



## **FREE CHAPTERS® CHARTER**

The purpose of the FREE CHAPTER® is to unite Harley-Davidson® motorcycle owners, to create friendship and mutual support among themselves and to organize rides in their respective countries for those who share the same philosophy.

Every FREE CHAPTER® makes its own rules but those rules must be based on the overarching rules applicable to all FREE CHAPTER®s.

FREE CHAPTER®s may not be associated with any HD dealerships or to the Harley Davidson® brand as stipulated in the HOG® Charter.

Consequently a FREE CHAPTER® may not benefit from any status enjoyed by official Chapters of HOG®. They may also not receive subsidies from HD dealerships, or from the Harley Davidson® Motorcycle Company. They are independent and free from all official HOG® Chapters and/or their governing bodies.

FREE CHAPTER®s may not use the HOG® or Harley Davidson® logos that are registered trademarks, to promote their Web sites, events, or on promotional materials (T-shirts, clothing, stickers, banners, flags, etc...).

## **FREEDOM DOES NOT MEAN ANARCHY**

The aim of this Charter is for all FREE CHAPTER®s to share the same philosophy and to use a common "language".

All members of FREE CHAPTER® agree with the values of HOG® and they must be paid-up members in their individual capacities and thus display the HOG® patch at the back and front of their colours.

FREE CHAPTER® must not be in opposition or in any way hostile, towards official HOG® Chapters or their members.

Having fun is one of the basic rules of the FREE CHAPTER®.

Good spirit and strong camaraderie within the FREE CHAPTER® and between FREE CHAPTER®s is expected.

The FREE CHAPTER®'s unity and authenticity must be preserved and is achieved by being selective about membership and monitoring the growth. **Quality always supersedes quantity.**



The Free Board is comprised of members who are also Functionaries in various FREE CHAPTER®s

This board has been in existence since the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2009 and the official language of the Board and FREE CHAPTER® is French.

Under the leadership of its Director, the purpose of the Free Board, is to promote the spirit of the FREE CHAPTER®, to demand respect for the Charter, and ultimately to offer advice and guidance to FREE CHAPTER®s who ask for it.

The Free Board comprises two groups:

#### 1. Board Managers

They are the founders of the Board or were co-opted after the Board was first established. They hold the executive power and hold sole voting rights for major decisions concerning the FREE CHAPTER® Federation.

Their Board is made up of a Director, 2 Assistant Directors, a Treasurer, etc...

The process to become a Board Manager is as follows:-

- Applications are considered only if the function's roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and that function is aligned with other Board functions.
- The new Board Manager must add real value to the Board.
- There must be a unanimous vote among all Board members for the candidate Board Manager to be appointed.

#### 2. Board Members

Board Members are assistants to Board Managers and serve an advisory role. Board members do not have voting rights.

Each 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® per country may have two Board Members who must be functionaries in their respective FREE CHAPTER®s.

They are responsible for the running of the FREE CHAPTER® affairs in their country, including forming of new FREE CHAPTER®s, resolving conflict between FREE CHAPTER®s or members and ensuring sound relations with local MC's.

They are the protectors and keepers of the FREE CHAPTER®'s spirit and are required to monitor the development of the FREE CHAPTER®s movement for their country.

All members of the Free Board wear a patch "FREE BOARD" on their colours below the standard patches. In the event of dual function, "BOARD ARROW" always takes precedent.

Responsibility of the Free Board : The Board is the custodian of the FREE CHAPTER® movement in respect of the Charter. The Board monitors its development by assisting with the creation of new FREE CHAPTER®s through the FREE CHAPTER® “Godfather”. The Board also participate in the organising of the Free Meetings. Their role is primarily to guide and assist FREE CHAPTER®s where necessary but not to take executive control of those FREE CHAPTER®s. The Free Board meets once a year.

Budget of the Free Board : The activities of the Free Board incurs expenses and therefore every FREE CHAPTER® is required to contribute.

With effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2015, a yearly contribution of €5 per member of each FREE CHAPTER® became payable, with a minimum of €75 (corresponding to a minimum of 15 members) and a maximum of €500 for FREE CHAPTER®s over 100 members.

For FREE CHAPTER®s whose number of members is below 15, the amount to be paid is €75, based on a minimum of 15 members at €5 each.

Experience shows that the long-term viability of a FREE CHAPTER® is a minimum of 15 members. It is this number which is considered for the fee ... waiting for this Chapter to grow in number of members.

