

Mason-Dixon Conference - Fall 2025

Meeting Minutes

Call to order 31st day of August 2025 at 9:01 by John Weinstein (Chairman), Culpeper, Va.

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)	X
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	Bob Rivers (TN-VI)	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	Pat O'Callahan (NC-VIII)	X
Webmaster	Bob Rhodes (NC-XVI)	X

Agenda Items
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Call to Order: 09:01</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Moment of Silence. b. Opening Prayer – Barry Clark. c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance. d. 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 **57** Chapters in attendance at the conference; **20** Chapters were represented at the meeting (**35%** in attendance). Approximately **170** members, spouses and guests attended the conference.

- 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:

<u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Russ Harper, International President• Calvin Ennals – International VP• Brian Arnold - Treasurer	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A•
<u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DJ Alvarez• Ronnie Young	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A• N/A
<u>BOG OFFICERS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Howard - Chairman• Mike Rickert - Treasurer• Pam McLaren - Secretary	<u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A• N/A

4. Chairman's Remarks: Chairman John Weinstein thanked all for attending and VA II for all their hard work and camaraderie, resulting in a great conference meeting. Chairman Weinstein thanked Tommy Hayden for his service as the Tennessee state representative. He also thanked DJ for his service as the International President.

5. Host Chapter Remarks: President Eric Radwick expressed appreciation for all in attendance and wished everyone a safe journey home.

6. Vice Chairman's Report: (Freddy Allen): Regarding membership, as of 8th of August, 2025, MDC has **57** Chapters with **1656** members. The MDC is the fourth largest US conference, behind GLRC, TSC and SRC. As of May 25th, we had 55 chapters with 1585 members.

7. Secretary's Report (Byron Hope): The Spring 2025 MDC Conference meeting minutes dated May 25, 2025, were completed and sent to the State Reps to forward to the Chapter Presidents and posted on the website. Motion was made by WV II to accept the minutes and seconded by TN III.

8. Treasurer's Report (Keith Chase): Financial Report – As of August 25, 2025, we have \$9663.07, in our checking account. We have had \$99.79 come in for dues and \$16.26 in Quartermaster sales. Expenses have been \$546.00 in conference fees, \$500.00 for the

scholarship payment and \$8.75 in postal expenses. 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)

- Provided and update in regard to the International Convention held in Belgium at the end of June. The bi-monthly call for the International Board was held at the end of June 2025.

Discussed was:

- 1. The one items that was discussed and approved were the new guidelines for creating a new chapter. A new copy has just been received and will be forwarded to everyone.
- The next Board of Directors call will come up in about a week and a half. No major items are on the agenda. Only some administrative matters.
- The next International Convention will be held in Calgary in 2026. There are still a few hotel openings.

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.

1. Delaware State Representative – Art Turner (DE-I):

- Delaware's 43rd Annual Toy run is coming up on October 19th. It will be held at the Delaware City Fire Hall. The date represents an earlier date than prior ones held in November.
- Took advantage of the recruiting funds that were available. DE I had posters and flyers made up. Members then took a ride to the different stations and distributed the material.

e. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II):

- Kentucky participated in a few rides which raised money for C.O.P.S and the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Fund.
- On September 20th, in Eckerty, Indiana, there will be a gathering at Schwartz's Family Restaurant. The time for the event is 12:00 noon.

(Report provided last due to rep stepping away briefly from the meeting)

3. Maryland State Representative – Phineas Young (MD-I):

- Maryland I is presently working on organizing a crab feast to celebrate their 50th anniversary. More information to come.

4. North Carolina State Representative – Mike Lewis (NC-II):

- Chapters have been doing a bunch of rides and working to support each other on these rides.
- There is a March 22nd ride coming up out of Fayetteville, North Carolina. The purpose of this ride commemorates the 22 service members who take their lives every day.
- A roundtable was held at the conference to garner ideas recruitment, retention, fund raising, social media. It was stressed that all information obtained through meetings and other events be shared by the presidents with their members.

5. Tennessee State Representative – Bob Rivers (TN-III):

- Tennessee is sitting at 10 chapters.
- Fred will be providing Bob with the chapter rosters and all other pertinent information that he will need for his newly acquired position.

(A welcome was given to Bob as the new state rep)

6. Virginia State Representative – Randy Myrick (VA-XIII):

- VA XIII will be hosting their annual toy run on October 11th. If needed, hotel accommodations are available.

7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-I):

- West Virginia II will host their 30th Annual Wild and Wonderful, from June 12 – 14, 2026, in Elkins, West Virginia.
- Ed advised that the cost will be \$130.00 per room.

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.

- Bob shared that the website that he manages belongs to the members and that he can only share whatever information is sent to him.
- Send flyers to webmaster@bkmdc.org.

Quartermaster

1. MDC Sales Items: MDC Conference coins, a few 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, please remember to ride with the proper gear.
- Also ensure that you check tires for proper inflation.

