

Mason-Dixon Conference - Spring 2025

Meeting Minutes

Call to order 25 May 2025 at 9:00 by John Weinstein (Chairman) in Greenville, NC.

Executive Board Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Chairman	John Weinstein (VA-II)	X
Vice Chairman	Fred Allen (MD-I)	X
Secretary	Byron Hope (MD-I)	X
Treasurer	Keith Chase (VA-II)	X
International Rep	Mike Pollinger (DE-I)	X

State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Delaware State Rep	Art Turner (DE-I)	
Kentucky State Rep	Ruben Gardner (KY-II)	X
Maryland State Rep	Phineas Young (MD-I)	X
North Carolina State Rep	Mike Lewis (NC-II)	X
Tennessee State Rep	Tommy Hayden (TN-III)	X
Virginia State Rep	Randy Myrick (VA-XIII)	X
West Virginia State Rep	Marshal Parker (WV-I)	X
Chaplain	Barry Clark (VA-III)	X
Safety Officer	Felix Monterrosa (NC-VIII)	X
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bruce Smith (NC-IV)	X
Webmaster	Bob Rhodes (NC-XVI)	X

Agenda Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Call to Order</u>: 09:00 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Moment of Silence. a. Opening Prayer – Barry Clark. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance. 1. Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – John Weinstein. <i>As a Blue Knight, I pledge to act with honor and pride, to promote motorcycling and motorcycle safety by being an example of the safe use, operation, and enjoyment of motorcycles. I will always work to improve the relationship between the motorcycling law enforcement community and the public, and the fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights.</i>

2. Chapter Roll-Call and Report: Byron Hope (MDC Secretary): There are **55** Chapters in attendance at the conference; **22** Chapters were represented at the meeting (**40%** in attendance). Approximately **113** members, spouses and guests attended the meeting.

- Chapters attending: **SEE ATTACHED**
- North Carolina IV and XV were in attendance and need to clear up their renewal status (*included in the attendance numbers).
- There were **five (5)** proxy letters submitted.

3. Recognized VIPs:

<p><u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez, International President • Calvin Ennals – International VP (NA) • John Bull - Treasurer 	<p><u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russ Harper- (TSC) International Rep •
<p><u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A 	<p><u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A
<p><u>BOG OFFICERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A 	<p><u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A

4. Chairman's Remarks: Chairman John Weinstein thanked all for attending and NC-VIII for all their hard work and camaraderie, resulting in a great conference meeting. Food, rides and hospitality were all spectacular. Great to see another chapter dressing up.

5. Host Chapter Remarks (Felix Monterrosa): Thanked everyone for attending. Also thanked his crew for all their hard work. Hoped everyone had a great time.

6. Vice Chairman's Report: (Freddy Allen): Regarding membership, as of May 7, 2025, MDC has **55** Chapters with **1585** members. The MDC is the third largest US conference, behind TSC and SRC. International has **569** Chapters with **13976** members worldwide. At the winter conference it was advised that an application package had been submitted for a new chapter. As of this month, Tennessee II (TN-II) has now been chartered. Welcome TN-II. As was just heard, we should be getting NC-XV back in the fold (and NC-IV). The Vice Chair also mentioned retention. Suggested that each chapter work at one person at a time. Reminded members that younger folks don't have that Esprit de Corps like older folks do.

7. Secretary's Report (Byron Hope): The Winter 2025 MDC Conference meeting minutes dated February 16, 2025, were completed and sent to the State Reps on March 5, 2025, to forward to the Chapter Presidents, and posted on the website. The secretary informed the members of one correction as it pertained to West Virginia II's attendance, and there was no further discussion about the minutes.

8. Treasurer's Report (Keith Chase): Financial Report – As of May 18, 2025, we have \$10,611.49. We have had \$524.39 come in for dues and \$64.29 in Quartermaster sales. Expenses have been \$550.00 in conference fees and \$9.55 in postal. The financial report was read into the minutes. **SEE ATTACHED**

9. International Representative's Report . Mike Pollinger, MDC International Rep (mdc.rep@blueknights.org or 302-545-5301)

