

HAWAII CHAPTER 8-1

By-Laws

Amended 07 JULY 2010

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND EMBLEM

Section 1 (a)

The name of the Association is: Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Hawaii Chapter 8-1 (CVMA Hawaii CH 8-1). We are a state ran chapter of the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

- a. Principle office of the National Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association will be located at the following address: HAWAII PO BOX ADDRESS (The designation of the county or state of Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association principal office may change by amendment)
- b. Other Offices. The 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 1 (b)

IRS Section 501(c)(19) Purposes. Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is organized exclusively for Past or Present Members of the Armed Forces as specified in Section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code. The CVMA Hawaii 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 HI state tax laws.

Section 2

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

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Section 2 (b)

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- Represents the many ethnic backgrounds 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: Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Hawaii Chapter 8-1 Protocol.

The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Hawaii Chapter 8-1 is formed for the *betterment* of communication and camaraderie between Veterans, Veterans Organizations, families of veterans, other Motorcycle Associations, and or Motorcycle Groups. **We are not a Motorcycle Club.**

Section 1

Create and *maintain* camaraderie among CVMA members with the common bond of combat experience and a motorcycle lifestyle.

Section 2

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

Section 3

Promote and support Veteran Organizations and causes.

Section 4

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

Section 6

Conduct Chapter functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Chapter 8-1 Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, as required to achieve set objectives.

Section 5

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

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

Full Member

- a. Must be of good character. (served/serves honorably in/with any branch of the US Armed Forces)
- b. Must be a Veteran of a Foreign War and has been in "Combat".

- (a). The ONLY Acceptable proof for membership to the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is a copy of one's DD 214, ERB, ORB. (or equivalent as per branch of service).
 - (b). DD 214, ERB, ORB (or equivalent as per branch of service). must be surrendered to the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 Officers, Hawaii State Representative and CVMA N-BOD for verification.
 - (c). You may protect your social security number (SSN), applicant may blacken out SSN.
- c. Must own and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or greater.

Section 2

Auxiliary Member

- a. Must be of good character.
- b. Must be the spouse, widow, or widower of a full member in good standing.
- c. Will have no vote in CVMA business.

Section 3

Support Members

- a. Must be of good character.
- b. Must be an active duty or veteran of the United States Armed Forces as denoted by appropriate proof.
- c. Must own and operate a motorcycle of 500cc or greater.
- d. Must have either ridden 3000 miles with their sponsor, attended three CVMA events, or be known by their sponsor for at least six months.
- e. Will have no vote in CVMA business.

Section 4

By applying for membership with the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA), you are giving CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 and the CVMA National Board of Directors (N-BOD) the right to verify any membership application, and DD 214 records.

Section 5

Should a Full Member resign they will be given a 5 day grace period to rescind their resignation with no repercussions. After the 5 day grace period said member will have to either re-apply for membership as a new member, or make arrangements to return the CVMA back patch within thirty (30) days of resignation.

Section 6

Active members in good standing with the CVMA, who become infirm, disabled or otherwise unable to ride their motorcycles will be able to keep their patch and be retired as members in good standing with the CVMA. Member must submit medical documentation and a minimum of 1 year as a member and/or BOD approval is required.

- a. Life membership requirements: 3 years active in the CVMA. Member must be in good standing for all three years and minimum participation of one sanctioned

CVMA event per year is required. One of which must be a National meeting. Cost for life membership is \$200. If a life member quits for any reason or the member is removed from the CVMA rolls for any reason, no refunds will be made and the back patch must be returned to the CVMA.

Section 7

Although it is not required it is highly recommended that any person desiring to become a full member attend at least one meeting prior to submitting an application.

Section 8

Each member is encouraged to attend all meetings and **make** the time to support our veteran support activities. The CVMA N-BOD would like members to attend a minimum of at least one (1) event hosted by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association per year.

Section 9

All members **MUST** conduct themselves in a manner that is not an embarrassment to themselves, CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1, CVMA, and the United States Armed Forces.

Section 10

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.

Section 11

- a. In the event of misconduct by any member, under these by-laws and those of the CVMA N-BOD, the Board of Directors (BOD) possesses the right to revoke their membership. Misconduct is defined as failure to abide by the by-laws of CVMA and any organization that the CVMA supports.
- b. Bringing dishonor upon the CVMA in action, word(s), or deeds. Always remember while we have membership fees, **WE ARE NOT, NOR DO WE CLAIM TO BE A MOTORCYCLE CLUB! WE DO NOT HAVE COLORS!** We do not prospect.

ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1

National annual dues will be \$20.00 for Full Members (Combat) and \$10.00 for Auxiliary & Support Members (Military without combat experience). If possible dues should be paid utilizing the National website via PayPal. Dues for new members will cover the balance of the current year and dues will be collected again in June.

Section 2

Dues for CVMA members deployed in a war zone will be waived. Dues for all members must be paid on or before the last day of June annually. Dues for all new members

joining after March 1st will be considered as paid in full for the balance of the current year and will not be required to pay again until June of the following year.

Section 3

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 4

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

Section 5

Charter members will not be required to pay Chapter annual dues and may wear the Charter (Perpetuity) Patch designating that they are an original starter member of the CVMA Hawaii and will always remain on the roles of Chapter 8-1, as either a current Full Member or as an Honorary Member.

Section 6

CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 will collect annual local dues of \$10 for Full Members. Yearly dues will be paid to the Treasurer or State Quartermaster in the month of JUN
Auxiliary and Support Members will not be assessed Chapter dues because they are not allowed to vote and have a voice during any elections.

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 months in the Chapter. Only the six 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 CVMA Hawaii State Meeting held every March. Elected members will assume positions immediately after the elections are complete and hold that office for 36 months or until their successors are duly qualified. Consecutive terms are permitted.

Section 4

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

Section 5

CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 Officers will be considered for re-election every 36 months in the following order; Chapter Commander (CH-CDR) / SGT at Arms (CH-SAA); Chapter Executive Officer (CH-XO) / Chapter Treasurer (CH-TRE); Chapter Secretary (CH-SEC) / Chapter Public Relations Officer (CH-PRO). This is to ensure continuity within the Chapter and provide new Officers with a smooth transition.

Example: (CH-CDR / CH-SAA elections held March 2008 thru March 2011), (CH-XO / CH-TRE elections held March 2009 thru March 2012), CH-SEC) / (CH-PRO) elections held March 2010 thru March 2013)

Section 6

Should any CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 Officer (other than the CH-CDR) resign or be removed for any reason the CH-CDR has the authority to replace the officer at his/her discretion. However, the new officer will be put up for approval by the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 officers and a majority vote will decide at the following scheduled Chapter Meeting. The CH-CDR will vote only in the event of a tie. Should the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 CH-CDR be removed, the position will be assumed by the CH-XO and the CH-XO's position will be reassigned.

ARTICLE 6 – OFFICER DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1

The **Chapter Commander (CH-CDR)** will preside over all meetings of the Chapter; act as the Chapter Executive Officer for all committees, issue the call for regular and special CVMA Chapter Hawaii 8-1 meetings, schedule regular elections, and be sure they are held IAW the National CVMA By-Laws, and carry out the directives of the CVMA National Board of Directors. The Chapter Commander may appoint additional duties as required to all Chapter Officers and may designate Officer Positions if said position is vacant.

Section 2

The **Chapter Executive Officer (CH-XO)** will perform all duties of the Chapter Commander in his/her 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 Hawaii 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 **Chapter Secretary (CH-SEC)** shall keep 'minutes' of the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 general membership and Board of Directors (BOD) meetings held at Nationals.

He/she will keep attendance records, keep and maintain an updated CVMA Hawaii 8-1 membership roster as well as update the website roster. Other duties may include updating the CVMA Hawaii 8-1 website, correspondence with inactive members, and ensure to have all points of contact (phone numbers/e-mails) for meeting locations.

Section 4

The **Chapter Treasurer (CH-TRE)** will collect dues and other forms of income due to the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 and the CVMA N-BOD as required. Maintain the accounting books, make payments from the Chapters/Associations funds when so ordered by the Chapter Commander, sign all CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1's associations checks (along with another officer's signature) and make regular reports of the associations financial status to the N-BOD, State Representative and the general membership. Treasurers Report will be read and at each meeting and signed by the Chapter Commander and entered as such into the Chapter Minutes by the CH-SEC.

Section 5

The **Chapter Public Relations Officer (CH-PRO)** will maintain a file containing the Chapters mission, tax ID numbers, and copies of event fliers (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 President. Duties will include: Historian, Chapter File, Chapter Newsletter, Pictures, Newspaper articles, TV and radio announcements and Chapters website(s).

