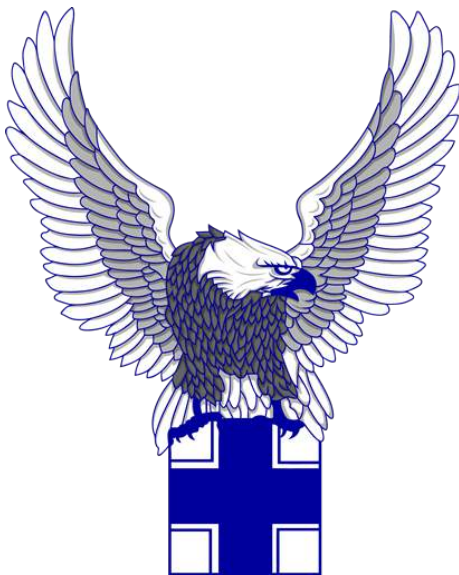


Blue Max

Pledge Handbook



Pledge Name:

Welcome & Thank You for Your Interest!

The Brothers and Sisters of Blue Max would like to welcome you to our family. We're glad that you've shown an interest in our organization. Please allow us to tell you a little about ourselves. Blue Max was founded in St. Louis in 1974, and is an active part of the LGBT, Leather, and kink communities.



Over the years, Blue Max has raised thousands of dollars for charities and will continue to be a major contributor to these charities for years to come. As members of the special family we call the leather community, we pride ourselves on our commitment to brotherhood and friendship.

Throughout the year, we hold various social and leather events that may include a run, which is an opportunity for similar clubs to join us for a weekend of meals and events.



Intro to The Pledge Handbook

This handbook was designed as a guide to aid pledges in their quest for membership, and as such, shall not override the Blue Max By-laws and Standing Rules of Order or any decisions of the club membership.

We hope this handbook will inform you about our club, various membership roles, and how you can be a part of the community, too!

Membership Requirements

- ◆ Applicants for active membership must not now be or have been, in the last six (6) months, an active member of a similar club unless that club has ceased to exist.
- ◆ An applicant for active membership must be sponsored by two members in good standing.
- ◆ The applicant applying for membership of any kind must be at least twenty-one years of age.
- ◆ An individual expressing a desire to become an Active Member shall first be required to complete all the criteria outlined in the Pledge Handbook.
- ◆ An Active Member shall pay his or her monthly dues and other fees at a regularly scheduled meeting or by mail to the Treasurer unless otherwise excused by the Board of Directors.
- ◆ No active Member shall fail or refuse to attend and participate in two (2) consecutive meetings (or club sanctioned functions) unless he has informed the President or a Board Member of the Corporation prior to the meeting (event) together with a justifiable reason.
- ◆ Active Members are strongly encouraged to attend two runs or similar club functions per year, one of which may be an in town run of another club.



Types of Membership



Active/Regular – a full member who is in good standing and who has voting privileges. Full members must attend every meeting and club event.

Pledge – a potential member who is in the first formal stage of becoming a member

Auxiliary – A member that is unable to perform the responsibilities of a full member but still wishes to be affiliated with the Corporation. Auxiliary members must attend 2 meetings and 2 club nights a year.

Associate – a member of another similar club who wishes to become affiliated with Blue Max without becoming an active member. This person may reside in St. Louis or in another city or state

Alumni – bestowed by the Corporation to active members who have been members for at least 10 consecutive years

Honorary – bestowed to persons in recognition of outstanding service to the Corporation

Honorary Associate – bestowed to persons in recognition of services performed on behalf of the Corporation

Pledge Duties

- ◆ A Pledge shall study and learn the By-Laws and Standing Rules of Order of Blue Max CC prior to admission.
- ◆ A pledge shall consult with the Vice President and Road Captain regarding questions about the club.
- ◆ It is recommended that a pledge attend *3 monthly membership meetings* and *3 regular club events* before applying for membership. The pledge shall report to the Road Captain at all functions.
- ◆ A pledge shall participate in the duties assigned at all club functions. A pledge shall also perform club related duties while attending any function of another club.
- ◆ The pledge shall not be required to perform any action or duty requested by any active member which would be exceedingly degrading or humiliating or which would be in violation of the law or a violation of the pledge's personal code of ethics or moral standards. The pledge has a duty to report such incident to a board member immediately.



Applying for Full Member Status

- ◆ The pledge shall obtain the following signatures and initials during his/her pledgship:
 1. Signatures of 2/3rd of all active members.
 2. The initials of the Road Captain for each regular meeting attended. The presiding officer shall initial the book in the Road Captain's absence.
 3. The initials of the Road Captain for each official club function attended with active participation.
 4. Two full member sponsor's signatures
- ◆ Upon completion of the criteria outlined in the Pledge Handbook the individual may submit an application for membership and shall be voted on at the meeting at which the application is submitted. If accepted by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, the applicant enters the Club as an Active Member.



Meetings, Events, & Dues

Membership Meetings

- ◆ The club holds a regular membership meeting every month, generally on the second Sunday of each month. Full Members are allowed to vote on various initiatives and financial decisions to help grow the club and build awareness of the leather, kink, and LGBT communities.

Club Nights

- ◆ The club generally holds a monthly club night at our home bar, JJ's Clubhouse. Events are usually themed and require membership to assist in organizing, participating, and promoting the events.

Runs

- ◆ Every year or two, the club hosts a "Run" at which it invites individuals from other clubs and areas to visit. At the run, the club membership provides meals, entertainment, and social activities. All members are required to assist in this undertaking as well as participate in other clubs' runs.

Membership Dues

- ◆ Full Membership Dues: \$5/month. (\$10/month may be paid with ½ of it going to a scholarship fund.)
- ◆ Pledge Dues: no charge

Initial Charge for Patches, Pins and Shirts

Small Patch: \$5.00	Large Patch: \$15.00
Star Pin: \$5.00	Name Pin: \$5.00 (non-refundable)
MACC Patch \$3	T-shirt & Dress Shirt: Market price

Uniform

Members must own and wear the following uniforms, known as corporate “colors”, to all club events.

Informal Uniform (Worn at club events not at a member’s home) [See bylaws for details]

- A black leather sleeveless vest with the following:
 - Small patch on the left.
 - Name badge under the small patch.
 - Small blue and gold “star pin” on right collar tab.
 - Large patch on the back.
 - Associate patches worn on the front right.
 - Mid-America patch on the lower front right.
- Black or white T-shirt, harness, or leather item.
- Levi, leather pants, kilts, or shorts
- Black leather boots or black shoes
- Only allowed accessories: buttons pertaining to clubs, runs, and motorcycle pins and patches.



Uniform (continued)

Members must own and wear the following uniforms, known as corporate “colors”, to all club events.

Formal Uniform (Worn at formal run banquets or other chosen events.)

- Black dress slacks or plain black leather pants.
- Black socks, if visible.
- Black boots (high shine) or dress shoes.
- Black belt with silver buckle.
- Black formal shirt with embroidered BlueMax Logo.



Suggested Event Attendance

3 Meetings & 3 Club Event Participation

Date	Meeting or Club Event?	Road Captain Initials

Sponsor Signatures
2 Full Membership Signatures Required

Member Name

Signature

Notes:

Notes: