



**CORPS OF MARYLANDERS MAKING A NOTICEABLE
DIFFERENCE**

MOTORCYCLE CLUB

(COMMAND MC)

BY-LAWS

Revised: October 1, 2024



Revision History

Revision #	Date Approved	Summary
–	09/27/1988	Original founding By-Laws
1	03/05/2007	Minor updates; increased AMCC reimbursement.
2	06/01/2010	Incorporated two-year term for Treasurer.
3	04/11/2016	<p>Major revisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More clearly defined membership types and their various attributes, qualifications and responsibilities. • Provides a dues discount for full time students and members under the age of 30. • Adjusts the number of voting members required at a meeting to make a quorum. • Adjusts the majority required to conduct more critical business such as removal of a member or officer. • Adds a recruitment officer. • Adjusts proxy voting rules. • Changes the Green/Baker Fund language to align with the changes adopted by the club last year.
4	06/04/2018	Name of the Club changed to Corps of Marylanders Making a Noticeable Difference.
5	05/06/2019	<p>Changes Made to Officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added two officers – Brand/Legacy Coordinator and Road Captain to the Executive Board. • Updated the officer duties to reflect the current duties of the club officers.
6	04/03/2023	Updated all instances of MML to MLW and updated chair to Vice President. Updated for allowance of verbal update of balance by Treasurer. Updated Master-at-arms to Membership coordinator.
7	10/02/2023	Updated pledging to a bi-annual structure, and created the membership committee to vote on pledges, assign big siblings, and provide pledge education.
8	3/04/2024	Updated membership dues to pay what you are able, with



COMMAND MC By-Laws, May 6, 2019

		a recommended amount of \$69 a year.
9	05/06/2024	Update to Green Baker fund to cap at 1,000, and how to replenish.



Table of Contents

Article I: Name	6
Article II: History	6
Article III: Purpose	6
Article IV: Membership	6
<i>Section 1: Membership Qualifications, Maximum Number, Classes, and Standing</i>	6
<i>Section 2: Voting Members</i>	6
<i>Section 3: Charter Status</i>	7
<i>Section 4: Active Status</i>	7
<i>Section 5: Inactive Status</i>	8
<i>Section 6: Alumni Status</i>	9
<i>Section 7: Associate Status</i>	10
<i>Section 8: Pledge Status</i>	11
<i>Section 9: Honorary Status</i>	12
<i>Section 10: Lifetime Status</i>	13
<i>Section 11: Resignation</i>	14
<i>Section 12: Removal of Members</i>	14
Article V: COMMAND MC Patch	14
Article VI: Officers	15
<i>Section 1: Club Officers</i>	15
<i>Section 2: Officer Duties</i>	15
<i>Section 3: Election of Officers</i>	17
<i>Section 4: Ballots</i>	18
<i>Section 5: Nominations</i>	18
<i>Section 6: Removal of Officers</i>	18
<i>Section 7: Term of Office</i>	18
<i>Section 8: Vacancies</i>	18
Article VII: Meetings	18
<i>Section 1: Meetings</i>	18



COMMAND MC By-Laws, May 6, 2019

Section 2: Special Meetings	19
Section 3: Roberts Rules of Order	19
Section 4: Voting	19
Section 5: Section 6: Proxy Votes	20
Section 6: Attendance	20
Article VIII: Committees	20
Section 1: Executive Committee	20
Section 2: Maryland Leather Weekend	20
Section 3: Additional Ad-Hoc Committees	21
Section 4: Rules and Procedures	21
Article IX: Finance	21
Section 1: Expenditures	21
Section 2: Funds	22
Section 3: Additional Fees	22
Section 4: Jim Green/Donald Baker Memorial Fund	22
Article X: By-Law Amendments	22
Article XI: By-Law Suspension	23



Article I: Name

1. The name of this organization will be Corps of Marylanders Making A Noticeable Difference Motorcycle Club, also known as COMMAND MC.
2. Corps of Marylanders Making A Noticeable Difference Motorcycle Club will be abbreviated as “COMMAND MC”, with no punctuation separating the capitalized letters.
3. “COMMAND MC” may also be referred to as the “Club”, with the first letter capitalized.

