

# BLUE KNIGHTS INTERNATIONAL BOARD of DIRECTORS

## Meeting Agenda

**Saturday, September 8th, 2018 at 1100 Hours Eastern**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** President DJ Alvarez called the meeting to order at \_\_\_\_\_ hours and requested a moment of silence for ALL the members of Heaven I, and all Law Enforcement Officers slain in the line of duty.

**BLUE KNIGHT PLEDGE:** *As a Blue Knight, I pledge to act with honor and pride to promote motorcycling and motorcycle safety by being an example of the safe use, operation and enjoyment of motorcycles. I will work at all times to improve the relationship between the motorcycling law enforcement community and the general public. The fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights.*

### **I. SECRETARY –**

#### **A. Roll Call/Guests**

- **President: DJ Alvarez (DJ)**
- **Vice-President: Karen Borza (KB)**
- **Treasurer: John Bull (JRB)**
- **Past President: Bob Flanagan (BF)**
- **BOG: Rory MacConnell (RM)**
- **Europe: Koen Hutse (KH)**
- **Great Lakes: Dennis Hafeman (DH)**
- **Mason-Dixon: Mike Pollinger (MP)**
- **Mid-West: Doug Casteel (DC)**
- **Northeast: Ricky Gautreau (RG)**
- **Rio Grande: Roger Byars (RB)**
- **Southern: Bob Awtrey (BA)**
- **Southwest: Guy O'Connor (GO)**
- **Tri-State: Russ Harper (RH)**
- **UK & I: Graham Buxton (GB)**
- **West Coast: Lisa O'Brien (GW)**
- **Secretary: Jim Borza (JB)**
- **Office Manager: Jana Clark (JC)**
- **Guest(s):**
  1. **Joe Ball (JBall) – International Web Master**

## **B. Approval of July Minutes**

Everybody should have a copy of the minutes of our board meeting of July 17th, 2018. Are there any questions or additional corrections? Is there a motion to approve the minutes? Motion to accept minutes made by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_. Unanimous approval. Motion Passes.

## **C. Report**

### **II. REPORTS:**

#### **A. COMMITTEES**

**1. Headquarters: Bob Flanagan, Immediate Past President**

**2. Internet Committee: Joe Ball International Web Master**

**B. TREASURER – John Bull:**

**C. VICE-PRESIDENT – Karen Borza:**

**D. PRESIDENT – DJ Alvarez:**

**a. Office Manager – Jana Clark:**

**E. BOARD OF GOVERNOR’S – Rory MacConnell:**

**F. ELECTION COMMITTEE: Bob Awtrey**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Proposal Number: 2018-0010**

**Proposal:** To Amend the Int'l By-Laws Section 7.01 (B) Silver Tier Dues and (C) Bronze Tier Dues and add Section 7.01 (D) Silver Membership and Section 7.01 (E) Bronze Membership

### **Current By-Law(s)**

#### **Section 7.01 (B) Silver Dues Tier**

Any Regular member who has been a member of the Blue Knights for at least 20 consecutive years and in all other ways herein contained continues to qualify for regular membership, may apply for Silver Membership Dues Tier. Silver Dues Tier shall receive a special membership card recognizing their unique membership achievement and shall maintain all the rights and privileges of a regular member except upon acceptance of their request and one-time fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) US Dollars, shall be exempt from all future dues.

All Silver dues tier members must maintain their memberships to local chapters as currently described in the International Constitution and Bylaws. An affidavit proving continuous membership is required with request. An annual renewal form is required to maintain administrative records.

#### **Section 7.01 (C) Bronze Dues Tier**

Any member, who has been an Associate or Regular member of the Blue Knights for at least 20 consecutive years (as confirmed the records available at the International Headquarters) and in all other ways herein contained continues to qualify for Regular or Associate membership, may apply for Bronze Membership Dues Tier. Bronze Dues Tier members shall receive a special membership card recognizing their unique membership achievement and shall maintain all the rights and privileges and responsibilities of their current membership status except, upon acceptance of their request and one-time fee of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) US Dollars, shall be exempt from all future International dues.

