

**Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association**

**Ohio 12-3**

**Bylaws**

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Bylaws: 14 Sept 2014

Amended 20 July 2017

Amended 8 June 2019

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND EMBLEM

1. The name of the association is:
   1. NE Ohio Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Inc.
   2. Also known as Ohio 12-3, 12-3 and CVMA 12-3
   3. The permanent principal office of CVMA 12-3 is located in Akron, Ohio. The current business office is located at: 1310 Mac Dr. Stow Ohio.
2. Change of Address
   1. The designation of the county, Summit, for CVMA 12-3 may not be changed by amendment of these bylaws. The board of officers may change the principal office from one location to another within the named county by noting the changed address and effective date, and such changes shall not be deemed, nor require, an amendment of these Bylaws. Once approved in Cuyahoga Falls, this chapter location cannot be changed without SR, RR and NBOD approval.
3. The corporation may also have offices at such other places, within its state of incorporation, where it is qualified to do business, as its business and activities may require, and as the Chapter Executive Board may, from time to time, designate.
4. IRS Section 501(c)(19) Purposes. Ohio 12-3 is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and/or scientific purposes as specified in Section 501(c)(19) of the US Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(19) of the US Internal Revenue Code. The CEB has the authority to change the Ohio 12-3 bylaws if any part is found to conflict with Federal or Ohio state tax laws.
5. The emblem / logo used by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is the sole property of the CVMA. The CVMA patch and logo cannot be reproduced without license from the BOD. The emblem of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is in the shape of a skull encompassed by the following colors. The incorporated colors are: Red, representing the blood that has been shed on the battlefield. The Military Gold, representing all branches of the military service of the United States. Black, representing the heavy hearts possessed for those who gave their lives and for those that are considered missing in action or prisoners of war. The Skull and ace of spade represents the death that war leaves in its wake.

ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES

1. General: CVMA 12-3 Objectives
   1. The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association is formed for the betterment of communication and camaraderie between other Motorcycle Associations, Veterans Organizations, and or Motorcycle Groups.
   2. To promote interest in various forms of motorcycle activity associated with Veterans.
   3. To create and maintain camaraderie among Combat Veterans from all U.S. Branches of Service and its allies.
   4. To support Veteran Organizations.
   5. To raise awareness for the plight of POWs, MIAs and their families.
   6. To conduct Association functions and activities in a manner befitting the members of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and as well as the association's Auxiliary Members.
   7. To encourage a better understanding of motorcycle riders as a constructive sport among members of the public, press, and law enforcement agencies.

ARTICLE3: MEMBERSHP

1. Definitions:
   1. The term "Good Standing"
      1. Shall be defined as any person who has fulfilled the requirements for membership in the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, who is not currently under disciplinary review or probationary status for disciplinary reasons, who has paid the necessary dues and conformed to the requirements as set forth in these bylaws.
   2. Full Member:
      1. Must be a FM with the National CVMA in good standing
      2. Of good character.
   3. Auxiliary Members:
      1. Must be an Auxiliary member with the National ACVMA in good standing
      2. Must be of good character
      3. Auxiliary members are not a member of 12-3 and will have no vote in CVMA business.
      4. Cannot hold a position on the CEB.
   4. Support members:
      1. Must be a Support Member with the National CVMA in good standing
      2. Must be of good character.
      3. Maximum number of support members will not exceed 10% of total CVMA 12-3 Full Combat membership.
      4. May vote in CVMA 12-3 business
2. By applying for membership with the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, you are giving the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and its CEB/SR the right to verify any membership application and DD 214 records.
3. Each member should attend a minimum of one (1) event hosted by the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association per year. This can also be an event in any member's state if prior approval is obtained by the state representative from the governing body of the Combat Veterans Association.
4. All members MUST conduct themselves in a manner that is not an embarrassment to themselves, the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, or the United States of America.
5. In the event of misconduct by any member, under the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, the NBOD possesses the right to revoke that member's membership. Misconduct is defined as failure to abide by the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle
   1. Misconduct is defined as failure to abide by the by-laws of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association and any organization that the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association supports.
   2. Bringing dishonor upon the CVMA in action, word(s) or deeds.
6. A member can have his 12-3 Chapter membership terminated by a majority vote of the voting membership at any 12-3 Chapter meeting. Upon removal from CVMA 12-3, the CEB may recommend that the State Representative investigate and recommend removal from CVMA by the NBOD. The SR may recommend probation, suspension as well as termination.
7. Any full member who is still a member of the Armed Forces of the USA who attends the previous year’s Nationals, but cannot, because of Military deployment to a combat zone, attend the current year national meeting will be given credit for the National and will be authorized a rocker for the National patch that will read, for example, DEPLOYED 20XX.
8. Chapter Life membership requirements: Member must have become Life Member of the CVMA National Organization. Cost for Chapter Life Membership is $100. 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.
9. Always remember ***WE ARE NOT, NOR DO WE CLAIM TO BE, A MOTORCYCLE CLUB! WE DO*** ***NOT HAVE COLORS! WE DO NOT PROSPECT!*** We do have membership fees.

ARTICLE 4: MEETINGS

1. A quorum of conducting business shall be those present at any given meeting.
   1. A quorum minimum of 2 officers and 10 voting full members are required to hold a vote at any meeting.
2. Special membership meetings and special Chapter Executive Officers meetings can be called by the CO or two active members.
3. Regular Meetings
   1. Regular meeting of the members shall be held Bi-monthly (every other month) at a time and place designated by CVMA Commander
4. Annual Meeting
   1. An annual meeting of the members shall take place every year in October and the specific date, time and location of which will be designated by the CVMA 12-3 Commander. At the annual meeting the members shall elect directors and officers due in that given year, receive reports on the activities of the association, and determine the direction of the CVMA 12-3 for the coming year.

