



## **Harley Owner Group Bike – Club and Patch guidelines**



### **Welcome to the Harley Owners Group (HOG) Black Mountain Chapter.**

#### **"Probably the best chapter in the world".**

There are a number of types of motorcycle club. You are now part of a "Riders Club" (RC).

MC and MCC are both used to mean "motorcycle club" but have a special social meaning from the point of view of the one percenter (1%) motorcycling subculture. MC is generally reserved for those clubs that are mutually recognized by other MC or 1% motorcycle clubs. This is indicated by a motorcyclist wearing an MC patch, or a three-piece patch called "colours" on the back of their jacket or riding vest.

If you are going to wear a biker patch, it pays to know something about biker patch rules and etiquette. The reason is simple: your actions will be reflected on all bikers in the area and especially the Black Mountain Chapter.

#### **Read and Follow the Club Rules**

All bike clubs have rules about how to wear the patch. You can avoid any trouble by just following the club rules. If there is something you do not understand, clarify it with the club.

If you are making or designing a patch it is a good idea to get familiar with the patch designs used by clubs in your area. Show your intended patch design to the clubs (if there are too many in your area, just show it to the most dominant group).

When you get their approval, you can have it made. This isn't really necessary, but it is a show of respect for the clubs.

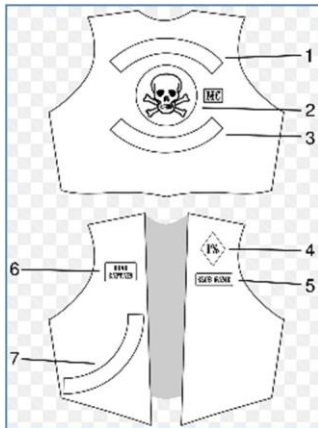
#### **The difference between Patches and Colours**

Colours and patches are the insignia worn by motorcycle club members on cut-off vests to identify membership of their club and territorial location. Club patches have been worn by many different groups since the 1960s and symbolize an elite amongst motorcyclists (1% clubs). The style has been widely copied by other subcultures and commercialised through fashion and TV shows.

Among traditional MCs, the "patch" is considered different from "colours". In their view, the patches are the property of riding clubs (RC) and are bought (as with the Black Mountain Chapter). It is the "colours" that belong to the motorcycle club. The "colours" must be earned (e.g. prospecting at a 1% club).

One of the most important biker patch rules to remember is that among MCs the "colours" symbolise commitment. Keep this in mind. Patches can mean various things to riding clubs and riders as well, and are very important in MC culture and taken very seriously.

**General Patch Rules – *Red Text means “DON’T DO IT”***



1. Top rocker – Black Mountain Chapter – club name
2. Club Logo (Various HOG designs) **(DO NOT ADD “MC”)**
3. **Bottom rocker – 1% clubs only – NOT HOG**
4. **Diamond of any type – represents 1% affiliation**
5. Name or nickname patch
6. Club rank patch (President, Secretary....)
7. **Side rocker – 1% clubs only**

**1 and 2 Piece Patches**

The 1-piece patch usually represents a riding club, family club or social motorcycle club. Most 1 piece patches are approved. The exceptions are when the logos are copied somewhere else or if the design is a lot like the local MC. **HOG have had approval internationally to allow a top rocker and central patch.**

**3 Piece Patches**

This patch can mean the rider is part of a 1% MC club or a traditional motorcycle club. In a three piece patch, the top rocker must bear the club name. The centre has the club patch and the bottom the territory.

**Members must not wear a three-piece patch.**

**Do not sew a bottom rocker below your two piece patch.**

**Rockers**

The rockers are the curved patches at the bottom and top. Riding clubs do not wear bottom rockers. Social MCs and riding clubs should not claim territory by using bottom rockers.

Enjoy your membership in the Black Mountain Chapter Harley Owners Group. It’s an excellent organisation with a vast array of social events full of like-minded people.

Live to ride. Ride to live.