Article II: History

COMMAND MC was formed on September 27, 1988, by twenty-one Baltimore men who pledged to make a noticeable difference within the Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) community. The Club takes pride in leather and providing support and financial assistance for its community.

Article III: Purpose

The purpose of COMMAND MC is to promote pride in the Leather Community, personally and publicly, to bring about an image of respect, responsibility and fellowship toward the leather community, and to support our community financially and actively whenever possible. COMMAND MC primarily serves the LGBTQ+ community of the Maryland area.

Article IV: Membership

Section 1: Membership Qualifications, Maximum Number, Classes, and Standing

1. Membership will be open to applicants who agree with the purpose of COMMAND MC (see Article III).
2. The total number of Active Members and Pledges will be limited to a maximum of fifty (50) people. The Membership Committee will maintain a waiting list if membership exceeds fifty (50).
3. All Members and Pledges must be at least twenty-one (21) years old.
4. Membership statuses include: Charter, Active, Alumni, Associate, Pledge, Honorary and Lifetime.
5. A member shall be considered to be “in good standing” when their dues are paid up to date or no more than 90 days in arrears.

Section 2: Voting Members

1. Active Status and Lifetime Status Members who are in good standing (Article IV, Section 1, paragraph 5) of this Article shall have the right to vote on Club business.
2. When a majority of all Voting Members is required by these By-Laws, only those Voting Members who live within a 50 mile radius of Baltimore will be counted for the purposes of determining the number of votes required to reach a majority or quorum.



Section 3: Charter Status

1. A Charter Member is any individual who was an Active Member on September 27, 1988.
2. A Charter Member may, in accordance with these bylaws, also hold the status of Active, Inactive, Alumni, Associate, Honorary or Lifetime.
3. The following will apply to a Charter Member who does not also hold another Status:
 - A. Dues: There are no dues.
 - B. Term: For life.
 - C. Colors
 - 1) Shall have the right to wear the authorized insignia of the Club under the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws.
 - 2) Shall not wear the back patch of another club.
 - D. Responsibilities: None
 - E. Meetings and Voting Rights
 - 1) May Attend Open Session meetings.
 - 2) May attend Closed Session meetings at the discretion of the President.
 - 3) May NOT vote at Closed Session meetings.
 - F. A Charter Member may elect to return to Active Member status at any time, without any requirement for a vote. A Charter Member desiring to return to Active Member status may do so by notifying an officer of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: Active Status

1. An Active Member (sometimes referred to as "Full Member") is any individual who has been accepted into the Club under the provision of these By-Laws and who is in good standing.
2. Dues: COMMAND MC has a recommended dues structure that allows people to pay what they are able and participate fully the club regardless of what that amount is. The recommended amount for all members is \$69 dollars annually. Those who are able are encouraged to pay over the recommended amount. Students and members under the age of thirty are encouraged not to exceed the \$69 dollar amount. A failure to pay dues, as a result of financial hardship, will not impact a club members status as "in good standing."
3. Term: There is no limit to the term of an Active Member so long as they remain in good standing.
4. Colors



- A. Active Members shall have the right to wear the authorized insignia of the Club under the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws.
 - B. Active Members shall wear the Back Patch and/or the Associate Patch.
 - C. Active Members shall not wear the back patch of another club.
5. Responsibilities
- A. Maintain current dues.
 - B. Attend monthly meetings or advise an elected Officer of an absence or lateness.
 - C. Attend Club functions, including but not limited to meetings, bar nights, social events, anniversaries, and the Maryland Leather Weekend contest/run.
 - D. Failure to attend a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of Club functions and meetings, whether in person or electronically (per Article VII) of these By-Laws, in a period of one year may be considered grounds for removal. Proxy votes do not constitute attendance at meetings for the purposes of meeting the annual minimum number of meetings/functions, above.
6. Meetings and Voting Rights
- A. May attend both open and closed sessions of any Club meetings.
 - B. May vote at meetings under the provisions of Article VII, Section 5.