All Bronze dues tier members must maintain their memberships to local chapters as currently described in the International Constitution and Bylaws. An affidavit proving continuous membership is required with request. An annual renewal form is required to maintain administrative records.

### **Proposed By-Laws(s)**

#### **Add to Section 7.01 (B) Silver Dues Tier.**

As of July 17, 2018, the Silver Dues Tier membership shall be closed to new members. Any regular member who is a member of the tier shall remain a member.

### **Add Section 7.01 (D) Silver Membership**

Any Regular member who has been a member of the Blue Knights for at least 20 consecutive years and in all other ways herein contained continues to qualify for regular membership, may apply for Silver Membership. They shall receive a special membership certificate recognizing their unique membership achievement and shall maintain all the rights and privileges of a regular member.

All Silver Membership members must maintain their memberships to local chapters as currently described in the International Constitution and Bylaws. An affidavit proving continuous membership is required with request.

### **Add to Section 7.01 (C) Bronze Dues Tier**

As of July 17, 2018, the Bronze Dues Tier membership shall be closed to new members. Any associate member who is a member of the tier shall remain a member.

### **Add Section 7.01 (D) Bronze Membership**

Any member, who has been an Associate or combined Associate and Regular member of the Blue Knights for at least 20 consecutive years and in all other ways herein contained continues to qualify for membership, may apply for Bronze Membership. They shall receive a special membership certificate recognizing their unique membership achievement and shall maintain all the rights and privileges and responsibilities of their current membership status.

All Bronze Membership members must maintain their memberships to local chapters as currently described in the International Constitution and Bylaws. An affidavit proving continuous membership is required with request.

### **Background:**

At the moment there are approximately 523 members in the two tiers. In 2018, another 1,631 members become eligible. If all 1,631 were to apply that would be \$244,650 in fees collected. At the moment all monies collected are put into the general budget and spent the year they are collected leaving nothing to cover the cost of future years.

If the funds were placed into an account and drawn out at \$25 per member per year to cover yearly dues cost that still only allows for six years of coverage. If a member remains with the club after that we collect nothing to cover the cost of yearly operations.

In 2024 the 1,631 that are eligible in 2018 would represent a revenue loss of \$40,775. Add in the current 532 members and that is an additional \$13,300. Each year the loss would grow with the addition of new members. As an example in 2019, 235 members become eligible and in 2020 an additional 272 become eligible. In 2026, that would result in a total potential tier membership of 2,670, resulting in a revenue loss of \$66,750.

Over the past ten years or so the general membership has remained stagnant at around 18,500. If this trend continues and the number of tier membership grows we will lose revenue to keep the club operational. If we continue on the path we are on the club will become insolvent.

**Intent:**

To recognize member for twenty years of continuous service.

**Advantages:**

This will allow the club to remain solvent.

**Disadvantages:**

None

**Cost:**

This will stop the loss of yearly revenue.

<b><i>Suggested By:</i></b>	<u>Budget Committee</u>	<u>07/19/2018</u>	<u>Budget Committee</u>
<b>Submitted By:</b>	<u>John Bull</u>	<u>07/19/2018</u>	<u>Int'l Treasurer</u>
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TITLE/POSITION</b>

## Proposal 2017-0016

To amend Article V, Conference; Section 5.03, Officers. SECTION 5.03. OFFICERS by adding the highlighted wording at the end of the section.

### CURRENT

The Officers of each Conference shall be the International Representative, Chairman, no more than three Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and Treasurer. A single person may hold the office(s) of Secretary and Treasurer. Only Regular members of the Corporation who are currently serving as President of a Chapter or who have previously served in that capacity may hold the offices of International Representative, Chairman and Vice Chairman. Any Regular member may hold the offices of the Secretary and Treasurer. Associate and Honorary members may not hold any Conference offices either by election or appointment. The Conference International Representative's position shall be an elected position within the Conference. Further that the position be elected by the majority vote of the eligible Chapter Presidents present at the Conference's election meeting.

