

# Soul Shakers Riding Club Constitution

## PUBLIC DESCRIPTION

Soul Shakers RC is a non-territorial, one-piece patch motorcycle riding club based in Southeastern Minnesota. Members are both men and women, who ride a variety of makes/models of motorcycles. SSRC rides with an easy-going attitude, in an "adult fun" environment. Membership is by invite, based on a probationary period and certain requirements, and with a club vote. Hang-around riders are welcome.

## CLUB PRINCIPALS & EXPECTATIONS

1. Help a Patched Member in need.
2. Bring NO DRAMA into the club.
3. Participate actively in the club.
4. Follow the Club Bylaws.

## MEETINGS

1. Meetings are closed and for patch members only, unless specifically indicated by the President.
2. Club meetings are held quarterly in March, June, September, December, and then as needed.
3. Adequate effort will be made to call a meeting when all Patched Members can attend.
4. If an absence is unavoidable, it must be communicated to an officer.
5. The President or a delegated Executive Board member will preside at all meetings.
6. Items may only be brought to a vote at organized meetings by an Executive Board member.
7. All Patched Members in good standing will have an equal vote when present.
8. Patched Members may vote absentee via a proxy vote through one Executive Board member.
9. **Except for elections, the President will abstain from voting.**

## ELECTIONS

1. Club officers to serve a two-year term, with elections taking place in December of even years.
2. Officers (except the VP) are elected by a majority vote of all Patched Members in good standing.
3. Non-officer positions on the Executive Board are selected by the board's elected officers.
4. Patched Members in good standing for at least one year are eligible to hold an officer position.
5. Hopeful candidates may seek a nomination from another member and campaign informally.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Comprised of elected officers including President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and additional selected non-officers, for a total of no more than six board members. Except for the President position, a member may hold two officer positions at the same time. The Executive Board is responsible for:

1. Monitoring of conflicts within the club.
2. Application of disciplinary procedures.
3. Evaluating probates and their progress.
4. Making changes to the SSRC Constitution & Bylaws.

## PRESIDENT

Elected by all Patched Members in good standing, the Executive duties of the President, or ability to delegate duties, are as follows:

1. Preside over all club or board meetings, or delegate another Executive Board member to do so.
2. Directorship gives the President authority to judge items not in the constitution or bylaws.
3. Assist the other Executive Board members in the interpretation of their responsibilities.
4. Act as “public relations” and be a liaison between the SSRC and other clubs or organizations.

## VICE PRESIDENT

Selected by the President, the Executive duties of the Vice President are as follows:

1. Assume responsibilities of the presidency when the President is unable to do so.
2. Ensure that members adhere to club rules and expectations.
3. Promote our “club life” in general.
4. Secure and maintain all property of club ownership.

## SECRETARY

The Executive duties of the Secretary are as follows:

1. Record and safeguard the minutes of club meetings.
2. Maintain the club’s roster and calendar.
3. Maintain a historical record of the club.
4. Maintain the SSRC Constitution & Bylaws, and any other supporting documents.

## TREASURER

The Executive duties of the Treasurer are as follows:

1. Monitor and record the club's income and expenditures.
2. Collect any monies owed by members or non-members.
3. Organize donations and gifts from the club.
4. Head or oversee all fundraising activities.

## PROBATIONARY STATUS

1. Must be at least 21-years-old, and ride a motorcycle or be a passenger on a motorcycle.
2. Both riders and passengers must have a valid motorcycle endorsement on their driver’s license.
3. Voted into Probationary Status by all Patched Members - two ‘NO’ votes are a rejection.
4. Assigned a Sponsor by the President, to be the Probate’s go-to person within the club.
5. Meet the same expectations and follow the same rules as a Patched Member.
6. Will follow all reasonable instructions given by any Patched Member.
7. Probationary Status is for as long as the Probate’s Sponsor and Executive Board see fit.

## SPONSORS

1. Have been a Patched Member in good standing for at least one year.
2. Assigned to Probates by the President immediately after being voted into probationary status.
3. Make contact with the new Probate as soon as possible to confirm that they accept.
4. Provide the new Probate a copy of the SSRC Constitution & Bylaws.
5. Discuss the club’s philosophies and expectations, and answer any of the Probate’s questions.
6. Maintain frequent contact with the Probate by any means, but preferably in person.
7. Communicate information to the Probate that is not considered to be “patch only”.
8. Report to the Executive Board members on the Probates status and progression.
9. Responsible for the Probate’s behavior when with the club and when not with the club.

# Soul Shakers Riding Club Bylaws

1. SSRC patches are for wear on vests and/or jackets of Patched Members and Retired Members.
2. SSRC patches are worn on the left breast (above the heart) preferably, or on both shoulders.
3. Clothing may use the “grinning skull” alone, but NEVER the full patch design (i.e. wheel, rockers).
4. A Patched Member’s word to another is a contract – Promises will be kept and debts will be paid.
5. Respect is to be shown to a Patched Member’s family, home, motorcycle and personal property.
6. Probates patch-in by a unanimous vote of Patched Members who started the Probationary status.
7. A patch is stripped temporarily or permanently by unanimous decision of the Executive Board.
8. Patched Members who have issue with a Probate must talk to that Probate’s Sponsor.
9. No Patched Member or Probate may be a member or probate/prospect of another RC or MC.
10. A Hang-around is the responsibility of the Patched Member that invited them.
11. If a Patched Member “uses” the club solely for personal benefit or gain, patch will be stripped.
12. Absolutely NO talking club business around outsiders, including a member’s significant other.
13. No riding without a valid driver’s license with motorcycle endorsement.
14. If a rider is suspected to be inebriated or high, keys will be turned over with NO ARGUMENTS!
15. Handguns will only be carried with a valid Permit to Carry / CCW Permit.
16. When riding as a club, no Patched Member will be alone away from the rest of the group.
17. SSRC Facebook Page is “private”, but all Patched Members are admins and can invite friends in.
18. SSRC Social Network Chat participation is mandatory, and for Patched Members and Probates.
19. Patched Members who are temporarily without a bike, or who are a passenger without a rider, will show a genuine intention of resolving their situation. Extra consideration will be given to members recovering from serious injury, or who have fallen on financial hardship.
20. If circumstances prevent a Patched Member from meeting Club Principals & Expectations, the Executive Board may choose to grant them “retired” status. Specific terms for each Retired Member are controlled by the Executive Board.