- The bi-monthly call for the International Board was held on 12 May 2025. Discussed was:
 - 1. Upcoming deadline for Sword and Shield magazine is due by June 5th. Going forward, the due dates will be 5th March and 5th October.
 - 2. International Election coming up. Those running for office are:
 - **PRESIDENT:**
 - John Bull (MD-I) – MDC
 - Russ Harper (NY-XVIII) – TSC
 - James Trachta (FL-XXX) – SRC
 - **VICE PRESIDENT:**
 - Cal Ennals (NJ-V) – TSC [North America]
 - Gerald Zollo (CT-XI) – NEC [North America]
 - Thomas Elliott (ENG-XI) – UKIC [Europe]
 - Leonie Tromans (ENG-XIII) – UKIC [Europe]
 - **SECRETARY:**
 - Glenn Wheat (IN-III) – GLRC
 - **TREASURER:**
 - Brian Arnold (OH-XXV) – GLRC
 - 3. Regarding the ballots, Voteegrity has been sending out emails. Ballots will start coming out on May 31st and close on June 29th. (EST). Be sure to check your email address and ensure that you are not utilizing a government email.
 - 4. Several proposals were discussed at the meeting to include:
 - 2025-005:** which discussed chartering guidelines. There was discussion in reference to this which included the need for amendments. This was **tabled** until the next meeting.
 - 2025-006:** Membership classification regarding the associate membership. It removed the verbiage that associate members must receive monetary compensation for employment. **This proposal passed unanimously.**
 - 2025-007:** This addressed updating both the front and the rear of the membership application. **This passed unanimously**
 - 2025-008:** This addressed Article VI memberships classification, section 1, regular membership and section 2. Associate membership. Had to deal with the number of years and hours that a regular member had to be employed. This amendment was meant to address issues within England and the way they classify their duty status. **This motion failed.**
 - 2025-009: Was withdrawn after 2025-008 failed**

NOTE FROM INTERNATIONAL REP: This report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes on the BK International website.

Representatives Reports

(Send Event Flyers to MDC.Webmaster@BKMDc.org for posting on the website)

This is a summary of topics presented by each rep. Check the MDC website for events.

- Delaware State Representative – Art Turner (DE-I) (Letter submitted in lieu of attendance/ Read by secretary Byron Hope):
 - Delaware has 74 members in its only chapter (DE-1).
 - Actively recruiting and participating in various events to increase membership
 - Ride to the Tide was held on April 13, 2025. The ride had 729 members registered with 293 passengers. Over \$50,000 was raised. Next year's event is scheduled for April 26, 2026.
 - The 42nd Annual Toy Run will be held on October 19, 2025. This date is a month earlier than previous dates and will start at Delaware City Fire Company.
- Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II): All Kentucky chapters renewed.
 - Chapter XI has their 22nd Kentucky COPS Benefit Ride which will start at Manowar Harley Davidson Lexington KY
 - Kentucky XIX Run has a “dice”(?) run out of Lexington, KY on June 21st.
 - KY XI, will be hosting the Ride to Remember on August 16th. This is out of Richmond, KY
- 3. Maryland State Representative – Phineas Young (MD-I):
 - Maryland has 4 Chapters who renewed. Possibility that Maryland IV will be folding at the end of the year.
 - Maryland I is presently holding a raffle. Part of the proceeds will be going to St. Anne's Infant Home.
 - Maryland I is looking to doing their crabfeast in 2026 for the chapter's 50th anniversary.
- 4. North Carolina State Representative – Mike Lewis (NC-II):
 - All North Carolina made the best effort to renew this year.
 - Mike has made rounds to the eastern chapters. Working on answering questions of how business is being conducted.
 - A roundtable was held at the conference to garner ideas recruitment, retention, fund raising, social media.
- 5. Tennessee State Representative – Tommy Hayden (TN-III):
 - Communications continue to improve. Information sharing is flowing so that chapters can support other chapters.
 - Push is being made to support local officer down rides and provide pictures of events that are being participated in.

6. Virginia State Representative – Randy Myrick (VA-XIII):
 - Believed that all his chapters renewed
 - Open to suggestions for rides
7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-I):
 - West Virginia has 3 Chapters, with 140 members
 - Chapter III had their COPS Run
 - Chapter III also has an event where kids are picked up and taken to a location where they get to meet Santa and fed. Malania Trump has also made an appearance at a “house” where kids addicted to drugs live.
 - West Virginia II has their Wild and Wonderful event coming up June 13-June 15th in Elkins, WV

The Vice Chair shared that rosters have been sent to all of the state reps with the hope that leadership notification changes be made. If a change occurs, notifications need to be made to the state reps, the vice chairman and International (Jana)

Website

1. Bob Rhodes – Webmaster: Bob’s phone number is 704-534-3642.
 - Each member has the ability to update his/her email address in the “members only” section. Do not rely on the presidents. If anyone needs assistance, please see Bob.
 - A reminder that International does have a social media policy. It is under the “members only” section. Please be sure to adhere to it.
 - Send flyers to webmaster@bkmdc.org. It is too difficult to find flyers on each individual chapter’s FB page.
 - ate his/her personal information.

Quartermaster

1. MDC Sales Items: MDC Conference coins, pins and patches are available at the MDC website or can be ordered directly through the Conference Quartermaster (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards, online or we can invoice directly, using Square payment. An MDC website link will take you to the store [[Home](#) | [Blue Knights Mason-Dixon Conference \(Square.site\)](#)].

Safety

1. Safety Officer: Monty Monterrosa (NC-VIII)
 - Reminder that when we are out riding, we represent the Blue Knights. Please ride responsibility.
 - Ensure that you are riding to be visible

Chaplain

1. Barry Clark (VA-III): MDC Chaplain in late 2024. Email is chaplain@bkmdc.org ; cell phone 804-824-4127
2. Chaplain comments ...
 - Since the last conference, ten cards have been sent out. Seven of them have been sympathy and three have been get-well.

