



US SPYDER RYDERS

Charlotte Metro Chapter



MISSION STATEMENT

The objective of the **US Spyder Ryders** – Charlotte Metro motorcycle riding club is to promote Can-Am Spyders and Rykers riding while focusing on having fun and at the same time supporting veteran/first responder and local charities. We accomplish this objective with positive interaction within our community while providing a safe and controlled environment for our members during all our functions. Our Club's activities may include, but are not limited to, local and long-distance rides, socials, and participation in charitable rides or events.

BYLAWS

MEMBERSHIP

To become a FULL voting member, an individual must be a Spyder Owner or the spouse/partner (or riding partner) of a Spyder Owner and accept the Bylaws of the Club. Members are encouraged to participate in club-supported community service/riding events each year to be classified as active and in "good standing".

Professional and courteous behavior is expected from all members. This includes dealing with fellow members of the Club or any affiliate of the Club (e.g., sponsoring dealership, charity organizations, other clubs, etc.). Any member not acting in a professional or courteous manner will be subject to review by the Board for possible disciplinary action or membership termination.

To join the Chapter, a person shall complete either the online Membership Application on the [US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter website](#) or complete a paper copy provided by a Club Officer.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES (effective January 1, 2023)

Interim Membership

An individual who completes the Membership Application that has NOT participated in any Charlotte Metro Chapter "sanctioned" Club rides or events, will be considered an **INTERIM Member**. Interim members are encouraged to participate in Club activities to be converted to FULL member status (after participating in their first sanctioned ride/event). Interim Members do not receive the perks of the Club (patches, mileage awards, dealer discounts, email communications, etc.) until they become a Full Member.

Full Membership

An individual who completes the Membership Application, has indicated that Charlotte Metro is their "primary" chapter, and has participated in at least one (1) Charlotte Metro Chapter "sanctioned" Club ride or event, will be considered for **Full Membership**. Full Members may participate in Club rides, serve as an elected Officer and/or member of the Board and entitled to the perks of the Club (voting privileges, patches, mileage awards, dealer discounts, email communications, etc.).

Associate Membership

Associate Membership may be attained for those individuals who do not own a Can-Am Spyder and are not the spouse or riding partner of a Spyder rider but wish to be an active participant in the Club. Associate members may also be the child of an active Charlotte Metro Full or Associate member. Associate Members are held to the same Bylaws as all Full members. Associate membership requires approval from the Board and must have a Sponsor who owns a Spyder and is an active member of the US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro in good standing.



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Affiliate Membership

An individual who completes a Membership Application and has indicated that another US Spyder Ryder Chapter is their "Home" chapter and has participated in at least one (1) Charlotte Metro Chapter "sanctioned" Club ryde or event, will be considered for **Affiliate Membership**. Affiliate Members may participate in Club rydes and may serve on a committee or other positions (e.g., Webmaster, Ryde Captain, etc.) as needed by the Chapter. Affiliate Members do not have voting privileges for Club matters.

MEMBERSHIP DUES – NON-REFUNDABLE

There are no annual dues required to be a member of the **US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter**. However, depending on the type of membership, there are one-time **non-refundable** membership fees charged.

Interim Member

- Anyone requesting to become a Full or Associate member will be considered a "INTERIM" member until the minimum requirements are met
- Interim members may participate on the Charlotte Metro Facebook page
- Upon completion of one (1) club-sanctioned event/ryde or social event, the Interim member may be upgraded to "Full" or "Associate" member status upon payment of the one-time non-refundable membership fee
- Interim Members will receive:
 - Confirmation of Membership Application and requirements for upgraded membership status