Section 6

The **Chapter SGT at Arms (CH-SAA)** will maintain order during all CVMA Hawaii 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 Chapter 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 CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1's reputation.

Section 7

The **Chapter Road Captain (CH-RC)** is appointed by the Chapter Commander. The Road Captain will plan routes for rides and meetings. He/she will ensure the routes are safe for use by large groups of motorcyclist 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 be responsible for a headcount at the start point and at the arrival point for all CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 members and guest Riders. 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. The CH-RC only answers to the Chapter Commander.

Section 8

The **Hawaii State Representative (HI-SR)** is voted by Chapter 8-1 and appointed by the CVMA N-BOD. State Representative's responsibilities include carrying out the By-Laws of the CVMA N-BOD and to watch over their membership. Although every opportunity

will be given to allow the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1's Officers to handle all situations within their Chapter the State Representative can dismiss or discipline unruly members with CVMA N-BOD approval. He/she will act as a Liaison between the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1's Officers and the National CVMA BOD. The State Representative would be over the State Chapter Commanders, and will ensure activities associated with the Chapters of CVMA Hawaii adhere to the By-Laws as outlined by the CVMA N-BOD.

Section 9

The **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 requests of the Chapter's Officers, the State Representative or the CVMA N-BOD.

ARTICLE 7 - MEETINGS

Section 1

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

Section 2

The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association Hawaii Chapter 8-1 encourages their members to attend all meetings. The meetings are the forum to present old and new CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 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's Officers meetings can be called by the Chapter Commander or two active Full Members. An active Full Member is any member that has not missed three or more consecutive meetings and is in good standing with the Chapter.

Section 5

The Roberts 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 Chapter 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 CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1's Officers.

ARTICLE 9 - AMENDMENTS

Section 1

The General Membership may present amendments to the By-Laws when ratified by three fourths of the members present at a CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 meeting. Only Amendments passed will take place immediately.

- Proposals for amendments to these By-Laws 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 placed 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 is responsible for implementing overall policy and direction of the Chapter. The Chapter Commander is responsible for day-to-day operations of the Chapter and shall make decisions as necessary to maintain the Chapter's viability and order.

ARTICLE 10 - PATCHES

Section 1

New members purchasing CVMA patches will be done so at cost, plus shipping and handling. The initial back patch will be ordered through either the Hawaii State Quarter Master (S-QM) or the Hawaii State Representative (SR) and will be issued to new members in person.

Section 2

While there are no specific “rules” with regards to placement of patches it would be appropriate to follow the same guidelines as the Military, with Chapter identification patch placed above pocket (left side), road name (if assigned) on your right (below) Combat Patch placed on top right shoulder/chest. CVMA Flash/National Attendance will be worn on top left, with Chapter Officer patch worn below CVMA Flash/Attendance patch. The back patch will be worn six inches down and centered from top of vest. Nothing will be sewn above the Back Patch and absolutely no rockers, diamonds will be placed on vest. However, ultimately it is up to you to decide on placement of your patches.

Section 3

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 4

It is the desire of the CVMA Hawaii Chapter 8-1 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. A Patching Ceremony will be conducted and while this is not a forcible requirement but it is **strongly** recommended.

ARTICLE 11 - STATE CHAPTER

Section 1

State chapters require a minimum of 15 members.

Section 2

Chapters should not be located closer than a one-hour ride from a previously established chapter within the same state unless approved by the SR and/or BOD.

Section 3

The chapter members shall elect the Chapter Commander. The State Rep will be over the Chapter Commander. All Chapter Commanders within a state are considered to be equal in “rank”.

Section 4

Every chapter at a minimum needs to be incorporated. Each chapter, at their discretion, can apply for a tax exempt 501(c) status and will submit a yearly report to their State Rep. The State Rep will in turn submit a financial statement to the National Treasurer,

due no later than 15 February. The report shall include an itemized list of donations and monies raised from chapter-sponsored events, and all donations received from sources outside CVMA. A detail of expenses for chapter operation is to be included as well.

Section 5

The N-BOD has the final authority in disbanding a chapter or dismissing a chapter member. The N-BOD has the authority to assemble an investigative committee to investigate any incidents involving either a chapter or chapter member.

Section 6

Chapter bylaws will not supersede, but are in addition to, National By-Laws. No part of the chapter By-Laws shall contradict National By-Laws.