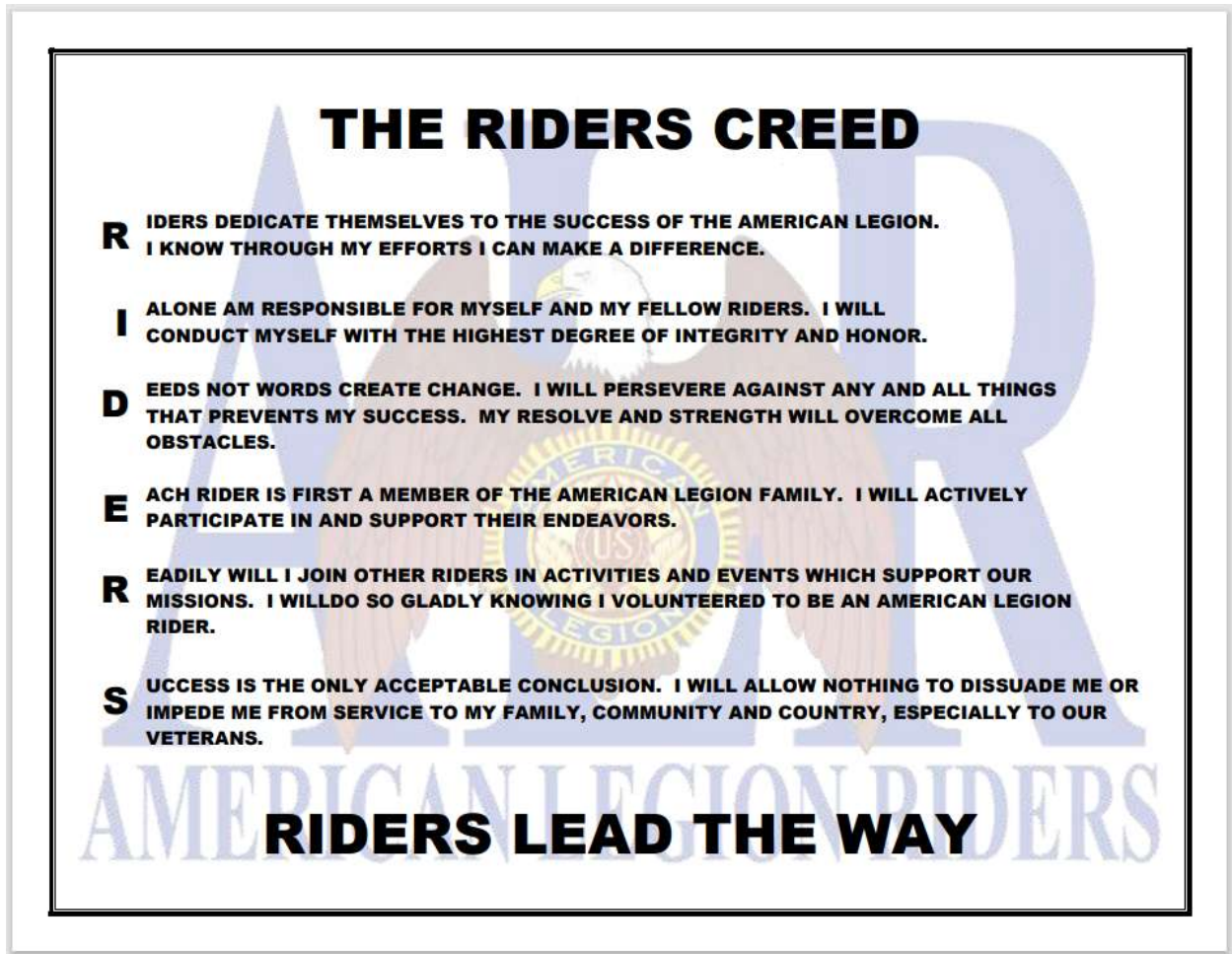
Appointed Officers with Commanders Approval

