

LIARS CLUB

“SIGONELLA MOTORCYCLE CLUB”

CATANIA (SICILY), ITALY

The Sigonella Motorcycle Club is a “Motorcycle Enthusiast Group”, also known as the LIARS CLUB. The primary purpose of the Liars Club is to promote the fun and enjoyment of motorcycle riding as a way to obtain a feeling of freedom and kinship with all those who dare to ride.

The LIARS CLUB goal is to ride safely and use our visibility to foster good relationships between the NAS Sigonella and local Italian communities. The Liars Club will accomplish this goal by riding as an organized group to places around Sicily and the surrounding areas. In an effort to further enhance interaction with the local people, The Liars Club will provide support to a local orphanage and sponsor an annual “Blessing of the Bikes” and Bike Show. Proceeds generated from the annual Bike Show will be used to support the Sigonella Community Scholarship Council.

The following by-laws shall govern the organization, membership, probation, and prospecting new members, operation and insignia of the Liars Club, hereafter referred to as The Club or Club. Revisions to the by-laws may only be done by vote in accordance with Club voting policy (described herein) at a regular scheduled Club meeting. By-laws that conflict with local laws or military regulations are null and void.

1. MEETINGS:

a. **Ride meetings:** Ride meetings are social events just for the fun of riding. Scheduled ride meetings will be held the first weekend of each month. Ride meetings can be “called” at any time, by any member, prospect, or probate, in person, via email or telephone. Attendance to ride meeting is not mandatory but is strongly encouraged.

b. **Business Meetings:** Business meetings are essential to the success of the Club. These meetings are held to discuss day-to-day operation of the Club and for long term planning of rides, events and social gatherings. Business meetings shall be held the third weekend of each month at a place and time designated by the President or his/her representative. Attendance to business meetings is MOST strongly recommended. A “Full Patch Holder,” described below, who fails to attend three consecutive business meetings with out a valid reason (e.g. deployment, medical, vacation, work or family issues) *could* result in suspension of membership in the Club.

2. OFFICER DUTIES:

a. **President:**

Duties of the president shall include, but not be limited, to representation of the Club in all Club matters. Presiding over meetings and functions. Maintaining day-to-day club

operations, publishing rules of the road, and delegating tasks such as planning and mapping out rides.

b. Vice President:

Duties of the Vice President shall include, presiding over the Club in the absence of the President, and verifying the treasury on a monthly basis. In the event the President is unable to fulfill his term as President for any reason the Vice President shall assume the position of President until the next regularly scheduled elections. In the event the Vice President is Italian, an elder will be selected to fulfill the existing term as President.

c. Secretary/Treasurer:

Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer shall include, keeping minutes of the Club meeting, collecting dues and distributing funds, maintaining Club records and by-laws. The Secretary should be able to provide an up-to-date listing of members to include E-mail and work/home phone numbers to all Club members who request it. The Treasurer should provide for the translation of documents and information discussed at meetings. In addition, the Treasurer shall maintain a sum of two hundred Euro cash on hand for miscellaneous expenses during meetings, rides, and Club functions.

d. Sergeants-at-Arms:

Duties of the Sergeants-at-Arms shall maintain order on rides, at club events and meetings. They shall enforce Club rules and insure safety of riders and motorcycles. They will assist other officers in their duties, assume or assign Road Guard responsibilities and one shall ride in the back of the pack during all club rides. The club shall have four Sergeants-at-Arms, two Americans and two Italians. Sergeants-at-Arms shall not sponsor prospects.

3. Membership:

a. The “Elder Counsel”:

The “Elder Counsel” will be made up of the three members with the longest tenure, not holding the positions of President, Vice President or Secretary/Treasurer. This counsel shall give guidance, and provide a “check and balance” for decisions made by the officers, to resolve disputes.

b. Full Patch Holders:

Full Patch Holders are those people who own the Club. Full Patch Holders or members must pay dues, regularly attend meetings, and support or participate in Club functions. Full Patch Holders will be considered “members in good standing.”

c. PROSPECTS:

Consideration for Prospect begins with a minimum of a three-month probationary period. During this period the candidate must show a willingness to participate in and help with Club functions, meetings and any area assistance is needed. The candidate must strive to learn the names and get to know all members of the Club. A Prospect MUST show compatibility with other Club members. This is the sole responsibility of the Prospect candidate.

1. **Probation Period:** After the minimum probation period the Club will hold a vote IAW Club voting policy. If the vote is in the favor of the candidate then a “prospect patch “ will be presented to him/her. Once issued the “Prospect Patch” the prospect process will begin. Should the vote not be in favor of the candidate, probation will be continued on a month-by-month basis.

