

Mason-Dixon Conference – Spring 2026

Meeting Minutes

Call to order May 3, 2026 at 9:00 by John Weinstein (Chairman) in Rocky Mount, 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)	Excused
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)	(proxy Mike Pollinger)
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	Marty McNulty (WV-II)	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)	Excused

Agenda Items
1. <u>Call to Order: 09:00</u> a. Moment of Silence. b. Opening Prayer – Barry Clark. c. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance. 2. 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>

3. Chapter Roll-Call and Report: Byron Hope (MDC Secretary):
4. There are 52 Chapters in the conference, with 1493 members; 20 Chapters are represented at the meeting (39 % in attendance). Approximately 150 members, spouses and guests attended the meeting.
5. Chapters attending: (SEE ATTACHED)

6. Recognized VIPs:

<u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u> • Russ Harper – President • Andreas Hohendorf – BOG Vice Chairman	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u> • X • X
<u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u> • X • X	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u> • X • X
<u>BOG OFFICERS</u> • X • X	<u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u> • X • X

7. Chairman's Remarks: Chairman John Weinstein thanked all for attending and NC II, XII, and XXI for all their hard work resulting in a great conference meeting.
8. Host Chapter Remarks: President Keith Newland (NC XII) thank members of his chapter, NC II and NC XXI for coming together to make the conference a success. He also thanked all those who were able to attend
9. Vice Chairman's Report: (provided by Chairman Weinstein): Regarding membership, as of 15 April, MDC has 51 Chapters with 1493 members. The MDC is the 4th largest conference, behind the EC (2432), Tri-State (1810) and the SRC (1628). International has 560 chapters with 13489 members worldwide. Potentially one starter kit is about to be sent out.
10. Secretary's Report (Byron Hope): The Fall 2025 MDC Conference meeting minutes dated 31st August, 2025 were completed and sent to the State Reps to forward to the Chapter Presidents and posted on the website. VA I moved to accept the minutes, and WV II seconded the motion, which passed unanimously and without comment.
11. Treasurer's Report (Keith Chase): Financial Report – As of 31st day of March, 2026, the ending balance for checking was \$9,843.77.

We have had \$747.34 come in for dues and \$30.00 in Quartermaster sales. Our largest expense was \$180.00 for email accounts. Additionally, we received our membership payment of \$1671.00 (\$1.00 per member). The financial report was read into the minutes. **(SEE ATTACHED).**

12. International Representative's Report. Mike Pollinger, MDC International Rep:

During the most recent executive board meeting items that were discussed included:

- Updates on the 2026 International Conference as it pertained to meeting spots for those headed to Canada.
- Revising the convention guidelines with recommendations to help keep chapters out of financial challenges
- Voting on honorary members. During this time, Scott Walker and Kristin Gracy were removed.
- Cal Ennals (Vice President) is presently working on a recruiting video. It is still being fine-tuned and is forthcoming.

Mike Pollinger's contact information: mdc.rep@blueknights.org or 302-545-5301.

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@BKMD.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 – Mike Pollinger (on behalf of Art Turner) DE I:

- Delaware has 68 members in its only chapter (DE-1).
- Held their 19th Anniversary of Ride to the Tide, with a total of 517 bikes in attendance. There were also 109 passengers. Planning for the 20th event has already started.
- On October 19th, the 43rd run for Toys for Tots will be held.

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

- Kentucky has 10 Chapters.
- KY XI will be hosting a COPs benefit ride on June 6th. It will start at Man-O-War Harley Davidson.
- The same chapter will also be hosting their 24th or 25th Law Enforcement Association Ride. Starts at Kentucky Law Enforcement Training Center in Richmond, KY.
- September 19th will be the Blue Knights Gathering in Montgomery, Indiana.

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

- Maryland has 4 Chapters.
- Maryland I will be hosting their crab feast. The event will be on August 8th, 2026. Hotel rooms are available close by at Holiday Inn Greenbelt (1-800-465-4329/Room code "Blue Knights). Additional information can be found at WWW.BKMD1.org.