### PROPOSED

The Officers of each Conference shall be the International Representative, Chairman, no more than three Vice-Chairmen, Secretary and Treasurer. A single person may hold the office(s) of Secretary and Treasurer. Only Regular members of the Corporation who are currently serving as President of a Chapter or who have previously served in that capacity may hold the offices of International Representative, Chairman and Vice Chairman. Any Regular member may hold the offices of the Secretary and Treasurer. Associate and Honorary members may not hold any Conference offices either by election or appointment. The Conference International Representative's position shall be an elected position within the Conference. Further that the position be elected by the majority vote of the eligible Chapter Presidents present at the Conference's election meeting. **If a Conference has more than one Vice- Chairman, each will be elected by a majority vote of the eligible Chapter Presidents from the area he will represent who are present at the Conference's election meeting.**

### INTENT & ADVANTAGES

The intent is to insure that these officers are elected by the Chapter Presidents of those who they will represent. The members can then have a Vice-Chairman who is chosen to represent their interests on the Conference Board.

DISADVANTAGES: None known

ESTIMATED COSTS None

Suggested by President DJ Alvarez Date: August 6, 2017

Submitted by President DJ Alvarez Date: August 8, 2017

## **G. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Proposal Number: 2018-0021**

**Purpose:** To address bylaw changes approved at the Board of Governors meeting to the Board of Directors for implementation.

**Proposal:** The Board of Governors had 2 proposals for addition to the BOG bylaws. These need to be approved by the BOD for implementation.

To amend the Blue Knights Board of Governors bylaws addressing a voting process for the election of the Board of Governors officers.

### **FIRST**

#### **Add to BOG bylaws ARTICLE 5. VOTING RIGHTS:**

**AMEND CURRENT** Article 5 - VOTING RIGHTS Each Chapter shall have only one vote at any meeting of the Board of Governors. The Chapter vote shall be exercised by the President of the Chapter, or in his absence, the Vice-President, or by the Chapter President's duly appointed Representative, who must be a Regular member, of the same chapter, and who must file evidence of his/her appointment in the form of written authorization from such Chapter's President with the Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Governors. In the event of an accident, it will be left up to the discretion of the Officers of the Board of Governors. (Amended: July 13, 2015)

### **ADD**

**5 A)** Election of officers will be in a ballot format. A ballot counting committee will be assigned and then approved by the members in attendance at the commencement of the election meeting. Members of the counting committee should not be in attendance representing and voting for a chapter, if possible.

1) The BOG Secretary will compile a ballot of all nominees after May 1st and with the approval of the current board officers, print sufficient balloting forms for the election.

2) Ballots will be sequentially numbered on watermarked paper listing all candidates in alphabetical order (Last name) for each office as needed. After the name will be a box to record the selection of the member.

3) The Secretary will secure the ballots until surrendered for distribution to the verified voting members in attendance.

4) All candidates will be given time to address the membership, time limits to be determined by Chairman. At the completion the members will record their votes, fold the ballot in half and surrender to the ballot counting committee.

**SECOND ADD**

**5 B) Electronic Voting for officers -** Each Chapter President will have the ability of casting the ballot vote for the officers of the Board of Governors by secured electronic transmission voting. **(Once allowed by Maine State law).**

That the balloting commence 30 days prior to the scheduled date of the election meeting and be completed at 0001 hours the day before the meeting (time is that of the meeting location). That the tally be secured till the commencement of the meeting and the written election tally be reported to the Secretary of the BOG. No in person balloting for elections will take place the day of the scheduled meeting.

**Background:** Bylaw amendments to the Board of Governors that have passed then must be approved for implementation by the Board of Directors.