- Chapter presidents, please be sure to email information on members as soon as you can. Please include the name of the spouse, contact number and address.

Old Business

1. Chapter and Conference Liability Insurance. (Cliff Landesman): Research has been conducted with several companies and to date, nothing has materialized. Open to any suggestions.

It was noted that the Florida lawsuit has concluded and the New York lawsuit has “gone away.”

2. Reduction of MDC Conference meetings from 3 to 2 per year. A proposal has been put forth recommending the change to the current by-laws. It has also been recommended that there be a range of dates provided within this proposal.

Verbiage (synopsis)– *“Minimum of two business meetings per year. The Spring meeting will be hosted by a chapter of the MDC, on a Sunday morning, at 0900 hours, between the first weekend in March to the first weekend in May, excluding Easter Weekend.” The fall meeting “This meeting will be hosted by a chapter of the MDC on a Sunday morning, between the last weekend in August, to the last weekend in September (preferably over the Labor Day weekend).”*

Motion was put on the floor (Bob Robertson). Seconded (Tim Stott). No discussion and **passed unanimously (all presidents and proxies present).**

New Business

1. Bid for Spring Conference 2026: North Carolina VIII will get back to the membership (maybe).
2. Other items...

Good of the Order

1. MDC Scholarship: What role does social media play in your life? Include positive and/or negative influences as well as your position on whether people under 16 years of age should be prohibited from this mode of interaction.

- Status: one applicant (Samuel Balick, engineering student at Penn State and grandson of DE-I member) applied; will receive \$500.

Samuel was the only applicant this year. Hopefully there will be additional applicants for next year. Members are reminded that applicants can also be applying for vocational/trade school.

<p>2. John Bull reminded everyone that John Bull still has unused recruitment and retention monies.</p> <p>3. <u>Candidates' Time (2 minutes)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Int'l President: Russ Harper; John Bull • Int'l North America VP: Cal Ennals <p>4. Remarks by D.J. Alvarez – International President</p> <p>5. Announced Bruce Smith will be stepping down as the Sergeant at Arms. Bill Kirkland from NC-XV has expressed an interest in the position. Persons who may be interested in filling the position should contact the chairman.</p> <p>6. Byron thanked the membership for the financial support provided to Nancy when her bike went down. Also reiterated the love that is shown within the Mason Dixon Conference.</p>		
Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings		
<p><u>Fall Conference Meeting</u>: Hosted by VA-II. Hosted by VA-II. The MDC Fall Conference will be held 29 Aug - 1 Sep 2025 at the Days Inn/Best Western hotel, 791 Madison Road Culpeper, VA. Telephone 540-825-1253. The room rate is \$95.00 +tax per day. For the room rate, call the hotel reservation desk (tel) and tell them you are with the MDC. If you already have reservations, we advise you call the hotel a month before the meeting to confirm. The registration fee is \$105.00 and \$65.00 for children under 12 years old. The theme for the conference is “49er Knights”</p>		
Announcement of International Conventions		
<p>2025 Convention (Hosted by Belgium-VIII): June 29 - July 4, 2025 at Sunparks Kempense Meren in Mol, Belgium. Registration is now open. Click the link for more information. Blue Knights® 2025 51st International Convention</p> <p>NOTE: There is now a Visa form that must be completed for international travel to Belgium</p>		
Closing		
<p>1. Closing Prayer: Barry Clark delivered the benediction.</p> <p>2. Adjournment <u>10:21</u> am.</p> <p>3. Next meeting 09:00 am/31 August 2025 at the Fall Conference in Culpeper, VA.</p>		
MDC Contact Info	Website: www.bkmdc.org	

Chapter	Winter	Spring	Fall	Chapter	Winter	Spring	Fall
DE - 1	X			NC -XIX			
KY-I				NC-XXI			
KY- II				NC-XXIII			
KY – III				NC-XXIV			
KY - VII				TN- I			
KY – VIII				TN – III	X		
KY – IX				TN – IV			
KY – XI				TN – V			
KY – XII				TN – VI			
KY – XV				TN – VII			
KY - XIX				TN – VIII			
MD – I	X			TN – IX			
MD – III				TN - X			
MD – IV	X			VA – I	X		
MD – IX				VA – II	X		
NC – I				VA – III	X		
NC – II				VA – V	X		
NC – III				VA – VI			
NC – IV				VA – VII			
NC – VI				VA – VIII			
NC – VIII	X			VA – IX			
NC – XI				VA – XIII			
NC – XII				VA – XVII	X		
NC – XIII				VA – XIX			
NC – XIV				VA – XX			
NC – XV				WV – I			
NC – XVI	X			WV – II			
NC – XVII				WV - III			
NC – XVIII				TOTAL	11		