



# **BM Riders Club**

## **Initial Rules & Constitution (2006)**

[www.bmridersclub.com](http://www.bmridersclub.com)

**Adopted May 1<sup>st</sup> 2006**

### **Name**

The name of the club shall be 'BM Riders Club'.

### **Club Address**

The address of the club shall be the address of the Club Secretary. If at any time the post of Secretary is not filled the address will be that of the Chairman.

### **The Aims of the Club**

The aims of the club shall be as follows:

1. To be independent and maintain the club in a friendly and open fashion with regard to the members' wishes.
2. To work for the benefit of BMW motorcycle owners and enthusiasts within the national and international motorcycling scene.
3. To meet in a spirit of friendship and bring together all of those who have an interest in BMW motorcycles.
4. To encourage social, touring, sporting events and meetings that are relevant to BMW motorcycle enthusiasts. To encourage and assist the free exchange of technical information regarding BMW motorcycles.
5. To maintain good channels of communication with fellow club members and other interested parties.

### **Membership**

Full membership of the club is open to all above the age of 16 years who have an interest in BMW motorcycles and all members shall have the right to participate in all club activities.

Junior membership is available, at a greatly reduced fee, to those under 16 years of age who have a sponsoring adult member. Junior members have the same rights as full members except that they shall have no voting rights and may not hold any Officer position.

Application for membership must be made on the appropriate membership form which will be available from the forum and the club website. The Officers shall have the power to refuse a membership request should they have reason to believe that it may be prejudicial to the club.

Should a member contravene the rules of the club or, in the judgement of the Officers, be considered to have acted in a way to bring the club into disrepute, that member may have membership suspended or revoked by a majority vote of the Officers.

### **Club Officers**

The club shall be governed by its Officers listed on the website, and new Officer posts may be created as deemed appropriate. Initially these Officers will be Interim Officers, whose office shall expire in October 2007 when all posts will be open for election by the membership. These Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the membership (except during the term of the Interim Officers when the officers will be appointed by the committee). The term of office for each post shall be 2 years (except during the first election when office shall only be one year for Chairman, Treasurer, Editor and Event Co-ordinator). Thereafter an election shall take place annually during May for those posts due for re-election.

Nominees for Officer or Co-ordinator posts must have been club members for a minimum of three years (valid after the club reaches that age) and membership must be maintained during any term of office. Application for any Officer post shall require both the nomination and seconding of that application by two individual full club members other than the nominee.

The club Officers shall have the right to suspend one of the Officers for a period of one month by a 75% majority vote of the committee should they feel that it is necessary. The reasons for this action shall be made clear to the Officer concerned. Removal or re-instatement must take place within that period after appropriate discussions. If the Officer is removed from the post, the membership will be informed of the reasons and proposals for new Officers and voting will be permitted.

The club's Officers shall be responsible for the general operation of the club and may pay, from club funds, reasonable fees for equipment, materials and services as is deemed necessary. Major costs and payments will be reported to the members, at which time discussions may be undertaken in order to decide if such expenditure is acceptable.

Club Officers will not receive payment for their services but legitimate expenses for consumables, equipment and travel will be paid.

### **Area & Country Co-ordinators**

Area and Country Co-ordinators must be full members and shall be appointed by the club Officers. These appointments will be for two years at which time the Officers must either re-affirm the appointment for a further period, appoint a new Co-ordinator, or offer a members' vote if there is more than one candidate. The club's Officers shall have the power to remove any Co-ordinator from that position should they feel it is necessary but they must acquaint the Co-ordinator of the reasons for so doing. The appointment of Country Co-ordinators will be subject to the viabilities of obtaining cost effective club insurance within the country concerned.

## **Elections & Voting**

1. All full members shall have voting rights and one vote per issue.
2. Junior members shall have no voting rights.
3. Voting will be by post, with prior member discussion permitted on the club forum or in any way that the Officers feel appropriate.
4. Ballot forms shall be available for download on either the BM Riders Club E-zine or in the members' forum, whichever is deemed appropriate, and votes must be received by the returning officer by the appointed date in order to be valid. Incomplete or incorrectly completed ballot forms will be disregarded. Ballot forms shall be posted on the club forum one month prior to voting and this shall be considered as full distribution to the membership.
5. Voting for Officer posts and general issues will be by a simple majority.
6. Voting for changes to the club Rules & Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority.
7. In the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
8. Item 5 (above) shall apply only after the expiry of the term of office of the Interim Officers to allow time for those Officers to modify the Rules & Constitution to be set in a workable and realistic format.

## **Accounts**

Club accounts shall be an accurate record of all club transactions and the appointed Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping these records up-to-date and clear at all times.

There will, at all times, be a minimum of three signatories for the club bank accounts, one of which should be the current Treasurer with the others being elected Officers, and two signatures will be required on each cheque.

The accounts shall be reviewed annually by an appointed independent person and members shall have free access to these accounts within a reasonable period should they so require.

## **Committee Meetings**

Meetings of the club Officers will only occur when it is felt to be required and essential discussions will be maintained continuously via telephone, internet or other means deemed appropriate. Officers not available to participate in discussions, without good reason, for a period greater than two months may be deemed to have resigned, in which case a replacement will be appointed by the other Officers.

## **Club Rules**

Copies of the club Rules & Constitution shall, at all times, be freely available for download by members.

## **Privacy**

The club membership list shall not be circulated or made available outside of the club Officers, nor shall it be used for commercial purposes in any way whatsoever.

**Dissolution of the Club**

Only full members may propose and second a motion for the dissolution of the club, (a statement of the reasons must accompany the proposal). In the event of such an occurrence, the club Officers shall ensure that a meeting is called and ballot forms are sent to all full members along with statements of the facts. Completed ballot forms must be received 48 hours before the meeting. Such votes shall be confidential and shall be added to the votes of the meeting to arrive at the total. Dissolution of the club shall require a 75% majority vote.

Should the club be dissolved, all assets shall be sold and any funds remaining after liabilities have been cleared shall be donated to NABD (National Association for Bikers with Disabilities), a UK-based motorcycle charity.