### LAS VEGAS CORVETTES ASSOCIATION



# CODE OF CONDUCT (Revised 12/09/10)

#### I GENERAL STANDARDS

- A. Members of the Las Vegas Corvettes Association (the Association) shall conduct themselves with respect to Association and other Members in the manner consistent with the Association's By-Laws and this Code of Conduct, as amended.
- B. This Code is to be adhered to by each Member of the Association for the duration of their membership.
- C. Penalties may be imposed on Members who violate the Association By-Laws and/or this Code of Conduct in accordance with the procedures enumerated herein. Nothing contained in the Association's By-Laws or this Code shall limit or otherwise restrict the right and ability of the Association to enforce its By-Laws or this Code in the courts of Nevada or in any other state.

### II INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

#### A. Respect

- (1) Each Member shall extend respect and courtesy to all fellow Members, affiliate-Members and guests.
- (2) Respect and courtesy is to be extended to all Association Officers.
- (3) Members who make threats of civil action against the Association or other Members arising out of Association business, events or activities, may subject themselves to adverse action under this Code if a bona-fide complaint is submitted in accordance with this Code.

# B. Awareness

It will be the individual Member's responsibility to be cognizant of all posted organizational policies, By-Laws and rulings. Posted/published items will be considered to place all Association Members on constructive notice of such items.

### C. Vehicle

The Corvette, being the basic symbol and reason for the membership of the Association, must be considered as follows:

- (1) The vehicle (Corvette), if it is to be operated on the public highways of any state, should be maintained in a safe, operable condition as deemed by the state's vehicle code.
- (2) Members should operate their vehicle in a sensible manner at all times, and should abide by state and local traffic laws, and the Association's Caravan Policy when it is applicable.

# D. Guest

Any Member in attendance at any organizational function or activity and who is obviously in attendance with a guest should encourage and influence their guest to behave in a sensible manner while in attendance. Behavior by a non-member which could/does create a detrimental situation causing discredit to the Association's image, name, members, etc., could validate a complaint against that Member directly responsible for that non-member's attendance.

E. No pictorial or written information pertaining to the membership shall be posted to the club website while the club event is in progress, especially for those events that occur out of town. LVCA discourages its Members posting to an internet site, any other person's information (without permission) while participating in any club event.

#### III PROCUREMENT FOR ENFORCEMENT

If any Member is accused of an infraction against the Association's By-Laws, policies, codes, etc., the following procedure shall be followed to provide a fair and reasonable enforcement of this Code.

- A. A written complaint of a violation must be filed against the accused by mailing a certified return receipt letter to the President of the Association; the complaint must state the identity of the Member and the alleged misconduct in detail. The letter must be signed by the person or persons making the accusation and a copy shall be sent to all Executive Board members. If any of the Executive Board members are involved directly or indirectly in the stated complaint, another elected officer or as designated by the Executive Board shall act in his or her stead.
- B. If the Executive Board determines that the allegation is not meritorious or of sufficient seriousness to warrant action under this Code, then the Executive Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting will make a decision on what action, if any, should be taken on the complaint.
- C. If it is initially determined by the Executive Board that the complaint is meritorious or of sufficient seriousness to warrant formal Association action under this Code, the following procedure shall be utilized:
  - (1) The Association President shall within five (5) days after receiving the written complaint, call a special meeting of the Association's Executive Board to be held not less than ten (10) days from the date the complaint was received, but not more than twenty (20) days.
  - (2) The Executive Board shall review the complaint and shall issue a certified mail, return-receipt letter to the Member or Members who are the subject of the complaint stating the specific allegations and allowing the addressee(s) to submit a written response within fifteen (15) days after they received the Executive Board's letter. (3) The Executive Board shall review the response from the Member(s) within seven (7) days of receiving it and shall decide what, if any penalty or action is appropriate. If the Member(s) fails to submit a written response to the Executive Board within fifteen (15) days, the Executive Board may proceed with its decision.
    - (a) The Executive Board, in making its decision, shall consider only the allegations contained in the original complaint letter and the written response(s) of the Member(s) against whom the complaint is made. The Board shall consider the merits of the complaint, and whether the complaint is based on first-hand or second-hand information of the person who made the allegations. In the event that the Executive Board expels, terminates or suspends a Member, the Executive Board must provide such Member not less than fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the expulsion, suspension or termination, and the reasons for it; and, an opportunity for the Member to be heard, orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the expulsion, suspension or termination by the full Executive Board of the Association.
    - (b) If the Executive Board determines that it must obtain testimony or statements from persons other than the complainant and the Member against whom the complaint was made, then the Board shall set a date for a hearing at which it may hear in-person statements of witnesses in the presence of both the complainant(s) and the Member(s) against whom the complaint was made. The Executive Board shall, in such event, send notices by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the complainant(s), the Member(s) against whom the complaint was made and all desired witnesses. Any notice to the complainant and the respondent(s) must contain the information in subparagraph (i) and (ii), below. The notice shall, at a minimum state the purpose of the hearing and the date, time and place. The hearing shall occur in no less than three (3) days after the receipt of notice by the Member(s) complained against.

