

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER ONE C.O.B.B. SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

The name of this organization shall be “Chapter One of C.O.B.B. Society”.
The C.O.B.B. Society is a Non-Profit Organization and is not a motorcycle club.

Section I Purpose

The purpose of Central Florida Chapter One: C.O.B.B. Society is camaraderie of those who have overcome their fear of riding after a crash. Our society is strictly social. We remain neutral and our only affiliation with any organization is relative to non-profit status. C.O.B.B. does NOT discriminate.

Section II Membership

The membership shall consist of **Brothers** and **Sisters** that have fallen or **had an unfortunate incident while riding a motorcycle**, meet the general requirements of the C.O.B.B. **International** Society, and currently own a motorcycle along with their significant other (exception; those riders handicapped by a riding incident). OWNING a motorcycle is not a pre-requisite for membership as long as the requirements of the Home Society are met. Chapter members (previously qualified) not currently owning a motorcycle are prohibited from holding an office or position of leadership, **except the position of secretary.**

All new members MUST purchase either a C.O.B.B. tee shirt or patch from the Chapter. Membership in Chapter One is not open to those that belong to a motorcycle club or association prohibiting their active participation in another organization. These individuals are not restricted from membership in the C.O.B.B. Society at large, but to prevent dissention and conflict of interest, are restricted from holding an electoral office within Chapter One.

Individuals not qualifying for Chapter membership but desiring an affiliation can apply for Support membership provided their membership with the COBB Society at large is current.

SUPPORT MEMBERS: (Pending approval of the Society at large.) Any member of the community in good standing and not otherwise disqualified, can apply to be a COBB Chapter One Supporting member Bitch or Bastard by filing an application and submitting the required \$20.00 fee. Support members are required to purchase a small or full patch from the Chapter when they are available. Support members may attend and participate in Chapter events and general meetings as guests, however, will have no say or vote in any official business of Chapter One.

CHARTER MEMBERS: Anyone who joined Chapter One prior to September 1, 2006 shall be considered a Charter member and be listed on the Chapter Charter.

ALL new membership applications must be **sponsored by a regular member** reviewed by the Membership Committee and shall be voted on by those members present at the next meeting (following acceptance of the application).

Section III Finance

Chapter One membership status shall be defined as those **Brothers and Sisters** desiring affiliation and participation in Central Florida Chapter One of the COBB Society.

Dues shall be collected annually from each member in order to maintain general membership within the Main COBB Society at large.

Full member dues of \$30.00 will be collected annually. **(When the International Organization is finalized, 60% will be forwarded).**

Support member dues of \$20.00 will be collected annually. (When the International Organization is finalized, 60% will be forwarded).

Chapter One will be self-supported by fund raising activities as approved by the President and members.

THE FISCAL YEAR FOR THE CHAPTER WILL BE FROM JULY 1ST THROUGH JUNE 30TH with dues applying to the same period. Dues will be pro-rated at \$2.50 per month for regular members and \$1.68 per month for support members during the transition period. Dues will only be pro-rated with 6 months or less remaining in the fiscal year. For 2010 only the following provisions apply:

1. Members who have joined since January 2010 can have their dues extended to June 30, 2011 by paying the pro-rated amount.
2. Members who are currently arrear in dues who pay their dues in 2010 will be exempt from arrearage and their membership will be valid till June 30, 2011.

Section IV Officers

The Central Florida Chapter One of the C.O.B.B. Society, Inc. shall have a minimum of nine elected officers consisting of a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, and three (3) Trustees.

All Officers and Committee's must coordinate with the President pertaining to their duties. Any business conducted by the Chapter must be in accordance with The C.O.B.B. International Society's Constitution, By-Laws and Manual of Procedure and is answerable to the CEO or Director or his or her staff. The CEO/Director of the International Society is a non-elected Officer of the Chapter having authority to attend all meetings and business matters.

Duties

President shall be responsible for all activities within the society and shall notify members of all activities in order that the Society may function effectively. As the top official the President will be the sole spokesperson for the Society and shall be responsible for the continuous promotion of C.O.B.B. and its ideals outside of the society. The President shall govern this Chapter of the C.O.B.B. Society by its Constitution.

The President shall preside over all meetings. All meetings will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order

The President must be familiar with procedures and insure that all records and forms be submitted in a timely manner so as to safeguard our non-profit status.

The President shall have the authority to appoint non-elected officers and Committee's.

The President shall have the authority to appoint non-elected officers, Chairpersons and Committees. When necessary, the President shall appoint interim elected officers till election can be held in order to maintain the smooth operation of the Chapter.

The President shall have the authority to request an emergency meeting

The President shall announce and file all incoming and outgoing mail for the Chapter

The President has the final say to suspend membership based only on a Brothers or Sisters misrepresentation of the Chapter and the Society at large.

First Vice-President shall assist the President in his duties and shall serve as acting President in the event of his absence.