Full Membership – Charlotte Metro is "HOME" Chapter

- Membership Fee (one time):
 - Driver: \$50 – payable AFTER minimum requirements met
 - Ryder Passenger (Spouse/Partner) \$25 - payable AFTER minimum requirements met
- Minimum requirements for **Full** status:
 - Drivers must own/operate a Can-Am On-Road product (Spyder/Ryker) **OR** may be the spouse/partner of a Can-Am Spyder Owner (*for instance: Linda owns a Spyder F3 and husband owns a BMW*), and
 - Participate in one (1) club-sanctioned event/ryde or social event, and
 - Payment of the membership fee of \$50 (or \$25 for spouse/partner) *{may be done at a qualifying event or upon receipt of the request from the Membership Coordinator}*
- Full member (Driver) will receive:
 - Welcome Letter
 - 10" Charlotte Metro Back Patch
 - 4" Charlotte Metro Patch
 - Membership Card
 - Dealer/Vendor Discounts
 - Invitations to member-only rydes/events
 - Member-only communications about rydes/events
- Full member (Spouse/Partner) will receive:
 - Welcome Letter
 - 4" Charlotte Metro Patch (*eligible to purchase large patch for \$25*)
 - Membership Card
 - Dealer/Vendor Discounts
 - Invitations to member-only rydes/events
 - Member-only communications about rydes/events



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Associate Membership

- This membership is intended for non-Spyder owners, or non-spouse/partner passengers, or children of Full or Associate members.
- Membership Fee (*one-time*):
 - \$25.00 – AFTER minimum requirements are met
- Minimum requirements for **Associate** status:
 - Must have a Charlotte Metro Full Member Sponsor, and
 - Participate in one (1) club-sanctioned event/ryde or social event, and
 - Be approved by the Charlotte Metro Board, and
 - Payment of the membership fee of \$25 {*upon receipt of the request from the Membership Coordinator*}
- Associate members will receive:
 - Welcome letter
 - 4" Charlotte Metro Patch
 - Membership Card
 - Dealer/Vendor Discounts
 - Invitations to member-only rydes/events
 - Member-only communications about rydes/events
- Associate members may upgrade to "Full" status if their situation changes by contacting the Chapter at ussr.cltmetro@gmail.com and paying the additional \$25. At that time, they will receive the large patch.

Affiliate Membership

- This is for Can-Am On-Road drivers (and their spouse/partner) that are FULL members of another US Spyder Ryders Chapter that is considered their "HOME" chapter
- Membership Fee: FREE (*There is no charge to be an affiliate member with the Charlotte Metro since many other chapters charge annual dues*)
- Minimum requirements for **Affiliate** status:
 - Participate in one (1) Charlotte Metro hosted event/ryde or social event
- Affiliate members will receive:
 - Welcome letter
 - Invitations to member-only rydes/events
 - Member-only communications about rydes/events
- Charlotte Metro Patch
 - May purchase 4" Patch: \$5
 - Large patches are reserved for Full Members

WAIVER/INSURANCE

A member agrees to carry motorcycle insurance coverage to protect themselves, their passengers, and their vehicle, as well as anyone involved in an accident with them. In accordance with the signed Waiver, a member also agrees to hold harmless the Club and all Board members from any accidents or injuries which occur to the member during sanctioned Club activities. The Club has a strong stance on drinking and driving. **As an active member of the US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter, I understand that the consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted on any Club-sanctioned or organized rydes (this includes both the driver and passenger).** To participate in Club sanctioned or organized rydes, a current Waiver must be on file by the participant (includes members and non-members). For larger multi-chapter rydes, there may be special Waivers developed specific to the ryde. To participate, all ryders (including passengers) will be required to sign the special Waiver.



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MEETINGS

The Board will schedule meetings throughout the year, and these may be coupled with a group ryde. The Board of Directors will meet to discuss and vote on any operating issues of the Club which require attention. Board meetings are typically in person, but as needed, virtual sessions may be scheduled. Should the Board deem necessary, special meetings of the membership may be called. These types of meetings may be used to update the general membership on the operation of the Club and to also discuss any issues that would require membership input and or vote. Such an event shall be posted on the Club's Facebook Page a minimum of five (5) days prior to the scheduled meeting. All meetings will be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order (current release).