- (i) The complainant(s) are responsible for their own appearance at the hearing plus any witnesses they need to support their complaint. If the complainant does not appear at the hearing without notice or cause, the Executive Board may dismiss the complaint and no further mention or record will be made of it.
- (ii) The Member(s) against whom the complaint was made will be responsible for their own appearance plus any witnesses they will need to support their position. If said Member(s) does not appear without notice or cause, the Executive Board may infer that such Member(s) is uninterested to remain a member of the Association.
- (4) If the complaint is sustained by the greater weight of the evidence, the Executive Board shall then decide the appropriate penalty. The Executive Board has the sole discretion to determine what, if any, penalty is appropriate.
- (5) If the Executive Board determines that membership of the Member(s) complained against should be terminated as mentioned, the affected Member is not entitled to a refund of membership dues in full or in part, unless the Executive Board determines otherwise. In the event that the Executive Board terminates a Member, the Executive Board after a hearing, and even if the Member against whom the complaint was made failed to appear at the hearing, the Board still must provide such Member not less than fifteen (15) days prior written notice of the termination, and the reasons for it; and, an opportunity for the Member to be heard, orally or in writing, not less than five (5) days before the effective date of the termination by the full Executive Board of the Association.

### IV HEARING PROCEDURES

- A. The complaint will be read by the President or Vice-President.
  - (1) The person(s) who submitted the complaint will be given an opportunity to make a statement, present evidence and/or witnesses in support of the complaint as read.
  - (2) After such presentation by the complainant, the Member(s) against whom the complaint was made will be given an opportunity to make a statement, present evidence and/or witnesses in rebuttal to the complaint, statements of the complainant(s) and/or the complainant's witness(s) and any other evidence presented by the complainant.
  - (3)After all statements from each of the principals and the witnesses have been accounted for, the Executive Board may, in orderly fashion, ask any of the principals or witnesses questions relating to the case for clarification of facts
  - (4) After all questions and statements have been made, the principals and witnesses will be dismissed and the Executive Board shall deliberate on the merits of the complaint and any rebuttal. The Executive Board shall make its decision and send written notification of the decision and any penalties imposed to the Member(s) against whom the complaint was made within three (3) days after concluding the hearing.

### V PENALTY OPTIONS

The Executive Board shall be limited to the following penalty options only:

- Option 1 A letter of apology sent to Association President.
- Option 2 A letter of reprimand sent to the complainant from the Executive Board.
- Option 3 Termination of Membership with permanent ineligibility to rejoin the Association.

  The membership shall be informed of the termination in a factual but brief statement.

\*With any termination of Membership, the Member must return all properties considered to be Association property. Included items are, but not limited to: Association records, equipment, accouterments of office held by the Member (if a current officer of the Association), revolving trophies or plaques, items held for resale to Members, etc. All such items must be returned to the Association President within ten (10) days from the effective date of the termination, or that person becomes liable for a breach of agreement between that person and the Association. Any member terminated by this Association's membership and who does not comply with the suspension terms as prescribed in any hearing by an arbitrator or mediator may be liable for attorney fees and court costs if restitution must be sought by the Association in a civil court of law.

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