ARTICLE 5: CHAPTER DUES

1. Membership dues shall be at such rate, schedule or formula as may from time to time be prescribed by the CVMA 12-3 CEB and approved by the general membership.
2. The CVMA 12-3 CEB shall determine deadlines for payment of renewal membership dues.
3. Annual Chapter 12-3 dues of $10 will be assessed effective September 15, 2014 for all Full Members (Combat Veterans) and $10 for Support Members (non-combat veterans). Dues for CVMA 12-3 members deployed in a war zone will be waived. Dues for all members must be received by June 30th of each year. Dues for all new members joining between January 1st and June 30th will be considered as paid in full for the balance of the current dues’ year and the following dues year. Dues for new members joining between July 1st and December 31st will be for the current dues’ year only.
4. Failure to pay Chapter 12-3 dues will result in revocation of voting privileges on Chapter 12-3 affairs and a post in members 201 file reflecting “member not in good standing for failure to pay Chapter dues”.

ARTICLE6: ELECTIONS

1. All nominees for any office must be active and in good standing in the association with a minimum of one (1) full year of CVMA and CVMA 12-3 membership. Retired members cannot hold a position on 12-3 CEB
2. All elected and or appointed officers and Chapter Executive Board must remain active members in good standing in CVMA and CVMA 12-3 for the duration of the term while in office.
3. Officers will be elected at the annual CVMA 12-3 meeting. They will assume office immediately following the election and hold that office for 24 months or until their successors are duly qualified. Consecutive terms are permitted.
4. Nominations to the CVMA 12-3 CEB must be made at least sixty (60) days prior to the Annual meeting unless the election is for a replacement office which has been vacated. The Chapter Commander will vote only in the event of a tie.
5. Candidates for office MUST declare their intentions a minimum of 60 days prior to the designated election date unless the election is to fill a vacated position due to a previous election.
6. CEB members will be considered for re-election in the following order,
   1. Commanding Officer / Secretary, on even numbered years.
   2. XO / Treasurer/ SGT at Arms, on odd numbered years.
   3. Should any Officer resign or be removed for any reason the Chapter Commander or CEB has the authority to replace the position and the new officer will be put up for vote of confidence by the CVMA 12-3 members at next scheduled meeting.
7. No member may serve more than four full terms (2 years), or a total of eight (8 years), in any one position on the Chapter Executive Board. This does not preclude a change in position, i.e., Sec to SAA, XO to CO, etc.

ARTICLE 7: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. Chapter Commander
   1. The Commander is the Chief Executive Officer of the CVMA 12-3.
   2. All matters concerning relations between the association and any outside person or organization should be routed to the Commander for appropriate action.
   3. The Commander will preside over all meetings of the CVMA 12-3; act as ex-officio member of all committees, issue the call for regular and special CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board meetings, schedule regular elections, and are sure they are held in accordance with this constitution, and carry out the directives of the CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board.
   4. The Executive Officer, Secretary, Treasurer and Sgt. at Arms positions are accountable to the Commander and allow the Commander to temporary fill any vacant positions at his discretion, until the next Chapter meeting, at which time a vote of confidence for appointed position or election by the CVMA 12-3 will take place.
2. Executive Officer
   1. The Executive Officer shall coordinate all committees and supervise plans for all CVMA 12-3 events.
   2. The Executive Officer shall act as an intermediary between the Commander and the Members.
   3. Additionally, the Executive Officer is second-in-command to the Commander, and shall assume all responsibilities and duties of the Commander or Officer in their absence and assume all duties to office.
3. Secretary
   1. The Secretary is responsible for making and keeping all CVMA 12-3 records, including: the membership list, the By-Laws, Rules of Order, Standing Rules, records of all committee appointments, all written reports, copies of all correspondence between the CVMA 12-3 and any outside person or organization, and shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings of the CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board and general membership meetings.
   2. The Secretary under the direction of the Commander prepares all reports and required of him and assumes all duties to office.
4. Treasurer
   1. The Treasurer shall keep correct and complete books and records of accounts and keeps all funds of the Chapter. He may disburse funds to pay expenses as prescribed in the By-Laws.
   2. The Treasurer will collect dues and other forms of income due to the CVMA 12-3, maintain the accounting books, make payments from the funds when so ordered by the CVMA 12-3, or National Board of Directors, sign all CVMA 12-3 checks. Make regular reports of the Chapter’s financial status to the CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board, the general membership, the SR and the National Board of Directors, and assume all duties to office. Will also ensure any taxes and required filing are completed and filed.
5. Sergeant at Arms
   1. The Sergeant at Arms is responsible for ensuring that the By-Laws and Standing Rules of the CVMA 12-3 are not violated, and that orders of the Officers are carried out in an expeditious manner.
   2. He is responsible for policing and keeping order at all CVMA 12-3 events. The Sergeant at Arms is responsible for the safety and security of the Chapter.
   3. The Sergeant at Arms will maintain order during meetings and assume all duties to office.
6. CEB
   1. The CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board, are the Officers holding the positions of Commander, Executive Officer, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms.
   2. The CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board is responsible for the execution, through its officers of the authorized policies, by majority votes, fills vacancies in any office of the CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board and submits to the meetings and recommendations affecting the policies of the CVMA which have been previously approved.
   3. The CVMA 12-3 Chapter Executive Board is responsible for reporting By-Law infractions, as well as actions taken, to the State Representative for his/her review.

ARTICLE 8: Bylaw Changes

1. Bylaw change proposals need to be submitted 60 days prior to the annual meeting.
2. Proposals will be voted on at the annual meeting and will take effect on that date.