**Intent:** To comply with procedures for bylaw amendments.

**Advantages:** To address the voted changes by the members of the Board of Governors

**Disadvantages:** NONE

**Anticipated Cost:** None for the International budget, these are budgeted under the Board of Governors finances

**Suggested By:** Board of Governors officers

**Submitted By:** Rory Mac Connell                      July 22, 2018                      BOG Chairman

Name

Date

Title/Position



**Proposal Number: 2018-0022**

**Proposal:** To amend Article 6 Membership Classifications Section 2 Associate Membership of the Articles of Incorporation to also allow non-governmental law enforcement agencies as a requirement for membership.

**Rational:** To allow membership into the Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club other than those employed by a governmental agency. All other requirements to remain as is.

**Intent:** To allow law enforcement officers who work part time for law enforcement agencies other than governmental agencies to qualify for associate membership in the Blue Knights® International Motorcycle Club. They must be recognized as a sworn peace officer in their state, and or country. Non-sworn civilians working as security guards for these non-governmental agencies would not be considered. The law enforcement agency must be full time, permanent, and not contractual and approved by International.

**History**

There are Police Officers that work for Railroad Companies, private schools, etc., that go through the same training as officers employed by a governmental agency and have the same arrest authority. Currently there are 349 Railroad Police Officers listed on the Officer Down Memorial Page (<https://www.odpm.org>) as being killed in the line of duty. Additionally, there are 11 Police Officer's from private colleges listed as being killed in the line of duty. Patrol Officer Sean Collier was murdered by the Boston Marathon Bombers.

**Advantages:** The advantage of allowing these police officers to qualify for membership is that the Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club can have additional areas for membership recruitment into the organization all whilst keeping the club blue.

**Disadvantages:** None

**Cost Analysis:** None

**Suggested By: RGC Conference Board**

**7/24/2018**

**RGC Conference Board**

**Submitted By: Roger Byars**

**7/24/2018**

**Int'l Rep**

**Proposal Number: 2018-0023**

**Proposal:** To amend Article 6 Membership Classifications Section 1 Regular Membership of the Articles of Incorporation to also allow non-governmental law enforcement agencies as a requirement for membership.

**Rational:** To allow membership into the Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club other than those employed by a governmental agency. **All other requirements are to remain unchanged by this amendment.**

**Intent:** To allow law enforcement officers who work for law enforcement agencies other than governmental agencies to qualify for regular or associate membership in the Blue Knights® International Motorcycle Club. They must be recognized as a sworn peace officer in their state, and or country. Non-sworn civilians working as security guards for these non-governmental agencies would not be considered. **The law enforcement agency must be full time, permanent, and not contractual. Each individual agency must be approved by the International Board of Directors.**

**History**

There are Police Officers that work for Railroad Companies, private schools, etc., that go through the same training as officers employed by a governmental agency and have the same arrest authority. Currently there are 349 Railroad Police Officers listed on the Officer Down Memorial Page (<https://www.odpm.org>) as being killed in the line of duty. Additionally, there are 11 Police Officer's from private colleges listed as being killed in the line of duty. Patrol Officer Sean Collier was murdered by the Boston Marathon Bombers.

**Advantages:** **The advantage of allowing these law enforcement officers to qualify for membership is that the Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club can have additional areas for recruiting new members into the organization all whilst keeping the club blue.**

**Disadvantages:** None

**Cost Analysis:** None

**Suggested By: RGC Conference Board**

**7/24/2018**

**RGC Conference Board**

**Submitted By: Roger Byars**

**7/24/2018**

**Int'l Rep**

**Proposal Number: 2018-0024**

**Purpose:** To update, define and adjust the convention guidelines to conform to current procedures.

**Background:** All guidelines need adjusting as things change and grow. We have to sometimes fine tune or clarify some of the items into a more defined example. We have made adjustments after motions on the BOD and these items, as some have questioned, needed to be addressed to bring the guidelines current to procedures in place.