Section 5: Inactive Status

- 1. An Active Member, because of personal or other reasons, cannot maintain Active status, may request Inactive status.
 - A. Such status will be granted for one (1) year upon a majority vote by the Executive Committee.
 - B. Inactive Status may be granted to any Member who relocates outside of a 50 miles radius around Baltimore, if the request is in writing (or e-mail) and if the request is approved by a majority of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Dues: An Inactive Member pays no dues.
- 3. Term
 - A. Such status will be for a period of one (1) year after which time the Member must notify the Executive Committee of their intentions to return as an Active Member, withdraw from the Club or become an Associate Member.
 - B. An Inactive Member may return to Active Status even if additional membership is closed by Article IV, Section 3.
- 4. Colors



- A. An inactive member may continue to wear the authorized insignia of the Club under the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws.
 - B. May wear the Back Patch and/or the Associate Patch.
 - C. May not wear the back patch of another club.
5. Responsibilities
- A. An Inactive Member has no responsibilities.
6. Meetings and Voting Rights
- A. May attend only open sessions of any Club meetings.
 - B. May NOT vote at meetings under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 5.

Section 6: Alumni Status

1. A Member must have been an Active Member for five (5) years to be eligible for Alumni status.
 - A. To acquire Alumni status, a Member must notify the Club in writing that they are changing to Alumni status.
 - B. No vote or approval is required for an Active Member to change their status to Alumni.
2. Dues: \$20 per year
3. Term: There is no limit to the term of an Alumni Member so long as they remain in good standing. An Alumni Member may elect to return to Active Member status at any time, without any requirement for a vote. An Alumni Member desiring to return to Active Member status may do so by notifying an officer of the Executive Committee.
4. Colors
 - A. An Alumni Member may continue to wear the authorized insignia of the Club under the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws.
 - B. May wear the Back Patch and/or the Associate Patch.
 - C. May NOT wear the back patch of another club.
5. Responsibilities
 - A. Maintain current dues.
 - B. Attend Club functions, including but not limited to meetings, bar nights, social events, anniversaries, and Maryland Leather Weekend.
6. Meetings and Voting Rights
 - A. An Alumni Member may attend both open and closed sessions of Club meetings.



- B. An Alumni Member may voice their opinions at Club meetings and may serve on committees.
- C. An Alumni Member may NOT vote at meetings under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 5.

Section 7: Associate Status

1. An Associate is any individual who has a desire to associate with the Club but does not desire to be an Active Member.
 - A. A person desiring to become an Associate Member will complete the application for membership and pay the one time dues of \$40 or application fee.
 - B. A person applying to become an Associate Member must be sponsored by an Active Member in good standing.
 - C. Applications for Associate membership will be received by the Executive Committee or Membership Coordinator before presentation to the Club.
 - D. An individual applying for Associate status who lives within a fifty (50) mile radius of Baltimore must be interviewed by the Membership.
 - E. Associate status will be approved by three-quarters (3/4) majority vote of the Active Members attending a regularly scheduled or special meeting at which quorum has been achieved.
2. Term: There is no limit to the term of an Active Member so long as they remain in good standing.
3. Colors
 - A. An Associate may wear the back patch of another club.
 - B. An Associate may NOT wear the back patch of COMMAND MC.
 - C. An Associate may wear the Associate patch of COMMAND MC.
4. Responsibilities
 - A. Maintain current dues.
 - B. Attend Club functions, including but not limited to meetings, bar nights, social events, anniversaries, and Maryland Leather Weekend.
5. Meetings and Voting Rights
 - A. An Associate may attend ONLY open meetings of the Club.
 - B. An Associate may voice their opinion at open meetings and may serve on committees.
 - C. An Associate may NOT vote at meetings under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 5.



6. An Associate Member who wishes to become an Active Member may be accepted as a Full Pledge by a majority of the members eligible to vote in attendance at any meeting in which quorum has been established without the three (3) month initial probationary pledge period, provided that they have actively participated as an Associate Member for a minimum of six (6) months.