Voting Rights

All active Full members in good standing that are present at the membership meetings will be entitled to vote, unless otherwise determined by the Board to allow for proxy votes. All voting will be approved by a simple majority that is present whether voted on by the Board or the general membership depending on the meeting type. In the event of a tie vote, the President will cast the deciding vote.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

While ryding and fellowship are a big aspect of the Chapter, we will commit to supporting our community and charitable causes that the membership or Board deems as club-sponsored activities. The Chapter will support a minimum of two (2) charitable organizations per year by participating in either rallies or rydes. The primary charitable organization supported by the US Spyder Ryders and our Chapter is the Road Warrior Foundation. There are rallies held across the US each year to raise money to support this organization. Other charities will be determined by the Board on an annual basis. Charities must be a registered 501c3 organization.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Annually, in the month of January, the Chapter will hold elections for the current year at the Annual meeting. All Officers and Board member periods of service will take effect immediately after the Annual meeting.

Elected Officer Positions (effective January 2023):

- ✚ President
- ✚ Vice-President
- ✚ Secretary
- ✚ Treasurer
- ✚ Sargent-at-Arms
- ✚ Founder/Past President (non-elected) *{The Chapter Founder/Past President will be a permanent Officer and member of the voting Board}*

Board of Director Positions (Elected) (effective January 2023)

- ✚ Safety Officer
- ✚ Membership Coordinator
- ✚ Events Coordinator

These individuals will comprise the Board of Directors who will run the day-to-day operations of the Club. Officers may perform more than one function, however, will individually have only (1) vote on the Board. Officers will perform the following obligations along with their elected duties:



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- Participate in Club-sanctioned group rides throughout the year and assist with putting together rides within the year that they are in office
- Participate in Board meetings and other meetings as scheduled

Should an Officer not fulfill their obligations, the Board of Directors may elect to act and remove the Officer from office with a 2/3 vote of all Board Members. Should an Officer be removed, a replacement Officer may be appointed to office by the Board of Directors for the duration of the term. Any change in Officers will be published to the membership.

Full Members may only be elected or appointed to a Board position if they are active and in good standing with the Club.

Note: Associate members only may serve as an elected Officer provided there are no other Full-member candidates interested in the position

Volunteer Support Positions (effective January 2023)

- ❖ Ryde Team
 - Ryde Captains and Ride Leaders
 - Tail Gunners (Sweep)
- ❖ Webmaster
- ❖ Photographer(s)
- ❖ Chaplain(s)
- ❖ Events Support Team
- ❖ Other volunteer opportunities as needed

Responsible and Courteous Behavior

- The US Spyder Ryders-Charlotte Metro Chapter considers our group as an extended family. Members and their guests, if any, are expected to treat everyone as they would expect to be treated. Members are expected to be responsible for their guests. Courtesy and polite behavior toward everyone is always expected, regardless of whether at a chapter function or activity. Profanity of any sort, whether directed toward an individual or not, will not be tolerated. The **US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter** is a totally unbiased organization dedicated to promoting a positive image to the public and community at large. There will be no discrimination of any sort whatever, be it religious, ethnic, sexual, political, economic situation, or ANY other matter. Acts of discrimination shall be considered **behavior unbecoming a Chapter member** and could be cause disciplinary action. These behavior standards also apply to activity on any form of **social media**.
- If anyone participating in any Chapter activity chooses to carry a concealed firearm on their person, they are required by Law to hold a valid Concealed Weapons Permit issued by the state in which they are licensed to operate a motor vehicle. **While US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter acknowledges that NO OFFICER OR BOARD MEMBER HAS THE LEGAL AUTHORITY to require any individual to present such a permit, anyone unwilling to show their Concealed Weapons Permit if requested, is not to carry a concealed weapon on rides or at any Chapter activity or function.**



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CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL or ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

There is to be **NO CONSUMPTION** of alcohol of any sort at any sanctioned chapter activity in which the possibility of operating a **motor vehicle of any kind** is involved. At any Chapter sanctioned social functions, consumption of **NOT MORE THAN 2 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** is acceptable provided the member or guest is not operating a motor vehicle. Becoming intoxicated in a public place, or place open to the public, where that person can be identified as being associated with **US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter** could face disciplinary action. There is to be no consumption of alcohol at Chapter meetings. This policy also involves taking illegal substances – this is prohibited on **US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Chapter** sanctioned rydes and events.