Membership numbers will be provided to the Board during the Directors meeting at the annual Free Meeting. A set of financials will be communicated annually at the Free Meeting.



The Board Arrows was established in 2011 in order to help the development of the Free Movement. With the growth in numbers of FREE CHAPTER®s, the ability of the Board to manage all the demands placed on it became increasing difficult and hence the establishment of the Board Arrows.

**Being their representatives, the Board Arrows are the guardians of the spirit of the Free Movement and its values.**

The BA have a significant role to play with regards the safety and logistics for the Free Meetings and for any event organized by FREE CHAPTER®s®

Board Arrows are nominated on individual application or on a proposal to the Board, by an existing Board Arrow, or by the FREE CHAPTER® to which the candidate belongs.

Applications are submitted to the Board Managers who may give their approval after consultation of the Director of the FREE CHAPTER® to which the candidate belong.

Basic requirements for a candidate are:

- very experienced rider
- member for a few years of a FREE CHAPTER®
- willing to spend time for the Movement
- In good standing with his FREE CHAPTER®

Every Board Arrow has a patch “Board Arrow” on the back of his colours, below the HOG® patch. An exception is made for Italy who have a rocker above the HOG® patch.

Even if he remains a member of his original FREE CHAPTER®, he does not wear the country name on the back bottom patch, only the patch with the country name of the front of the colours.

See annexure 3 for Board Arrows members.

## **1. Conditions for the creation of a FREE CHAPTER®**

1. A group of a minimum of 15 Harley Davidson owners wishing to join the FREE CHAPTER® Federation must be sponsored by the geographically closest established FREE CHAPTER®. The purpose of this first step is for the FREE CHAPTER® “Godfather” to meet the applicant, to explain the operating rules, conditions of belonging and the values of a FREE CHAPTER®. The Godfather FREE CHAPTER® will therefore ensure proper understanding of operations and obtain commitment to comply from the applicant.

This first meeting may happen with the presence of other FREE CHAPTER® Board Members and/or Arrow Boards Members. Together they will decide if the applicant is eligible to form a FREE CHAPTER®.

2. If successful, the applicant will visit to the 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® of that country to meet with the Functionaries and present its “case” to become a FREE CHAPTER®. The applicants Godfather and/or Board Arrows Members may join the applicant for this meeting.

In case of the creation of a 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® in a new country, after communication between the candidate and the closest 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® and the Director of the Board, the candidate will have to physically meet the closest 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® and the representatives of the Board before starting step 1 and 2 of the procedure.

If agreed, the Director and a Functionary of his choice of this new 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® will become members of the Free Board.

At the end of step 2 and after signature of the Charter, The newly appointed Director of the FREE CHAPTER® will officially receive his colours.

3. After final validation by the 1<sup>st</sup> FREE CHAPTER® of the country, the newly constituted FREE CHAPTER® will organize in his home town, a mini rally for the official presentation of its colours by the FREE CHAPTER® Board, Godfather FREE CHAPTER® and eventually Arrow Board Members.

This presentation of colours will be open to all FREE CHAPTER®s who wish to attend. This rally will demonstrate the willingness, ability and organizational skills of the new FREE CHAPTER® and will allow all other FREE CHAPTER®s present to meet the newly constituted FREE CHAPTER®.

## **2. Daily running of a FREE CHAPTER®**

4. Every FREE CHAPTER® has his own internal rules and regulations. They are free to set the amount for yearly subscription for membership
5. The number of FREE CHAPTER®s is limited to 1 per main city. Exception may be made for large cities but only with prior agreement of the existing FREE CHAPTER® in that city and must be validated by the FREE CHAPTER® Board.
6. If a member of a FREE CHAPTER® leaves (or is excluded) from his/her FREE CHAPTER® and wishes to create or join another FREE CHAPTER®, it is agreed that he/she may not do so without the consent of both Directors : his/her original FREE CHAPTER® and the new one. This particular clause must be an exception.
7. All FREE CHAPTER®s must apply for the necessary insurance cover when organizing rallies, rides, exhibitions and any event which involves the name FREE CHAPTER®.