4. North Carolina State Representative – Mike Lewis (NC-II):
 - North Carolina has 18 Chapters.
 - Working with western conferences and possibly Tennessee to cohost an upcoming conference
 - On May 23rd, the Officer Down Memorial Ride will take place.
 - On October 3rd, NC XII will be hosting Honor the Fallen Ride.
5. Tennessee State Representative – Bob Rivers:
 - Tennessee has 10 Chapters
 - All chapters have been renewed and half of them are represented at this conference.
6. Virginia State Representative – Randy Myrick (VA-XIII):
 - Virginia has 12 Chapters.
 - Unfortunately, one chapter folded during the renewal period. Randy has reached out to that president to promote members joining surrounding chapters.
 - Virginia XIII will host their annual Toy Run on October 3rd.
 - Virginia XVII will be hosting their annual picnic on June 6th.
 - Virginia II will be hosting the next MDC in Culpeper, Virginia (See below).
7. West Virginia State Representative – Marty McNulty:
 - West Virginia has 3 Chapters.
 - WV II will hold their annual Wild and Wonderful in June

Website

1. Bob Rhodes – Webmaster: Bob's phone number is 704-534-3642.
 - ***We now use the official email address for each Chapter*** on the Chapter contact's page.
 - Please send flyers of all events to webmaster@bkmdc.org
 - Sends his regards since he was unable to make the meeting.
 - Asks that any information on rides to be forwarded for posting. Members can also post information on the MDC Facebook page.
 - Also, emails that will be sent out will be through the official Blue Knights email accounts.

(REMINDER FROM LAST MEETINGS NOTES: Corporate Email System: International has switched to an in-house email system. If your chapter has not switched/set-up your account, do so now. Using this email address rather than a personal account preserves information should an officer be replaced and his or her email is no longer available. Also, purge the files occasionally (delete deleted messages from the delete file) as there is a limited amount of space).

Quartermaster

1. MDC Sales Items: MDC Conference coins, pins , patches and stickers are available at the MDC website or can be ordered directly through the Conference Quartermaster (Keith Chase).

We take cash, checks or credit cards 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. <u>Safety Officer</u>: Monty Monterrosa (NC-VIII) • Please ensure that you check weather prior to heading out on rides. Also, ensure that you have the appropriate clothing wear available (e.g., rain gear). • Please ensure that you check tires and air pressure.
Chaplain
1. <u>Barry Clark (VA-III)</u>. Email is chaplain@bkmdc.org; cell phone 804-824-4127 • Please reach out if you have a member who is ill or suffering from loss or in need of support. Also, if that member has a family member in need, also reach out.
Old Business
1. <u>Chapter Leadership Changes</u>: Please ensure you email the MDC Secretary, Chairman and Vice Chairman along with the International of any Chapter changes (E-Board officers, website, and contact info). 2. <u>Fall 2026 MDC Conference Update</u>: Hosted by VA-II. Chapter President Kevin Foltz provided an update. • Flyer is out and circulating. Registration can also be done on the chapter's website (www.bkva-ii.org). The theme this year will be "Golden Knights." See attached:
New Business
1. <u>Bid for Winter Conference 2027</u>: Looking for a bid for the 2027 conference. If anyone is interested, please notify the board. 2. Candidates for 2026-2027 MDC Board (all unopposed; to be installed at Fall Conference): • Chairman: John Weinstein, VA-2 • Vice Chairman: Fred Allen, MD-1 • Secretary: Byron Hope, MD-1 • Treasurer: John Bull, MD-1 • International Representative: Mike Pollinger, DE-1
Good of the Order
1. <u>MDC Scholarship</u>: 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: no applications received. The requirement was for applications to be postmarked nlt 30 April.

2. Mike Pollinger reminded everyone that when a member dies, chapter presidents need to go onto International's website and submit the deceased member's name under the Heaven I tab. Once received, International will forward the next of kin a membership card which will entitle them to attend any Blue Knights event.		
3. <u>Organizations Executives' Time.</u> • Int'l President: Russ Harper - Survey has been posted on the International Website to determine what changes the members would like to see with the Sword and Shield magazine. - Looking for chapters to sponsor international conferences. Guidelines are being revised so that chapters can benefit from hosting. • BOG Vice Chairman: Andreas Hohendorf was recognized and thanked everyone for their hospitality.		
Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings		
Fall Conference Meeting: Update by VA-II President Kevin Foltz		
Announcement of International Conventions		
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.blueknightsocalgary.com/registration/		
Closing		
1. Closing Prayer: Barry Clark delivered the benediction. 2. Adjournment <u>10:25</u> am. 3. Next meeting 09:00 am/6 Sep 2026 at the 2026 Fall Conference in Culpeper, VA.		
MDC Contact Info	Website: www.bkmdc.org	