

WALLY BYAM CARAVAN CLUB INTERNATIONAL, INC.
IBT MOTION

Motion / Item Number: 2025-17 R1

Meeting Location and Date: Virtual May 29, 2025

Motion Maker: John Becker, Executive Council Member

Title: Policy regarding the display of political flags and attire.

Summary: This motion aims to establish an ACI policy regarding the displaying of flags and the wearing of political attire at ACI events. ~~Only flags that are officially recognized by nations, states, provinces, government military service organizations or those approved by WBCCI/ACI are permitted. The display or wearing of politically oriented attire, caps, banners, or signs is prohibited.~~

Motion: I move that a new policy 17.1 be created as stated in Exhibit 2.

REQUIRED Attachments (for Policy, Bylaws and/or Constitutional Amendments):

- Exhibit 1: Redlined Current Blue Book text
- Exhibit 2: Proposed (new) Blue Book text

SECONDED BY: _____

Purpose / Impact(s): This motion is to establish a new ACI policy regarding the displaying of flags and the wearing of political attire.

Background: At Airstream Club International events we are committed to upholding a welcoming and respectful environment. Our code of ethics encourages us through our conduct to: "... indicate to the public that membership in this organization is an assurance of our courtesy on the road and good will to all peoples and countries. To be ever mindful of what we say or print with respect to its effect on other of our diverse membership so as to avoid disharmony and ill feelings among club members of differing ethnicities, religious beliefs or orientation and to dedicate ourselves to the work of cementing together the members of WBCCI in bonds of good fellowship and mutual understanding."

The club has no official policy for what types of flags can be flown or what political attire is appropriate at a Club event. At the 2024 Sedalia International Rally a policy regarding flags was established - but just for that rally. The policy (and its enforcement) was generally appreciated by rally participants. Other organizations have established similar guidelines. E.g., the display of the Confederate flag is prohibited at NASCAR events. At NFL games banners, signs, and flags must be football related and contain no commercial messages, logos, or political endorsements (and no offensive or obscene language). Some RV park policies include a ban on political flags.

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Without a policy, ACI event organizers have no guidance for what is allowed, and no expectations have been set for event participants. This has led to misunderstandings and in some cases rancor among participants. We want a policy that aligns with our values and ensures everyone is welcome.

The First Amendment to the US Constitution protects against government restrictions on freedom of speech. It applies to all levels of government but not to private entities. Private businesses and clubs can set their own rules for expression. The policy has been reviewed by the ACI attorney; the club is within its legal rights to adopt this policy.

Financial Impact: There is no financial impact to WBCCI.

ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit 1:

Not applicable - new policy.

Exhibit 2:

Policy 17.1 ~~Allowed~~ Flags and Political Attire

- A. This policy applies to all ACI events, including but not limited to the International Rally, Region Rallies, Local Club Rallies, National Event Rallies, Caravans, etc.

~~1. Violation of this policy may result in graduated (e.g., verbal warnings before escalation) disciplinary action in accordance with WBCCI Bylaws, Article V, Disciplinary Procedures, up to and including expulsion from the event without refund.~~

~~2. Continued violations may result in loss of club membership status, either temporary suspension of membership or permanent loss of club membership.~~

- B. ~~Official Flags Allowed To preserve the spirit of unity and camaraderie as outlined in our Constitution, flags, banners or attire that display campaign or political candidate/party and slogans are prohibited.~~

~~1. Current official national flags where ACI has members, officially recognized state and local government flags (countries, states, provinces, etc.), government military service organizations, or those approved by WBCCI/ACI are permitted. Examples of the latter would be ACI flags designating a club officer, an approved (by the IBT) local club or intracub flag. To preserve the spirit of unity and camaraderie as outlined in our Constitution, political party and political statement flags are explicitly prohibited.~~

~~C. No Political Attire Allowed~~

~~1. To maintain a non-partisan and inclusive environment at our events, the display or wearing of campaign or political candidate/party attire and slogans is strictly prohibited.~~

Motion:

- Reviewed by (Constitution and Bylaws Committee): *JMC*
- Reviewed by (Parliamentarian): *}}s*

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Motion Resolution (Office Use Only – check one):

- ☐ Adopted
- ☐ Defeated