## **3. Colours**

1. Our colours are our sign of recognition and belonging.
2. We are proud to be FREE CHAPTER® and it is an honour to wear our colours.
3. The general layout of our colours at the back and left front is the following :
  - Top rocker : FREE CHAPTER®
  - Middle rocker: official HOG® eagle (old or new type). Ladies who would wish it can wear the "Ladies of Harley®" patch
  - Bottom rocker : name of the FREE CHAPTER® and country

This rule applies to all countries, except Italy, due to local MC regulation:

- Italy: Top rocker: FREE CHAPTER®. Middle Rocker: Name and Location. Bottom Rocker : HOG® Eagle

Each layout must be approved by the FREE CHAPTER® Board and then applies to all FREE CHAPTER®s of the same country.

With the agreement of the Directors of the FREE CHAPTER®s present at the 2006 Free Meeting held in Roazhon (France), an exception was made for Testa Mora FREE CHAPTER® (Corsica).

In the absence of the HOG® representative for this area, the Testa Mora FREE CHAPTER® has no obligation to wear the HOG® Eagle. They were then permitted to wear their own logo.

In order to keep the alignment of colours, the 1<sup>st</sup> Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER® exclusively, will order the patches (except the HOG® eagle) for all FREE CHAPTER®s worldwide. Payment to be made directly to the supplier: Brodata in Gradignan (France).

4. Each FREE CHAPTER® specific logo and/or Functionary patch can be worn anywhere on the front of the jacket/waistcoat as long as the general layout is adhered to. The HOG® back patch can be substituted for the logo of the FREE CHAPTER®. As with T-shirts, banners, stickers and to the "63" with 12 stars patch, distinctive sign of the FREE CHAPTER®s.
5. All political and/or religious symbols or insignias are strictly prohibited on official FREE CHAPTER® colours.

Note 1: The name "FREE CHAPTER®" is registered at the National Institute of Intellectual Property for France and at the O.A.M.I. for Europe. Its use without permission exposes the abuser to prosecution. Authorization for the use of the registered name will only be given by its owner, the Director of a compliant FREE CHAPTER®. Terms and conditions as detailed in the document "Brand Use Agreement" apply.

Note 2: A membership fee of €50 (Euros) valid for 10 years applies to all FREE CHAPTER®s. It has to be paid to 1<sup>st</sup> Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®, who is the owner of the FREE CHAPTER® registered name.



A gathering of all FREE CHAPTER®s is held every year and is exclusive to FREE CHAPTER® members.

For every annual Free Meeting, all FREE CHAPTER®s commit to participate in this event and to send as many of their members and Functionaries as possible.

These yearly meeting promote a strong bond in our community and fully express our spirit and philosophy of camaraderie.

The presence of each FREE CHAPTER® at the Free Meeting, is considered mandatory. Should a FREE CHAPTER® not be present at the yearly gathering without valid reasons, a FREE CHAPTER® could then be excluded from the movement. This decision would finally be made after consultation with the FREE CHAPTER®s Board.

Valid reasons could be:

- Creation of the new FREE CHAPTER® too close to the date of the Free Meeting.
- Serious accident/sickness beyond the control of the member of a FREE CHAPTER®.
- Any serious reason agreed by the FREE CHAPTER®s Board.

Free Meetings are organised chronologically, starting from the first to join. In case of a FREE CHAPTER® not accepting responsibility to do so, the following one in terms of date of creation will take preference.

It is possible for 2 FREE CHAPTER®s to join forces for the organisation of a Free Meeting.

#### **4. Legal status of FREE CHAPTER®S**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** the above are merely guidelines. Every FREE CHAPTER® is entirely free to organize their own rules and regulations according to legal regulations of their country.

Every FREE CHAPTER® should be registered as a “Non-profit Organisation” comprising of the following Functionaries:

- A Director
- Assistant-Director (s)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Road-Captain (s)
- Safety officers
- Activities officer
- Etc...

The role of these Functionaries is to implement a program of activities. They are also obliged to enforce the respect of the Charter and spirit in the FREE CHAPTER®.

The Functionaries meet regularly and decisions are made by majority vote.

#### **5. Criteria’s for Individuals to join a FREE CHAPTER®:**

- to own a Harley Davidson motorcycle
- to be insured
- to be a member of HOG® International
- to complete the membership form of the FREE CHAPTER®
- to show personal commitment during the probationary period

- to comply with the Charter, adhering to the rules and the displaying of colours of his/her FREE CHAPTER®
- Not to be member of another Chapter or motorcycle club

These are the basic rules but can be expanded on should a FREE CHAPTER® deem it necessary.

## **6. Other conditions to be member of a FREE CHAPTER®**

- To have valid HOG® International membership and pay membership fees to their respective FREE CHAPTER®
- Associated members (pillion riders) must also conform with HOG® International membership and pay membership fees to their respective FREE CHAPTER®
- The naming convention of « Prospect » is not part of the FREE CHAPTER® vocabulary. Members on probation can be called « Padawan » or any other denomination decided by the FREE CHAPTER®
- All members are encouraged to participate in the various activities of the FREE CHAPTER® as often as possible.

## **7. Resignation / Expulsion**

The status of a FREE CHAPTER® member is forfeited when resigning or if expelled.

Expulsions are decided by the Functionaries voting. Reasons can be:

- non-payment of fees, lapsed HOG® International membership
- behaviour jeopardizing the image and reputation of the FREE CHAPTER®.

Members who resign or who are expelled are not entitled to any indemnities or refunding of fees.

In both cases, ex-members must immediately refrain from wearing colours of the FREE CHAPTER®.

## **8. Events**

All activities of a FREE CHAPTER®, except “breakfast runs”, are reserved for their members only. However, invitations to non-members can be extended but with the agreement of at least one Functionary.

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Each FREE CHAPTER® is committed to respect the terms of this Charter and enforce it on their members.

This Charter is the guarantee of our enduring enthusiasm and choice to live out our passion together.



Each and every FREE CHAPTER® that decides to join does so freely and in full acknowledgment and understanding of the Charter.

In the event of disrespect of the Charter or behaviour that could threaten or harm the image of the FREE CHAPTER®S, the FREE CHAPTER® concerned would be sanctioned by losing the right to wear FREE CHAPTER® colours and to use the FREE CHAPTER® name.

**Friendship and respect for others are the values of the FREE CHAPTER®**

**Acceptance of the Charter:**

I, the undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_

Legal representative of: \_\_\_\_\_

Commit to respect and to enforce this Charter in my FREE CHAPTER®®

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Director of the newly  
Constituted FREE CHAPTER®

Harley 51, Chairman  
of the FREE CHAPTER® Board

## **Annexure 1**

### **FREE BOARD**

#### **List of Free Board Members on 15 August 2015 :**

##### **1) Board Managers :**

<b>Name</b>	<b>FREE CHAPTER®</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>contact</b>
Harley Harley.51@numericable.fr	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®		Director
Phil2 phil2@1bordeauxfreechapter.fr	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®		Assistant Director
Forest chepy@wanadoo.fr		1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®	
Franco frlocatelli1gmail.com	1st Charleroi FREE CHAPTER®		Assistant Director
Eric <a href="mailto:buyseeric@belgacom.net">buyseeric@belgacom.net</a>	1st Charleroi FREE CHAPTER®		Board Arrow
PP ppichon@lallemand.com	Roazhon FREE CHAPTER®		Board Arrow
Diablo brocas.etienne@sfr.fr	Roazhon FREE CHAPTER®		Board Arrow
Le Grinch legrinch.1stfreechapter@wanadoo.fr	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®		Trésorier

##### **2) Board Members :**

<b>Name</b>	<b>FREE CHAPTER®</b>	<b>Function</b>	<b>contact</b>
Paolo	1st Roma FREE CHAPTER®		
Massimo	1st Roma FREE CHAPTER®		
Charly	1st Blanes FREE CHAPTER®		
Ignacio	1st Blanes FREE CHAPTER®		
Mark	1st Algarve FREE CHAPTER®		
Samuel	1st Algarve FREE CHAPTER®		
Adam	1st South Poland FREE CHAPTER®		
Jago	1st South Poland FREE CHAPTER®		
Del	1 <sup>st</sup> Bertrange Luxembourg FREE CHAPTER®		
Dan	1 <sup>st</sup> Bertrange Luxembourg FREE CHAPTER®		
Quoc Hoi Hoang	1 <sup>st</sup> Saïgon FREE CHAPTER®		
Marco	1 <sup>st</sup> Saïgon FREE CHAPTER®		
Richard	1 <sup>st</sup> Saguenay Lac St Jean FREE CHAPTER®		
Stéphane	1 <sup>st</sup> Saguenay Lac St Jean FREE CHAPTER®		