Section 8: Pledge Status

1. A Pledge is an individual who desires to become an Active Member of COMMAND MC.
 - A. Qualifications for Membership Application
 - i. The individual must submit a membership application with a \$25 non-refundable application fee prior to meeting.
 - ii. The applicant must have previously participated in a minimum of two COMMAND MC events.
 - iii. The applicant must have obtained a Sponsor willing to speak on behalf of your membership .
 1. Your Sponsor will be asked to provide information in writing about your participation in the leather community, what characteristics you possess that would make you a successful member of the COMMAND MC community.
 - B. Application Process
 - i. Membership applications are due one week prior to the application evaluation meeting.
 - ii. Applicants whose applications are approved are invited to the application evaluation meeting for an interview. Standing application committee will interview candidates. See new standing committee information.
 - iii. Applicants will be informed whether they have been accepted as a member of the next Pledge class one week after interview.
 - iv. Accepted applicants must confirm their place in the next Pledge class to the Membership Coordinator.
 - v. Pledge will be given a COMMAND MC Pledge pin, to be worn during the duration of their Pledge period to any COMMAND MC event.
 - C. Pledge Process
 - i. Pledges will be announced at the next open meeting following their interview process
 - ii. Pledge Semester 1 : This is an initial period where Pledges are evaluated for their fit with the club. Pledges:
 1. Are required to be present and involved in most club activities



2. May attend open meeting and voice opinions as a non-voting member
 3. May join some committees such as “Maryland Leather Weekend Committee”
 4. May be involved in the planning of bar nights
 5. Are required to provide acts of service and volunteering at bar nights and club events
 6. Are required to attend a minimum of 1 Pledge only education session
 7. After the first month Pledges will be assigned a Big Sibling by the Membership Coordinator who is responsible for helping orient the Pledge into the club and ensuring they understand the Pledge process
- iii. Pledge Semester 2: After a period of three months, first semester Pledges will be brought up for a vote to move into a second semester. The vote will take place during closed meeting. Pledges who are approved will be expected to:
1. Be present and involved in most club activities see list in C.ii
 2. Attend closed meeting and voice opinions as a non-voting member
 3. Complete Pledge project
- iv. Voting and Approval: At the end of the Pledge Semester 2, the Pledge will be presented to the Club for a majority vote of Voting Members in attendance at a regular or special meeting at which quorum has been achieved, in order to be accepted as an Active Member.
1. The new Member will then be presented with the Club back patch.
2. Any individual accepted as a Pledge will be eligible for Active Status even if the number of Active Members exceeds fifty (50) at the end of the Pledge period.
 3. Dues: There will be no dues during the six (6) month Pledge period.

Section 9: Honorary Status

1. An Honorary Member is someone who the Club cares to honor for their service, support and participation with the Club or the community and has been approved by a majority of the members eligible to vote in attendance (in person, electronically, or via proxy) at any meeting in which quorum has been established.
2. Dues: There are no dues for an honorary member.
3. Term: The Honor is for life.



4. Colors: The Honorary Member is presented with a back Patch and an Associate Patch and may choose to wear either/or.
5. Responsibilities: An Honorary Member has no responsibilities.
6. Meetings and Voting Rights
 - A. May Attend Open Session meetings.
 - B. May attend Closed Session meetings at the discretion of the President.
 - C. May NOT vote at Closed Session meetings.