**Proposal:** To remove the highlighted areas, and add the bold underlined type to the convention guidelines.

**CONVENTION RULES AND GUIDELINES:**

## **CONVENTION RULES**

Chapters that are considering hosting a convention **MUST** request an updated Convention Rules and Guidelines packet from the International Office. **The International Office will place all bids on the agenda with the Board of Governors for their meeting.** The bid must be submitted in writing to the **International office and Board of Governors Secretary** by May 1 to be placed on the **July 1** BOG agenda **for that year's meeting.**

The International Board of Directors will have ultimate authority over the International Convention.

A chapter wishing to host the convention outside of the third week of July must **request submit a proposal for date change to the Board of Directors,** and receive permission from the International Board of Directors prior to bidding. Multiple chapters or a conference may assist in hosting the convention, but one (1) chapter shall have primary control and responsibility for the convention.

---

### **BIDS:**

Chapter(s) wishing to bid for an International Convention must submit the bid TWO (2) YEARS prior to the date wanted (e.g., July 2012 for the July 2014 convention). All bids will be presented at the Board of Governors meeting and judged against other bids received. Additionally, once a bid has been accepted by the BOG, the bidding chapter(s) have from May 1 until June 1 of the year they are bidding to submit the basic information of their bid to the International Web Master for posting in the "Members Only" section of the International Web Site.

**Once the Chapter has been selected by the Board of Governors 2 years out the only information allowed to be posted is the Chapter, location, and dates of the convention, until they are (1) one year away from their convention. This information may be added to the awarded hosting Chapters web site, as well as the hosting Conference web site. *The negotiated costs and registration fees being 2 years out may***

**need to be adjusted for the final presentation a year later. These should not be drastic differences, though it is understandable that many costs may change within the year and all efforts must be made to keep the costs as reasonably close to the initial proposal numbers. It would be better to be higher, then go down, then have to go up in costs after the proposal has been awarded.**

**NOTE** *The Convention committee believes that the registration and hotel costs should not be changed from the initial bid unless they go down. This will keep the hosting chapter steadfast on the proposal costs presented on the chapters initial bid as it was awarded.*

**The Registration fees and hotel costs must be adhered to as presented in the proposal and elected by the membership, they may be reduced if possible, but not increased.**

The following information must be provided:

- A) The city, state, province, or country where the convention is to be held.
- B) The dates of the convention
- C) The name and address of the host hotel and room rates.
- D) The cost of registration.
- E) Any other information the chapter feels is pertinent to their bid (e.g., rides, area attractions, amenities, etc.).

1. **FINAL PRESENTATION:** The host chapter SHALL NOT present, **promote, or advertise in any way to include social media** their final convention package **and or schedules** to the membership prior to the BOG meeting at the International Convention preceding the year they will host. The BOG will set presentation time limits. All equipment needed for the presentation will be the responsibility of the presenter.

---

**5. CONVENTION PROFITS:** Host chapter(s) MAY NOT realize a NET profit exceeding \$8,500.00. Any amount exceeding this figure must be forwarded to the International Office. Net profits will be all monies left after paying expenses. Profits include but are not limited to monies earned at the International Convention through fund raisers, **(IE; 50/50, raffles and auctions), convention shirt sales, sponsorships,** government **or private** grants, donations, interest on accounts, and fees charged to outside vendors over and above the cost of providing the above services and programs.

