

Honda Rider's Club of America

Chapter 0151

ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS

Aurora/Naperville, Illinois

New Member Guide

Revised February 2014



Sponsored by

Fox Valley Cycles
419 Hill Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505
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www.foxvalleycycles.com



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WELCOME TO THE CLUB

The Illini Free Spirit Riders Motorcycle Club is a chapter of the Honda Riders Club of America and is sponsored by Fox Valley Cycles, Aurora. We sponsor various rides during the year and promote a positive image and safe riding environment in all of our activities. Most Wednesday nights we meet for dinner at one of the many local eateries giving us an excuse to ride and meet with other members during the work week. The calendar on the club website (<http://www.freepiritriders.com/Calendar.html>) contains the club ride destinations, members' birthdays and the locations of the Wednesday dinners.

Our monthly business meetings are held at Fox Valley Cycles on the second Wednesday of the month beginning at 6:00PM. All members are encouraged to attend the meetings and participate in the activities of the club. At the meetings we discuss upcoming and past rides, dinner plans, motorcycle safety and administrative issues. A 50/50 raffle is held after the meeting for those who wish to participate.

This book includes the basic information on the club, the club website, meetings and general safety issues associated with group riding. Please review the materials on group riding as we endeavor to provide a safe ride for all participants of our rides.

Lastly, the club reflects the amount of effort each member is willing to invest to make it work. Get involved, stay active and you will have a wonderful time, make new friends, and go on some terrific rides.

Bill Hay
President
2014

ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS

2014 Officers

- President: Bill Hay
- Vice-President: Lee Lasseigne
- Secretary: Ken Kutschke
- Treasurer: Bob Crawley
- Administrator/Editor: Ron Dougherty

MEMBER BENEFITS

The primary benefit of the club is the opportunity to meet and ride with other individuals who share an interest in motorcycles. The weekly dinners are a great opportunity to trade stories, get help, or just exchange ideas with other bikers. Visit our Website for more information about the club.

Fox Valley Cycles gives IFSR members a 10% discount on all purchases from the Parts Department.

CLUB WEBSITE: www.freespiritriders.com

The site includes the following information:

<i>Home</i>	Lists club officers and provides a link to Fox Valley Cycles Webpage
<i>Ride Schedule</i>	Listing and descriptions of scheduled club rides
<i>Info</i>	General information about the club
<i>Calendar</i>	Calendar of upcoming club and area riding events
<i>Club Photos</i>	Photos of various club events
<i>Newsletter</i>	Archived club Newsletters, Ride Recaps & Calendars
<i>Safety</i>	Items of interest to all members
<i>Contact Us</i>	Contact info for the club and Fox Valley Cycles

EVENTS

Many rides, designed to appeal to a wide variety of riders, are scheduled during the riding season. The upcoming events schedule is always included in the monthly Calendar and posted on the club web page. The club has day rides, as well as overnight rides. Members can attend rides with distances of less than 200 miles to weeklong trips of up to 3,000 plus miles.

Some members also belong to other clubs such as Gold Wing Road Riders Association, Women on Wheels, and other local groups. We attempt to work with the other club schedules to allow members to participate in a number of different rides. If interested in sponsoring a specific ride, you can discuss it at one of our monthly meetings. Depending on the level of interest and timing, the ride may be scheduled for the entire club or as an informal ride by a smaller group. In the past the club has sponsored rides that included many interesting destinations in western Illinois, southern Wisconsin and various locations around the Fox and Illinois Rivers. We are always on the lookout for interesting new rides.

The club also encourages participation in several local fundraising and fun rides such as Ride for Kids (Chicagoland and WI) and the Illinois Freedom Run. In addition, the club in cooperation with Fox Valley Honda, sponsors a bike maintenance seminar each spring. Each year the club has a Christmas Party, Bowling Party, mid-winter Pizza Party and other events.

ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS

Chapter Bylaws As Amended 8 August 2012

ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

The Illini Free Spirit Riders shall maintain an address at Fox Valley Cycles, 419 Hill Avenue, Aurora, IL 60505.

Section 2

Membership is open to the following:

- A. **Full**—any person who is a member of the Honda Rider’s Club of America (HRCA) and is at least eighteen (18) years of age. HRCA membership is required.
- B. **Guest Riders**—welcome at all club functions.
- C. **Honorary Lifetime**-- A club member or former club member can be voted to the status of “Honorary Lifetime Member” by majority vote of the membership. When so voted no dues will be required from the person at any time. This honor is intended to be bestowed only when a club member or former club member contribution to the well-being of the club is determined to be substantial over time as determined by those voting.

Section 3

Members must conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with promoting a positive image of motorcycling and HRCA. Any person or persons found to be disruptive can, by two-thirds vote of members present, no longer attend Chapter meetings or functions.