Section 10: Lifetime Status

1. After ten (10) cumulative years of active membership in COMMAND MC and service to the Club, a Full/Active Member in good standing may be voted into Life Membership by a majority of the members eligible to vote in attendance (in person, electronically, or via proxy) at any meeting in which quorum has been established.
2. Life Membership is not automatically granted after ten (10) years. Life Membership is an honor that is earned by significant dedication and service to the organization and our community.
3. Popularity should not be a consideration. Eligibility should be based solely on the merits of one's service. Examples of ways in which a member might qualify for Life Membership, may include, but are not limited to: multiple years serving as an officer of the Club (Executive Committee); regular attendance at and participation in Club events such as runs and bar nights; serving as a BHT or AMCC representative; significant service to the MLW planning committee.
4. Inactive or Alumni Members that have met the ten (10) year requirement, upon re-activating their membership, may be eligible to be nominated for Life Membership.
5. Determination of qualification for Life Membership rests solely with the active members at the time of nomination and voting.
 - A. Dues: A Lifetime member pays no dues
 - B. Term: Lifetime
 - C. Colors:
 - 1) Shall have the right to wear the authorized insignia of the Club under the provisions of Article V of these By-Laws.
 - 2) May wear the Back Patch and/or the Associate Patch.
 - 3) May NOT wear the back patch of another club.
 - D. Responsibilities (Except for lifetime members who live outside a fifty (50) mile radius around Baltimore)
 - 1) Attend monthly meetings or advise an elected Officer of an absence or lateness.



- 2) Attend Club functions, including but not limited to meetings, bar nights, social events, anniversaries, and Mr. Maryland Leather.

E. Meetings and Voting Rights

- 1) May attend both open and closed sessions of any Club meetings.
- 2) May vote at meetings under the provisions of Article VIII, Section 5.

Section 11: Resignation

1. An Active Member who resigns from the Club loses all privileges of membership, may not wear Club Colors, and must immediately return all Club property including the back patch and other patches in their possession.
2. These items must be returned to the Club's Membership Coordinator.

Section 12: Removal of Members

1. A Member (of any status level) may be removed for any reason deemed in conflict with the obligations of siblinghood or the ideals of the club.
2. The Executive Committee will annually review the participation level and payment of dues of all Members and make recommendations to the Club regarding any Members who should be considered for removal.
3. The Executive Committee must notify the membership in writing (or via e-mail) of any vote to remove a Member thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled vote.

Article V: COMMAND MC Patch

1. The COMMAND MC Patch is the authorized insignia of the Club.
2. The patch will be a rectangle cut on the four corners outlined in black. The background color is white with an overlay of the City of Baltimore in red, located in the center of the patch. A silhouette of a leather man is set across the City of Baltimore with his left leg placed on top of an inverted triangle, presenting the letters MC embroidered in white (yellow "MC" for some Charter/founding members). To the right of the patch, from the top to the bottom, are the letters "COMMAND MC" followed by "For Leather Baltimore, MD".





3. The patch design will be used on all Club media, including electronic (Web sites, e-mail, etc.) and printed material.
4. A smaller patch of the same design will be used by Active and Associate Members, Pledges, and Alumni.
5. The COMMAND MC Patch and Full Pledge/Associate Patch will remain the property of COMMAND MC and are on loan to Active Members, Associates, and Pledges. An Active Member, Associate, or Pledge, who voluntarily or under the provisions of these By-Laws, ceases to be an Active/Associate, or a Full Pledge, must return their COMMAND MC Patch to the Membership Coordinator. Active Members who become Associates must exchange their COMMAND MC Patch for an Associate Patch.

Article VI: Officers

Section 1: Club Officers

1. The Club Officers will be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Coordinator, Road Captain, and Brand & Legacy Coordinator.
2. The Club Officers may also be referred to as the Executive Committee.
3. It will be the duty of all Officers of the Club to attend each meeting of the Club and of the Executive Committee. If an Officer is unable to attend a meeting, they will notify another Officer and make arrangements to have all necessary books, reports, paper, and other materials under their control delivered to the meeting when needed.

Section 2: Officer Duties

1. The President shall:
 - A. preside at regular Club and Executive Committee meetings.
 - B. cause to be called all regular and special meetings of the Club in accordance with these By-Laws.
 - C. counter-sign with the Treasurer all contracts and agreements of the club.
 - D. provide the Secretary with a copy of all their correspondence.
 - E. be responsible for assuring that Club information is completed and distributed on time each month.
 - F. represent the Club when attending official functions of other clubs, or designate an alternate representative.
 - G. be responsible for monitoring and coordinating the activities of the Club's committees.
 - H. serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.
2. The Vice President shall:



- A. assume the duties of the President when the President is absent or unable to perform their duties.
 - B. assume the Office of the President if that office becomes vacant prior to elections.
 - C. work closely with the President in order to be able to represent the President whenever necessary.
 - D. with the President and/or Treasurer, co-sign all checks of the club.
 - E. chair or Co-chair the Maryland Leather Weekend Committee.
3. The Treasurer shall:
- A. receive all funds of the club and disburse the funds with the approval of the Club or the Executive Committee in accordance with these By-Laws.
 - B. with the President and/or Vice President, co-sign all checks of the club.
 - C. Provide a verbal update of the club's finances at each meeting. Written breakdowns of financial ledger can be provided to members upon request.
 - D. exhibit their books and accounts to the Executive Committee at monthly meetings.
 - E. perform all duties pertaining to the Office of the Treasurer.
 - F. deposit all Club funds into Club checking or savings accounts within five (5) business days of their receipt of said funds.
 - G. transfer funds, as required by the By-Laws, to the Jim Green/Donald Baker Memorial Fund as required by these By-Laws.
 - H. maintain an inventory of all club property (defined as items purchased by the club, presented to the club, or donated to the club).
 - I. counter sign with the President all contracts and agreements of the club.
4. The Secretary shall
- A. Take attendance at all monthly meetings and maintain an attendance report.
 - B. Maintain copies of all communications to and from the club. They shall have custody of all correspondence and records of the club and transmit the same to their successor.
 - C. Prepare minutes of regular and special meetings and distribute said minutes no later than the next meeting. It shall be deemed sufficient cause for removal from office if this requirement is not followed.
 - D. Maintain written records of the Executive Committee meeting. They shall attend to all correspondence of the club and perform all other duties pertaining to the office of the Secretary



5. The Membership Coordinator shall:
 - A. maintain order at all meetings.
 - B. apply Roberts Rules of Order when necessary.
 - C. assist with elections as required by these By-Laws.
 - D. chair monthly meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President.
6. The Road Captain shall:
 - A. create and promote internal and external/public events.
 - B. maintain a calendar of events as they relate to the Leather Community & COMMAND.
 - C. encourage and assist membership in attending leather events.
 - D. assist membership in coordinating travel arrangements as necessary.
7. The Brand & Legacy Coordinator shall:
 - A. manage COMMAND's social media presence, actively posting activity.
 - B. assist in the dissemination of events, information, news, to current and created email lists.
 - C. collect historical information as it relates to COMMAND & Maryland Leather community.
 - D. advise on digitizing and maintaining information as appropriate.
8. It shall be the duty of all officers of the club to attend each meeting of the club, including of Maryland Leather Weekend Committee and of the Executive Committee. If an officer is unable to attend a meeting, they shall notify another officer and make arrangements to have all necessary books, reports, paper, and other materials under their control delivered to the meeting when needed.

Section 3: Election of Officers

1. Officers will be elected at the Club's November meeting (providing there is a quorum) by a majority of Voting Members present. The election will be by secret written ballot by Voting Members.
2. In the event there is not a quorum at the November meeting, the election will be held at the next meeting for which there is a quorum.
3. A Member unable to attend the meeting may vote by proxy per Article VII.
4. If more than two (2) persons are nominated for the same position and no one (1) person receives a majority, there will be a runoff between the two (2) individuals receiving the highest number of votes.



Section 4: Ballots

1. The Membership Coordinator will prepare written ballots prior to the election meeting with the names of the individuals nominated for each office.
2. The Membership Coordinator will distribute the ballots at the meeting.
3. The Membership Coordinator and two (2) other members not running for office will collect and count the ballots. The President will announce results.
4. The Secretary will record the results.

Section 5: Nominations

1. Any Voting Member of the Club may nominate themselves or any other Voting Members for elected office.
2. Nominated Members may accept or decline a nomination.
3. Nominations for elected positions will be closed at the end of business at the October meeting.

Section 6: Removal of Officers

1. A Club Officer may be removed from office with or without cause at any time by a simple majority of Voting Members.
2. Proxy votes may be accepted in accordance with Article VII.
3. The Executive Committee must notify the membership in writing (or via e-mail) of this vote thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled vote.