Second Vice-President-shall assist the President and First Vice President and shall serve as acting President in the absence of the President and the Vice President.

In the event of resignation or vacancy of the office of President or Vice President, succeeding officers will advance to the next higher office. In the event of a vacancy of Second Vice President a second may be appointed by the President until such time as an election can be held to fill the vacancy.

Treasurer-shall be responsible for all monies incoming and outgoing from the society along with a descriptive record of all transactions.

The Treasurer is responsible for timely filing of all reports necessary to maintain our status as a Non-profit Society.

Secretary- shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate account of all society meetings and shall submit written minutes of the meetings to the President and to society members at their request. The Secretary, as directed by the President, shall send correspondence to the membership and reply to inquiries to the Chapter. Unless otherwise directed, all correspondence of Chapter One must be approved by the President. **Any private or personal use of Chapter One information by any member is prohibited by law and this Constitution.** The Secretary must become familiar with the non-profit filing procedure and assist the Treasurer in their filing as needed. The secretary may delegate volunteers for assistance at functions and meetings and coordinate such activities with the President. **The secretary must be a regular member of the Chapter. The secretary does not have to own a motorcycle if their membership is related to a significant other who is a Chapter Member and owns one.**

Sergeant-At-Arms – is responsible for security at the meetings and at group functions. By direction, assign Point-Men, Road-Guards and couriers of funds to the Treasurer at functions. Point-Man is responsible for leading the group on runs, map out runs and coordinate with the Sergeant-At-Arms. Road-Guards will ensure the safety of all C.O.B.B. members while riding. Sergeant-At-Arms will be responsible for the security and safety of the Treasurer and all monies collected.

Trustees - Initial election of Trustees will be as follows:

One elected for a term of three years, one elected for two years and one elected for one year. An election will be held annually for one Trustee for a term of three (3) years. The duties of Trustees are to ensure the Chapter is run in accordance with the Constitution and By Laws of the Chapter and Society at Large. Quarterly they shall audit the Treasurer's books for accuracy

Elections

Election's shall be held on the second meeting of April every two years. The only exclusion will be for the Trustee positions. Subsequently one Trustee will be elected annually for a term of three (03) years. First nominations will be received at the first April meeting and final nominations and elections take place at the second meeting. The aforementioned offices shall be duly elected by a majority vote of all members present. Term of office will become effective on July 1st following election. Officers shall serve a two (02) year term (except Trustees-see above) commencing upon installation and ending upon installation of officers of subsequent elections.

A report of all elections must be forwarded to the Society at large within 10 days of election.

In the event that an Officer deems it necessary to resign, said Officer will do so formally by letter to the President. In the case of the resignation of the President, the President shall do so formally by a letter to the membership.

In the event of an Officers resignation or removal from office for cause, said Officer shall surrender all monies, property, receipts and/or records of the Society in their possession immediately.

Upon resignation of an Officer, the membership shall be notified in writing 15 days in advance of a special election to be held to fill such vacancy. The President shall have the authority to determine if an election is necessary.

Any officer unexcused from three consecutive official functions will have shown cause for removal. Failure to call or give advanced notice of absence, except in emergencies will be considered inexcusable.

Section V Issues

All decisions within the Society shall be voted on by all members present and shall be decided upon by a majority vote in order to carry the motion (Basic – Majority). In the event of a tie the President has the deciding vote. Should the general membership decide to amend this Constitution, all proposed amendments must be approved by the Society prior to voting. Chapter One members shall be notified 30 days in advance of such amendments **on the web-site**, by email, **newsletter** or mail if a member does not have an email address. A two-third (2/3) majority vote in favor of such change or amendment is required.

Section VI Meetings

Central Florida's Chapter One of the C.O.B.B. Society shall hold Bi-monthly meetings the Second (2nd) and Fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month at a designated location duly voted on by the members. Commencement time of meetings is set at 7:29 PM.

QUARUM There must be a minimum of **4 officers** present to hold an official meeting. **In the absence of a quorum a meeting can be held, but only business at hand shall be conducted and no new policies or expenditures approved except emergencies. Should an emergency expenditure arise, the President should be consulted and consent prior to a vote for approval.**

All meetings shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order and this Constitution.

Golden Rule

Respect is the name of the game. Give it and you will receive it. Remember, we are **NOT** a motorcycle club. We are a Society and better known as a Social Club. We do not subscribe to anything but our own stupidity. Individuals may have discretionary "associations" with other entities. These associations are however, strictly personal and have absolutely NOTHING to do with C.O.B.B. **Cobbers** are friends to all riders - no matter what their affiliation. We remain neutral and have no affiliations with any other organization. We are the riders that have overcome their fear; strong armed our egos, brushed ourselves off, and are still on the road. **AGE + EXPERIENCE + RIDING = C.O.B.B.** that's all there is to it and that's what we are all about! Please keep this in mind at all times. We've been around the block a few times, to say the least, which has given us the experience to show others that we have nothing to prove. We respect what everyone around us is doing. Riding is what has brought on all of this wonderful Cobbrodity.