1. Director
2. Assistant Director
3. Road Captain
4. Sgt At Arms

## **ARTICLE VI. DISCIPLINE**

Section 1. The ALR is not a motorcycle club (MC) and does not practice M/C rules or regulations. There is no “Patching” or “Pledging” permitted. Dragon Rider members are not permitted to join an M/C, join the “Council of Clubs” (often referred to as CoC), or a Regional CoC. Riders also will not enter into an agreement with a CoC or regional CoC, regardless of reasoning. Members are prohibited from conducting criminal activity while riding as a Dragon Rider.

Section 2. In the event a member may need to be expelled or suspended, the Director will consult with the Commander and invite the accused member to a zoom meeting or telecom meeting to review evidence of wrongdoing. The member will be informed of the determination after the meeting within 24 hrs.



## ARTICLE VII. FINANCES

Section 1. Finances will be derived from Membership Dues, sale of approved merchandise, and such other revenue as approved by the rider's membership.

Section 2. Currently the finances of the Dragon Riders have been handled partially by the CP1 Commander and the Dragon Riders Director.

Section 4. The Dragon Riders may not incur any debt in the name of China Post 1 without prior approval of the Post membership in the Post membership minutes.

Section 5. The Dragon Riders is a program of China Post 1 and derives its tax status from the post. The chapter shall collect, retain, and disburse funds in a manner that is in keeping with all local, state, and national laws and post procedure which the sponsoring post operates.

Section 6. Should the Dragon Riders be dissolved, suspended or revoked, all outstanding debts shall be expediently discharged and the remainder of all monies and property will be turned over to the executive committee of China Post 1 for disposition. If the Dragon Riders is dissolved, no money shall be distributed among Chapter members.

## ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Any changes to this document must be forwarded to the post and approved by the Commander

## ARTICLE IX. MEETINGS

Section 1. General membership meetings would generally be held monthly. Due to the global geographical nature of the Dragon Riders, the meeting will be during the Annual Reunion. When needed, the Director may setup a zoom meeting for membership to discuss any needed issues.

## ARTICLE X. VESTS/PATCHES

Section 1. Vests are at rider's discretion whether to have a "club" style or a V-neck style, and whether solid sides or laced sides. Laced sides are an option for those that want one vest that they can wear on its own or over a jacket. Club style offers more space between the collar and shoulder areas than what a V-neck style has. The next section discusses layout/patches; however, if you want to wear every patch you have ever bought, consider having a second vest you can wear when not representing the AL or China Post 1.

### Section 2. Patches

1. Rider vests should be neat in appearance - not filled up front and back with patches. Rider vests are typically considered a visual "uniform item" for American Legion Riders, and thus why they are typically allowed to be worn to meetings/conventions unless otherwise requested not to be worn. If in doubt on whether a patch you like should be added, contact the Director or Asst Director before sewing the patch on the Dragon Riders vest.
  - a. While we may have served with many military units, Charter Members envisioned riders to only choose the one unit that holds the most significant value to the rider and wear that one unit patch.
  - b. IAW National Resolution 5 (7) ALR members' vests should display the integrity, principles and values of The American Legion and the ALR by avoiding patches or pins with (1) explicit or offensive language and/or images and (2) political or partisan language and/or images since The American Legion is a non-partisan organization.
  - c. The M/C support patches and MC patch you see some motorcyclists wearing are prohibited on Dragon Rider vests.
  - d. In the event a Chapter member is suspended, membership revoked, or status changed to a "member not in good standing", said member must immediately cease wearing the ALR Patches until such a time as said member is once again considered a "member in good standing".
  - e. Rider patches are purchased by the members upon joining the Chapter. However, if a member leaves or is removed, the patches will not be bought back by the Chapter since they are typically not in a serviceable condition upon removal from the rider's vest.
2. All riders should have an American flag (whether in color or subdued) on the left side of vest between the collar and shoulder area, above the heart at the highest point, as no other patches on the front of the vest should be higher than the American Flag.
3. The red/gold Dragon Riders circular patch is authorized for Dragon Rider members in good standing to be worn on the front of the vest. This patch should be where the left pocket is - or in absence of pocket should be approximately 1-2" below where the rider officer patch would be. If you don't hold an officer position - the patch would normally be in line with the name tag but on the left side, then go down 1-2" to place the dragon rider patch.
4. The ALR Shoulder Patch or Mini Patch are authorized for wear. The mini patch is 2 3/8" x 2 3/4" inch. The mini-patch can be above the name patch on the right lapel area but no higher than the American flag; or on the right pocket - or in the absence of a pocket should be 1-2" below the name patch; or it can be under the China Post 1 Dragon Riders patch on the left side.
5. Members are permitted and encouraged to wear a POW/MIA patch if they choose - and should be placed under the Dragon Riders front patch, the ALR Mini-Patch or above the front name patch but no higher than the American Flag.
6. Back Patches. All back patches are to be centered left to right. The American Legion Riders back patch (copyrighted and sold by AL Emblem Sales or an approved vendor) and the Dragon Riders back patch are authorized for wear by members in good standing with the Dragon Riders Chapter. Members wearing the ALR center patch should also have the dragon rectangle patch below it as this helps identify CP1 riders from other ALR riders when grouped together for meetings/conventions/rides. The Director, thru best effort working with Post Commander, will ensure there is a stock of the 3-line China Post 1 ALR back patch in the CP1 store.
7. AL Department standard for patches:
  - a. Shoulder patch (4" x 5.5" 3-line and 4"x3.5" 1-line

- b. ALR Back patch (8.5"x12" 3-line)
  - i. Charter members shall be entitled to wear a gold border around their center patch
  - ii. The three-line patches will have one top line and two bottom lines
    - 1. Top Line: China Post 1
    - 2. 1<sup>st</sup> bottom line – Shanghai China
    - 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> bottom line – Operating in Exile
- 8. Rectangular patches (if worn) above and below the center patch must be in gold letters, and should be placed one inch above the center patch and one inch below the center patch.
  - i. Upper rectangular patch can have: LEGIONNAIRE, VETERAN, AUXILLIARY, SAL, PATRIOT (a recognized term many use for Auxiliary or SAL members), or your branch of service
  - ii. Lower rectangle is often for the rider post and location: in this case for example CHINA POST 1 with Worldwide just under it. Additionally, you can have the lower rectangle as your road name – or you can wear both the location and road name with ½" space separating the rectangle patches.
- 9. Individual patches and pins are permitted:
  - a. Must present a positive image of The American Legion
  - b. Must not be degrading or derogatory to humanity or country
  - c. Must not be political in nature.
  - d. Must not indicate membership in, or support of, any MC.
- 10. The Director or Post Commander can restrict patches and pins that are not appropriate

Section 3. Wear of Legion Riders Regalia

- 1. American Legion Riders belonging to an officially chartered American Legion Rider Chapter are permitted to wear the Legion vest to meetings, unless otherwise specified by the meeting originator.
- 2. The official uniform of the American Legion includes the Legion/SAL/Auxiliary cap and is the only cover to be worn during official American Legion meetings. During the Department or National meetings, riders vests are not to be worn.
  - a. Rider’s clothing at meetings should be neat/clean in appearance.
  - b. CP1 ball caps are authorized during China Post 1 meetings, to include Memorial Division meetings.

**ARTICLE XI. REVISIONS/APPROVALS**

Section1. The Dragon Riders By-Laws will be kept on file by the Dragon Riders Director and the CP1 Adjutant.

Section 2. Revisions to the Dragon Rider by-laws will be submitted to the Commander for Approval

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & APPROVED BY:

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Jeff Kline  
Dragon Rider Director

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Jeff Carson  
China Post 1 Commander