Section 7: Term of Office

1. The term of office of each Club Officer except the Treasurer will be one (1) year, and thereafter until their successor has been elected. The term of office for the Treasurer will be two (2) years, and thereafter until their successor has been elected.

Section 8: Vacancies

1. Vacancies of elected officers, excluding the office of the President, will be filled for the un-expired portion of the term by a majority vote at the next Club meeting following nominations from the floor.
2. Absentee ballots will be accepted. If the Office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President will assume the office of President, and a new Vice President will be elected according to the terms of this section.

Article VII: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings

1. Regular monthly meetings of the Club will be held at such time and place as the Club will designate.



2. Except as otherwise specified in these By-Laws or provided by statute, the acts of a majority of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the acts of the Club. No individual member of the Club shall have any power to act on behalf of the Club unless otherwise specified in these By-Laws or specifically authorized by a vote of the Club.
3. A quorum shall be attained by whichever is the higher requirement:
 - A. Three (3) out of five (5) Executive Committee Members AND four (4) Voting Members who are not members of the Executive Committee.
 - B. Thirty-three percent (33%) majority of Voting Members (Active and Life) who reside within a 50 mile radius of Baltimore.
 - C. Proxies, properly submitted per Section 6 of this Article, shall be counted toward obtaining a quorum.
4. There are two types of meetings:
 - A. Open Meetings: These meetings are open to the general public. Sensitive material (including but not limited to membership status, finances, etc.) are not to be discussed. Except at the discretion of the President, matters of Club business requiring a vote are generally not decided during Open Meetings. The Secretary will record meeting minutes and distribute the minutes to the general membership.
 - B. Closed Meetings: These meetings may only be attended by Voting Members. Honorary Members will be allowed to attend at the discretion of the President, but they will not be allowed to vote. Sensitive material (including but not limited to membership status, finances, etc.) may be discussed with the doors closed. The Secretary will record meeting minutes and distribute the minutes to Voting Members only.

Section 2: Special Meetings

1. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or by a simple majority of the Voting Members.
2. The President and Secretary will make a diligent effort to notify all members of a special meeting. E-mail will be considered an acceptable form of notification for all regular and special meetings.

Section 3: Roberts Rules of Order

1. Club Meetings will be conducted in an orderly but informal manner.
2. Common sense rules of good sportsmanship and good fellowship will prevail.
3. However, in the event of controversy, Roberts Rules of Order will govern.

Section 4: Voting

1. Each Voting Member has one (1) vote.



Section 5: Section 6: Proxy Votes

1. Proxies may only be submitted by Voting Members in good standing.
2. Proxies must be submitted in writing (or via e-mail) to a member of the Executive Committee prior to the start of a meeting and must name the Member to whom the absent Member is assigning their proxy.
3. All proxies must be announced at the beginning of each open and closed meeting.
4. All proxies are to be recorded by the Secretary in the open and closed meeting minutes.
5. In the case of any vote requiring a majority vote of those Voting Members present at a meeting where a quorum has been established, the proxy vote may be voted as determined by the Member to whom the proxy has been assigned.
6. In the case of any vote requiring a majority of all Voting Members or officer elections, the Member giving proxy must specifically state, in writing, when giving the proxy how they want their vote cast in the case of each vote.

Section 6: Attendance

1. Members are permitted to attend meetings electronically via telephone or video conference when such opportunities are readily available.
2. Members attending meetings electronically may exercise any voting rights during the course of the meeting.

Article VIII: Committees

Section 1: Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee will consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership Coordinator.
2. The Executive Committee is empowered to act for the Club between regular Club meetings, excepting such powers as may by law or these By-Laws be required to be exercised by Club Membership, and further excepting such powers as the Club membership may expressly reserve for itself. Any action of the Executive Committee shall be reported to the Club at the next regular Club meeting.