2. **Prospect Period:** The prospect process shall begin with asking a full member to sponsor that person. Prospects must pay dues, attend meetings, and show support and respect for the other members of the Club. All prospects will work together to organize Club rides and functions. The sponsor will ensure that the new Prospect has a copy of the Club by-laws and rules of the road and thoroughly understands the contents there in.

3. **Membership Period:** When Club officials feel the Prospect has earned the right to be a “Full Patch Holding” Club member, a vote will be held in accordance with Club voting policy. If the vote is in favor of the Prospect, the prospect patch will be surrendered to the Club and a membership patch will be presented. If the vote is not in favor of the Prospect then the Prospect period will continue at the discretion of the Club Officers.

d. **AUXILARY MEMBERS:**

Spouses, non-riders, or people who belong to another club or those who do not want to become full “Patch holding” members but wish to enjoy the camaraderie of the club shall be handled on a case by case basis by the Officers and will be voted on in accordance with Club voting policy. If a vote is reached in favor of someone desiring to be an Auxiliary Member then a \$ 50.00 one-time fee will be assessed and an Auxiliary patch will be presented to that person.

4. CLUB VOTING POLICY:

Only Full Patch Holding members in good standing may vote on matters concerning, and presented to the Club for a vote. No proxy voting allowed, members must be present to cast a vote. “Prospect Patch Holders” are not eligible to vote. In order to hold a vote, 50% of the “Patch Holding Club Members” in good standing and two thirds of the officers to include the President or Vice President must be present. On *proposals* requiring club members to vote

(expenditures of funds greater than \$1000 USD, suspension/revocation of membership, etc.)
Issues must be presented as follows:

1. A *proposal*, made by a member in good standing.
2. “Seconded” by a member in good standing.
3. A simple majority of Club officers must be present at the meeting.
4. Majority rules of members in attendance apply to the passing of any proposal.

5. DUES AND DISPOSITION OF CLUB MONEY:

Dues will be \$ 10.00/10 Euro per month or \$100/100 Euro per year if paid one year in advance. Dues will be collected at the first weekend ride meeting or the business meeting for the month. The dues will be used to purchase patches, plaques and to support club functions.

All money collected at meetings, events and money raised by the Club belong to the Club and shall be deposited in the Club bank account after each meeting at the first convenience of the Sec/Treasurer

All money shall be distributed at the Officers’ discretion. Amounts to be distributed over \$1000.00 shall be voted on by the Club IAW Club voting policy.

6. COLORS

The Club patch, Prospect patch and the Auxiliary patch shall be worn centered on the back of a vest (leather or denim, MC style). NO other organizational patch shall be affixed above the Club patch. All patches belong to the Club and will not be defaced or given away. Retention of the patch by departing members is at the discretion of the Full Patch Holding members”.

The Club Patch shall be worn to all meetings and Club functions.

6. FINES:

Fines shall be assessed and collected by Sergeant-at-Arms for attending Club meetings, rides, and events without properly wearing the Club colors. Fines are \$10/10 Euro for Full Patch Holders, Prospects and Auxiliary Members. Fines of \$15/15 Euro shall be assessed for Club Officers.

7. ELECTIONS:

Elections shall be held the third weekend of October every year. Only full members in good standing may attend the elections. Voting at the election will be held in accordance with Club voting policy. The position of President and Secretary/Treasurer will be limited to Americans due to the affiliation with NASSIG command structure and the Navy Federal Credit

Union. An Italian may hold the position of Vice President. Two Sergeants-at-arms shall be Italian and two shall be American.

8. SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

Suspension of membership can happen at anytime and may only be executed by vote in accordance with Club voting policy. Reasons for suspension include but are not limited to:

1. Alcohol related incident while on your motorcycle.
2. More than three months delinquent on dues (unless on leave, detachment or deployment)
3. Repeated violation of the rules of the road.
4. Habitual lack of support or attendance.

After a member has been suspended, the Club officers may only reinstate that member after a three-month probation period. If the reason for suspension is not corrected, a motion for revocation of membership will be made at the next Club meeting.

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall monitor the probation period, reporting the outcome to the president. Probation will last for three months. If no improvement is made in this time frame, a special meeting of Officers and the individual will take place, determining if the individual relinquishes his or her Club Patch.

Remember that when you are on your motorcycle or at a Club event or just wearing your Club patch, you represent everybody in the LIARS CLUB so use common sense and good judgment. Have fun and ride safe!