André Louis      1<sup>st</sup> Rio de Janeiro FREE CHAPTER®  
 Georg            1<sup>st</sup> Gauteng FREE CHAPTER®  
 Bercy            1<sup>st</sup> Budapest Hungary FREE CHAPTER®  
 Gabriel          1<sup>st</sup> Budapest Hungary FREE CHAPTER®

**Annexure 2**

**on 15 August 2015**

	<b>FREE CHAPTER®S</b>	<b>NB de Members</b>
<b>1</b>	1st BORDEAUX FREE CHAPTER® FRANCE	48
<b>2</b>	CHARLEROI FREE CHAPTER® BELGIUM	46
<b>3</b>	VAL D'OR FREE CHAPTER® BELGIUM	15
<b>4</b>	ROAZHON FREE CHAPTER® France	34
<b>5</b>	TESTA MORA FREE CHAPTER® CORSICA	52
<b>6</b>	LILLE FREE CHAPTER® France	23
<b>7</b>	BLANES FREE CHAPTER® SPAIN	8
<b>8</b>	ST TROP' FREE CHAPTER® France	17
<b>9</b>	VINDEDA FREE CHAPTER® F RANCE	15
<b>10</b>	GAUTENG FREE CHAPTER® AF-SUD	64
<b>11</b>	BAÏONA FREE CHAPTER® France	15
<b>12</b>	ROMA FREE CHAPTER® ITALY	16
<b>13</b>	CAEN FREE CHAPTER® France	13
<b>14</b>	GINHAC FREE CHAPTER® France	15
<b>15</b>	ROMAGNA FREE CHAPTER® ITALY	43
<b>16</b>	MILANO FLYING PIGS ITALY	36
<b>17</b>	NICE FREE CHAPTER® France	24
<b>18</b>	LA GOËLE FREE CHAPTER® France	15
<b>19</b>	PORTA D'ORIENTE FREE CHAPTER® ITALY	31
<b>20</b>	CAPE TOWN FREE CHAPTER® AF-SUD	74
<b>21</b>	PARTENOPE FREE CHAPTER® ITALY	20
<b>22</b>	TROTTERS FREE CHAPTER®S ITALY	39
<b>23</b>	ARMOR FREE CHAPTER® France	16
<b>24</b>	ROCHEFORT / MER FREE CHAPTER® FRANCE	23
<b>25</b>	V 45 TERNI ITALY	25
<b>26</b>	LANGASTER ITALY	38
<b>27</b>	ALGARVE Portugal	47
<b>28</b>	V PICENUM ITALY	40
<b>29</b>	URBE SCALIGERA	28
<b>30</b>	BLACK SHEEP ITALY	19
<b>31</b>	NORTHERN LANDS	28
<b>32</b>	SOUTH POLAND	50
<b>33</b>	TRICOLORE	19
<b>34</b>	CANARIAS	7
<b>35</b>	COSTA AZAHAR	61
<b>36</b>	DCCLIII	42
<b>37</b>	SANG REAL	32

<b>38</b>	BERTRANGE Luxembourg	15
<b>39</b>	SAIGON	45
<b>40</b>	SAGUENAY LAC ST JEAN	15
<b>41</b>	KATANE	15
<b>42</b>	AETERNUS	22
<b>43</b>	RIVIERA COUNTY	26
<b>44</b>	RIO DE JANEIRO	18
<b>45</b>	LE TOUQUET	15
<b>46</b>	NORTH POLAND	15
<b>47</b>	HANOÏ	35
<b>48</b>	CAPITALE NATIONALE	15
<b>49</b>	BUDAPEST	8

**1382 members**

### **Annexure 3**

#### **BOARD ARROWS**

##### **List of Board Arrows on 01 June 2015 :**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>FREE CHAPTER®</b>	<b>Since</b>	<b>Patch</b>
00	Harley	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®		2011
11	PP	Roazhon FREE CHAPTER®		2011
11	Diablo	Roazhon FREE CHAPTER®		2011
12	Eric	1st Roma FREE CHAPTER®		2012
12	Eric	1st Charleroi FREE CHAPTER®		2012
14	Mario	1st Algarve FREE CHAPTER®		2014

14	Mr Bus	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®	2014
14	Jean Luc	1st Bordeaux FREE CHAPTER®	2014
14	Alirio	1st Algarve FREE CHAPTER®	2014
14	Axel	Vineda FREE CHAPTER®	2014
15	Alessandro	Partenope FREE CHAPTER®	2015