GROUP RYDE ETIQUETTE

All Club sanctioned planned group rydes will have a designated Ryde Captain and Tail Gunner (aka Sweep). For larger rydes, the group may need to be broken up into segments for safety purposes. It is the responsibility of the Ryde Captain to appoint additional Ryde Assistants/Sweeps to assist. When possible, it is preferred to have this planned and discussed prior to the ryde.

For multi-chapter rydes, each President (or Chapter Ryde Captain) will take responsibility for their chapter ryders. The ryde will be led by the host Chapter. Each Chapter Ryde Captain will follow the host Chapter to the destination. The Host Chapter is responsible for providing the destination information and route specifics **PRIOR** to the ryde.

Two-Wheelers: For safety reasons, two-wheelers (or Slingshots/cages) will follow **BEHIND** the last tail gunner for any Charlotte Metro sanctioned rydes.

Inexperienced Ryders: Ryders that are new to riding, are new to our Chapter, or who have not ridden with us in the past will stage toward the end of the group before the Tail gunner. This is for safety purposes and to ensure the tail gunner has eyes on the group and can relay information to the Ryde Captain.

MEDIA SITES

All club media sites (including but not limited to Facebook and Club websites) will be used solely to promote the operations and events of this club. Any comments on these sites deemed inappropriate by the President or Officers will be removed, and notification of the removal will be sent to the member(s) involved. Continued abuse will result in the President suspending member privileges on all Charlotte Metro media sites along with a review by the Board of Directors for possible further disciplinary action and or termination of membership.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Should a member be placed on disciplinary action by the Board, said member will not be allowed to participate in Chapter supported events for a said duration which will be decided by the Board depending on the offense. If a member is placed on multiple disciplinary actions over a rolling two-year period said member's membership will be terminated. If the Board feels that the action by the member is conduct unbecoming of the organization, the Board may move to terminate the member's membership at any time. During any disciplinary action, the member(s) being brought up on disciplinary action will the opportunity to discuss the situation with the Board during the investigation period.

TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Should a member wish to terminate his or her membership, they may do so at any time with written notification via email to the President or any Chapter Officer at the ussr.cltmetro@gmail.com email address. Termination of membership by disciplinary action will result in the member forfeiting access to all Chapter media sites.



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Reinstatement of Membership

Terminated memberships will be reviewed by the Board of Directors before membership is reinstated. A 2/3 vote from the Board is required to reinstate membership.



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Revision History

Revision #	Review Date	Reviewed By	Approved Date	Approved By	Description
4.0	12/27/2021	Chapter President	12/31/2021	Chapter President	Added Revision History table beginning with Rev. 4.0 version. Added Membership Types (Interim and Full), minor changes to the Officers section, added Responsible and Courteous Behavior section, and added Consumption of Alcohol or Illegal Substances section.
5.0	12/5/2022	2022 Officers and Board Members			Annual Review. Added Affiliate Member paragraph. Updated information for Interim membership. Minor changes throughout to provide clarity. Added Group Ryde Etiquette section. Added information to Membership Dues section and updated Officers and Board positions.



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ACCEPTANCE OF BYLAWS:

I _____ (*member applicant's name*) have reviewed the US Spyder Ryders – Charlotte Metro Bylaws, Rev. 5.0 Effective January 1, 2023.

I hereby agree to the Bylaws of the **US SPYDER RYDERS – Charlotte Metro Chapter** on this

day the _____ of _____ (*month*) _____ (*year*).

Printed Name: _____

Signed: _____ (signature)

Parent's Signature (for children under 18)

Printed Name: _____

Signed: _____ (signature)

Membership Type:

Interim Member (*initial application until FULL requirements are met*)

Full Member

Affiliate Member

Associate Member (*non-Spyder Owner, non-Spouse/Partner passenger, or child passenger*)