Section 3a

Concerning group rides: Each member will, to the best of their ability, uphold the principles and ideals set forth in the constitution and bylaws of the ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS. Each member further agrees to operate a motorcycle, or any other vehicle, at any event associated with is organization, only with a valid Driver’s License “M” and current insurance coverage on that motorcycle or vehicle.

With the acceptance of membership in the ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS and/or through participating in any manner with this organization, each member agrees not to hold the organization, any member, officer, or any sponsor of this organization liable for their personal safety, the safety of their guests, or

the safety of any property in their possession, each member agrees that they shall not be liable or responsible for injury to themselves (including paralysis or death) or damage to their property during an ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS activity, even where the damage or injury is caused by negligence (except willful neglect). Each member agrees to participate in any and all activities of the organization on a voluntary basis and at their own risk. Each member understands that this mean that they agree not to sue for any injury or damage to themselves or their property resulting from, or in connection with any ILLINI FREE SPIRIT RIDERS activities or events. (Amendment concerning group rides approved June 13th, 2006.)

Section 4

Dues-paying members will be allowed to vote.

ARTICLE II – FEES AND DUES

Section 1

The dues of this chapter shall be as specified below, per year, payable in advance at such times as the chapter shall designate. Dues shall be paid by all members and by the dates specified to maintain membership in this chapter and shall include a monthly newsletter.

A. Full Members—\$10

Local non-motorcyclist supporters and chapter motorcyclist friends living away (past members, etc.) may receive monthly newsletter by paying the designated fee.

HOW LONG DOES MEMBERSHIP LAST?

All memberships expire December 31st each year, regardless of when you joined or renewed that year. January renewal is required to get the paperwork out of the way the winter before the riding season.

EXCEPTION: New memberships received October 1st to December 31st expire December 31st the following year.

Section 2

The amount of dues and fees payable can be determined by the Executive Board as needed and voted on by the members at the next regular meeting to be upheld.
(Refer to Article III, Section I) (Amendment concerning change of procedure for dues and fees approved January, 2008.)

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

Section 1

Regular meetings of the chapter shall be the second Wednesday of the month at such hour and place as the chapter, from time to time, shall designate. There must be eight (8) members (including officers) to have a meeting to conduct business.

Section 2

The Executive Board shall meet whenever it is necessary.

ARTICLE IV – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The officers of the chapter shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Administrator/Editor.

Section 2

Nominations for all officers of this chapter shall be made from the floor at the time of the election. All elections shall be by secret ballot. A majority vote of all members present at the time of the election is necessary.

Section 3

The term for all officers shall be one (1) year. There will be no consecutive term limitation. Elections will be held at the first meeting in December each year.

Section 4

Any vacancy in office shall be filled by a special election held at the next meeting following the announcement of the vacancy.

Section 5

The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Administrator/Editor and the Sponsoring Honda Dealer.

Section 6

Any officer may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE V – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1

The President presides at meetings of the chapter and the Executive Board. The President has general supervision of the operation of the chapter. The President cannot make any actions or contracts binding against the chapter without the authorization of the chapter requiring a majority vote of the members present or a majority of the Executive Board.

Section 2

The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President.

Section 3

The Secretary shall have custody of the chapter by-laws and all other records. The Secretary will maintain an accurate record of all club meetings and activities.

Section 4

The Treasurer receives and disburses all funds of the chapter for debts owed by the chapter and will keep an accurate record of all transactions. The Treasurer will make regular financial reports when requested by the President or the Executive Board.

Section 5

The Administrator/Editor shall have responsibility for the maintenance and order of the club web page(s) and/or various internet accounts notwithstanding their respective application as well as writing, editing and publishing the clubs monthly newsletter and calendar.

ARTICLE VI -- MEMBERS RIGHTS TO CORRECT THE RECORD

At any time in the future from this point forward, if any club member becomes aware of any error of any kind in the record keeping of the club of any nature...that member shall have the right to bring such error to the attention of the membership at the next club meeting and shall be granted a reasonable opportunity to present to the club membership their reasons for believing an error was made and to motion a vote on the correction of such error. The club member who brings such a matter to the attention of the membership shall act in good faith and in the interest of the club at all times.

ARTICE VII – RULES OF ORDER

Section 1

The general procedure of meetings of this chapter will be in harmony with the guidelines set forth in *Robert's Rules of Order*, as long as there are no conflicts with these bylaws or the HCRA charter.

ARTICLE VIII – LIABILITY AND DISSOLUTION

Section 1

This chapter and its members shall be responsible for any operating expenses incurred at its discretion in the activities approved by the membership or the Executive Board. In the event of dissolution of the chapter, all indebtedness will be paid from the existing funds, with any remaining funds being donated to the Ride for Kids Foundation benefiting children's brain tumor research.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of this chapter by a majority vote of the members present and voting. Any amendments must be submitted in writing prior to a vote being taken. (Refer to Article III, Section 1.)