Motto

Our mission is purely social: Our goals are selfless, simple and non-profit oriented to provide Cobbrodery, fun, and experience for all members of our Society. All rides, fund raising events, and activities are directed to this principle.

As a Society we may elect to participate in the support of motorcycle clubs and organizations in their charity events, but we refrain from hosting such activities ourselves except as outlined in Section I.

BY-LAWS

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW CHANGES – The Chapter One Constitution, By-Laws and Manual of Procedure can be made subject to the following:

1. No change can be effected that directly conflict with the Constitution, By-Laws and Manual of Procedure of the C.O.B.B. International Society.
2. Chapter members must be notified via mail, newsletter or Email 30 days in advance of the meeting which proposed changes are to be voted on.

3. A two third (2/3) majority of members present at the meeting is required for approval of any change.

MONIES AND BANKING Chapter One's finances are to be maintained through a local bank checking account. Any monies collected by the Chapter are to be deposited to the account within two banking days of receipt. All disbursement of funds, with the exception of pre-approved re-occurring expenses, must be approved by the membership. To ensure validity, two authorized signatures are required on all checks dispersing funds.

A minimum bond of \$25,000.00 (subject to change as the need arises) must be maintained by the Chapter.

Authorized signatures will be those of the **International Director**, President and the Treasurer. *****All authorized signee's must be covered by the Chapter Bonding Agency.

Manual of Procedure and Protocol

PATCH INFORMATION

1. Full Brothers and Sisters C.O.B.B. back patches can only be obtained by regular members in good standing and are to be worn centered on the back of one's vest. Patches will be numbered and must be returned to the Chapter if a member fails to complete five years of continuous membership.
2. Small C.O.B.B. patch placement should be over the heart (Left side of vest)
3. Name and title patches should also be placed on the left side of the vest.

OFFICIAL CHAPTER ONE RIDES:

1. An official ride Captain will be designated as appropriate and will lead the pack. (The Ride Captain may or may not be a Chapter member.)
2. Chapter members will line up according to rank and seniority unless choice is further back.
3. Members accompanied by a guest rider and other guest riders will ride in back of the group.
4. Members are requested to wear a COBB patch or shirt to all official functions or rides.

CHAPTER ONE BUSINESS

1. All official business except for Committees is restricted to Chapter meetings.
2. The chain of command must be followed at all times.
 - a. Representation of Chapter One and/or COBB should be cleared by the President as appropriate.
 - b. Endorsement of non -Society rides, clubs, or organizations are subject to approval of the Chapter.
3. A written record of all official Chapter business and transactions, including committee reports, must be maintained and surrendered to the Chapter Secretary and/or Treasurer. Reports should consist of the 5 W's & H in as much as possible. (Who, What, When, Where, Why and How)
4. Meetings will be conducted the Second (2nd) and Fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month commencing at 7:29 PM currently at the DAV on E. Keen St. in Kissimmee, FL. **Start times of all Chapter activities must be with the ending minute a nine (9). Ex: 11:59 AM.**
5. Interim officers will be appointed by the President **and/or Society at large**. Interim officers shall retain their office unless resigned, replaced, or terminated by proper authority. For continuity the first official election as outlined in this constitution will be held in April 2006.
6. Although attendance at Committee meetings is not mandatory, the **President's presence** at all Committee meetings **is authorized**.

7. A Post Office Box shall be maintained for Chapter One business and to provide continuity when the leadership changes. Two keys shall be maintained, one by the President and one Treasurer.
8. A Chapter telephone hotline shall be initiated and maintained by the President at his residence until such time as a permanent location can be determined.
9. A Chapter One newsletter shall be published monthly and distributed to the membership via email as well as published on the COBB web site if possible.
10. All complaints, incidents, and reports of misconduct must be submitted in writing or they will be treated as hearsay and dismissed. (See the 5 W's and H as a guide to writing these reports.)
11. The investigating Committee for infractions etc, (see #10. above) shall be **three or five officers (depending on the severity of the complaint.)** who in turn will present their findings and recommendations to the President for final disposition.

Guidelines and procedure for conduct and issues of discipline:

A difference of opinion doesn't necessarily mean one is wrong and respecting another's right to think and feel differently is the name of the game. There is, however, a time, place, and manner in which these differences should be aired.

It is our intention to promote good will and harmony among our ranks. Petty jealousy and trivialities should not influence our deliberations.

Misrepresentation of Chapter **One, the C.O.B.B. Society**, or behavior resulting in discredit for the common good of **Chapter One or the C.O.B.B. Society** **will not** be tolerated. Anyone found guilty of misconduct, by a Committee appointed to investigate such activities, can **and will** be fined and/or suspended from meetings and activities for a set period of time. Depending on the severity of the infraction the individual may be removed from the role of membership.

Ratified at the Chapter Meeting March 10, 2010