**Only the awarded chapter may receive the determined proceeds from the convention. They may choose to split those proceeds with any assisting chapters, or make a charitable donation from the chapters profit part of the net proceeds.**

**Only raffles started and completed at the convention by the hosting chapter would be included in the convention profits. Any raffle that the host chapter has been doing outside the time line of the convention may not be considered profits for the convention even if the final drawing is held at the convention.**

**NOTE: A separate accounting of any convention sales items from the hosting chapter, and the chapter approved sales items sold receipts must be kept and recorded separately. As**

**well each of the 50/50 totals daily, any raffles and auction sales receipts must be recorded individually in the convention ledgers.**

## **CONVENTION GUIDELINES**

### 6) BANQUET FACILITY:

- A) The banquet hall should be large enough to seat everyone comfortably.
- B) The area is designated as non-smoking.
- C) Ensure an adequate number of stations if serving the banquet “buffet style.”
- D) A head table (**dais**) with podium/microphone with seating for 12- 16 - **20** people, depending on who the host chapter wants seated there. **Should include the International executive committee officers and guest, host Chapter officers and guest, any VIP speaker and guest. If seats need to filled the Board of Governors officers and guests. If needed to expand the seating or reduce the seating to accommodate all 4 officers of the BOG and guests, if the chapter chooses to add the BOG to the dais.**

**E) VIP SEATING - Reserved tables front and center Founding fathers and guests, Board of Governors officers and guests (if not on the dais) , International Board of Directors and guests, International Honorary members and guests, International employees and guests, International chaplain and guest, International Publisher and guest, Host Chapters members and guests and any additional VIP guests of the Chapter.**

**Intent:** To give the chapters more information in areas of the rules and guidelines so they may understand the limitations intended and practiced in prior years. Institute increased information on assisting the chapters in areas where we have recognized the need for better definitions.

**Advantages:** Clarification in areas we have had questions with at the BOD and BOG level

**Disadvantages:** None noted

**Anticipated Cost:** None

**Suggested By:** Rory Mac Connell

**Submitted By:** Rory Mac Connell      July 29<sup>th</sup> 2018      BOG Chairman

Name

Date

Title/Position

**Proposal Number: 2018-0025**

**Purpose:** To have a written procedure on how to submit a proposal onto the Board of Directors meeting agenda for approval consideration.

**Rational:**

To have a written proposal on how to submit a proposal onto the Board of Directors meeting agenda for consideration from the International Executive Committee, Board of Governors Executive Committee, and any Conference International Representative.

**International Executive Committee (EC)**

EC will include International President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

Any member of the International Executive Committee wishing to submit a proposal for consideration must have a majority committee approval prior to submission. The author will be noted as “suggested by” and it will be “submitted by” the Executive Committee.

**Board of Governors (BOG)**

**BOG Executive Committee** will include the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Any member of the Board of Governors Executive Committee wishing to submit a proposal for consideration must have a majority committee approval prior to submission. The author will be noted as “suggested by” and it will be “submitted by” the Board of Governors Executive Committee.

Submissions from conference International Representatives for the Board of Directors meeting agenda.

**Conferences**

Any chapter, or Conference Board wishing to submit a proposal for consideration must present it during a meeting of the chapter presidents of that conference for discussion. Approval must be from the majority of the chapter presidents (or their designees) in attendance. The author will be noted as “suggested by” and it will be “submitted by” the conference International Representative.

**Intent:** To create a consistent vetting process for proposals prior to being submitted.

**Advantages:** Consistency and simplicity.

**Disadvantages: none**

**Costs: None**

**Suggested By: D.J. Alvarez**

<b>Submitted By:</b>	<b>D.J. Alvarez</b>	<b>August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018</b>	<b>Int'l President</b>
	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>TITLE/POSITION</b>

**H. CONFERENCE REPORTS:**

- 1. European:**
- 2. Great Lakes:**
- 3. Mason-Dixon:**
- 4. Mid-West:**
- 5. Northeast:**
- 6. Rio Grande:**
- 7. Southern:**
- 8. Southwest:**
- 9. Tri-State:**
- 10. United Kingdom & Ireland:**
- 11. West Coast:**

**J. GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

**K. NEXT MEETING:**

- 1. Date and Time**
- 2. Deadline for Agenda items**
- 3. Motion to adjourn**