Chaplain
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Barry Clark (VA-III)</u>: MDC Chaplain. Email is chaplain@bkmdc.org ; cell phone 804-824-4127 2. <u>Chaplain comments ...</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the last conference, four sympathy cards have been sent out to bereaved families. Also sent out four get well cards.
Old Business
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chairman Weinstein asked that any changes in officers be communicated with the MDC secretary. 2. The status of liability insurance is still pending. The two companies that Cliff has reached out to have not proven to be fruitful. Russ then thanked Cliff for his effort but encouraged all chapters to have a safety briefing before each ride. The reason for this is that if there is ever an issue, at least we can say that a concerted effort was made to educate all riders. 3. A reminder that there has been a reduction in the number of MDC Conference meetings from 3 to 2 per year. Comments were then provided by Keith Chase: <p>As a result of these changes, under Article IV, Section I-f, it currently states that, <i>“for the even years, when we have the Mason Dixon Conference meetings, the officers running for positions had to notify, by the 15th of April...”</i> a pen and ink change is needed to change the date to the 15th of February.</p> <p>Also, as a reminder, the new conference dates will be (synopsis)– <i>“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.”</i> The fall meeting <i>“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).”</i></p> <p>The changes will be made as a “housekeeping” matter.</p>
New Business
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Bid for Spring Conference 2026</u>: North Carolina II indicated that they would like to sponsor the conference. It will be held in Rocky Mount, NC. The location and other pertinent information are forthcoming. This will be a joint venture. 2. On behalf of the Mason Dixon Conference, a resolution was presented to Robert L. Shipe for five decades of service to the Blue Knights Organization. The resolution was given to Cliff Landesman for presentation. 3. Comments were then provided by the new International President, Russ Harper.
Good of the Order
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>MDC Scholarship</u>: There are two \$500 scholarships that are made available to members and their families. In the past three years, there have only been three applicants.

This upcoming year's topic is "what are the positive and negative consequences of artificial intelligence and do you think that AI will enhance the human experience or rob us of our humanity? Please explain your position."

2. A reminder that there will be HR-218 qualifications available during the conference.
3. Pam McLaren shared that her chapter (PA XIII) will be co-sponsoring the fall Tri-State conference from October 10th through 13th in Hatfield, Pennsylvania. Rooms need to be reserved by September 10th, registrations must be in by September 20th.
4. DJ shared that his chapter (TX XXXI) will be hosting the Rio Grande Spring Conference in 2026. The dates are May 21st to May 24th, 2026. The event will be held in League City, Texas.
5. From Mark Howard:
 - To date, the special fund has paid out \$10,500. At the current rate, the funds will at some point be exhausted. There is a goal to rebuild the finances. There has been a request to have each member of the organization pay an extra \$1.00 per year to assist in building the funds back up.
 - Please follow up with members to ensure that they have accurate emails. There is still an issue where individuals are using old emails or ones attached to government accounts.

Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings

Spring Conference Meeting: Spring conference, information forthcoming

Fall Conference Meeting: VA II made a bid to host the fall meeting. This will mark the 50th Anniversary for the Blue Ridge Rally. Members are asked to start making reservations for their rooms immediately at the front desk. The dates will fall on September 4th through 7th, 2026.

Motion made: All in favor

Announcement of International Convention

2026 Convention (Hosted by Alberta V): Will be on July 19 - July 25, 2026, in Alberta, Canada. Registration is now open. Click the link for more information.

<https://www.blueknightsalgary.com/registration/>

Closing

1. Closing Prayer: Barry Clark delivered the closing prayer.
2. Adjournment 10:21 am.
3. Next meeting 09:00 am: Sunday, May 24, 2026, Rocky Mount, NC, Spring MDC

MDC Contact Info

Website: www.bkmdc.org

BLUE KNIGHTS – MASON DIXON CONFERENCE

ROLL CALL, 2025

Chapter	Winter	Spring	Fall	Chapter	Winter	Spring	Fall
DE - 1	X	X	x	NC-XXI		X	
KY-I				NC-XXIII			
KY- II		X	X	NC-XXIV			
KY – III		X		TN- I			
KY - VII		X		TN-II		X	X
KY – VIII				TN – III	X		X
KY – IX				TN – IV			
KY – XI				TN – V			
KY – XII			X	TN – VI			
KY – XV				TN – VII			
KY - XIX				TN – VIII			
MD – I	X	X	X	TN – IX			
MD – III			X	TN - X			
MD – IV	X			VA – I	X	X	X
MD – IX				VA – II	X	X	X
NC – I				VA – III	X	X	X
NC – II		X	X	VA – V	X	X	X
NC – III				VA – VI			
NC – IV		(X)*	X	VA – VII			
NC – VI				VA – VIII			
NC – VIII	X	X	X	VA – IX			
NC – XI				VA – XIII		X	X
NC – XII		X	X	VA – XVII	X	X	X
NC – XIII		X		VA – XIX			
NC – XIV				VA – XX			
NC – XV		(X)*	X	WV – I			
NC – XVI	X	X	X	WV – II	X	X	X
NC – XVII				WV - III		X	
NC – XVIII				TOTAL	11	22	20