Section 2: Membership Application Committee

1. Standing committee that will meet twice a year to evaluate incoming Pledge class during application evaluation meetings. The timing of the meetings and pledge classes will be determined at the discretion of the membership committee.
2. Committee Composition
 - A. The Membership Coordinator will serve as the committee chair
 - B. At least two of the following e-board members: Membership Coordinator, Road Captain, and/or President.



- C. At least two club members in good standing appointed by the Executive Board.
 - D. The Membership Coordinator will ask for volunteers and appoint members in good standing to join the committee
 - E. The application evaluation meeting is open to all Active Members of the club all Active Members of the club who attend will be able to participate in the interview process.
3. Committee Proceedings
- A. One week prior to the application evaluation meeting the Membership Coordinator will send out the names of applications that will be discussed to all Active Members
 - B. Prior to interview, Membership Coordinator will speak with applicant Sponsor and will encourage Sponsor to attend committee meeting
 - C. Interviews will be conducted individually and candidates will be assessed based on their potential fit with COMMAND MC
 - D. After all interviews are conducted, committee members and present Active Members will discuss and make recommendations to adopt applicants as new COMMAND MC members

Section 3: Maryland Leather Weekend

- 1. The President shall form an MLW committee each year to plan the annual MLW activities.
- 2. The MLW Committee will submit an event budget to the Club for approval.
- 3. Once approved, the committee is not required to submit individual expenses for approval unless any individual expense line item in the approved budget exceeds the budgeted amount by more than five percent (5%).

Section 4: Additional Ad-Hoc Committees

- 1. The President and Executive Committee may authorize additional ad-hoc committees as needed.

Section 5: Rules and Procedures

- 1. Club and committee business will take place according to the By-Laws.

Article IX: Finance

Section 1: Expenditures

- 1. A majority of the Executive Committee may authorize expenditures of up to \$150.00. A unanimous vote of the Executive Committee may authorize expenditures up to \$250.00.



2. All expenditures greater than \$250.00 require approval of the Club at regular or special meetings.

Section 2: Funds

1. The Treasurer will deposit all funds received by the Club into the Club's banking account within five (5) business days.
2. The President and Treasurer will have access to online banking.

Section 3: Additional Fees

1. The Treasurer may reimburse the AMCC and/or BHT representative or designated alternate for the cost of attending an out-of-town event where their attendance is required.
 - A. This fee is to cover travel, lodging, or run fees, and may not exceed \$200.00 per event, unless approved by a majority vote at a regular or special meeting of the Club.

Section 4: Jim Green/Donald Baker Memorial Fund

1. The Jim Green/Donald Baker Memorial Fund (Fund) shall be maintained to provide assistance to members of the Club and the larger LGBTQ+ Community.
2. The Fund will be capped at \$1000.00 except when funds have been donated specifically for the Fund. Any donations made specifically for the Fund will temporarily raise the cap until such embarked funds have been used for the purpose of the Fund.
3. A \$10 transfer on each membership yearly due shall be transferred to the Fund at any time when the Fund has dropped below \$250.00.
4. Requests for assistance from the Fund will be considered, approved, or denied, by a majority vote of the Executive Committee who shall have the discretion to add \$250.00 in additional funds to the Fund per Section 1, Paragraph 1 of this Article if such funds are available in the Club's general account.
5. In the event a request has been made for assistance from the Fund at an amount greater than the current value of the Green/Baker Fund, and the Executive Committee has approved the request, the approval will also require approval of the transfer of any additional funds into the Fund by a majority vote of the Club at a regular or special meeting.

Article X: By-Law Amendments

1. These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of all Voting Members.
2. Proposed amendments must be presented to the Club and distributed to all Voting Members of the Club at least one (1) month prior to vote with the date of the vote noted.



3. Proposed amendments will be voted on at the next monthly or special meeting at which quorum is achieved, so long as thirty (30) days has elapsed from the time the proposed amendments were presented to the Club.
4. Proxy votes may be accepted, but the proxy vote must specifically state how the person granting proxy will vote on the issue of the By-Law amendment.

Article XI: By-Law Suspension

1. The By-Laws, in-part or in-full, may be suspended by a majority of Voting Members.