

M.R.A.

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED

G.P.O. Box 1895
Adelaide, S.A. 5001



February 27, 1984

Hal Caston,
President,
M.R.A. Australia,
P.O. Box 34,
Higgins 2615.

Dear Hal,

At the general meeting on February 15 a vote was taken on whether S.A. should rejoin MRA Australia.

The ratio of approximately 2:1 in favour of rejoining shows that there were many members who did not believe that the attitudes of the individual states or the situation regarding the national body had altered significantly in the last six months. There was an undercurrent of doubt that MRA Australia could, at this stage, be considered a viable organization.

However, it was generally felt that if South Australia withheld its support for MRA Australia we would be contributing in some degree to the fragmentation of the MRA, a condition which could only be detrimental to the Association, and conducive to the internal friction already in evidence.

Therefore, in the light of our reservations, we ask for guarantees on the following conditions to our rejoining the national body:

1. That MRA Australia's activities will in no way conflict with those of AMC.
2. That the different roles (at present) of MRA Australia and AMC are appreciated and adhered to.
3. That MRA Australia and AMC maintain close liaison and a harmonious relationship.
4. That MRA Australia make no public statements, political or otherwise, which might contradict or conflict with any public statement by, policy of, or issue being handled by AMC.
5. That the National Executive and the branches making up MRA Australia take all reasonable steps to develop and maintain good working relations with those states not currently in MRA Australia, particularly Victoria, in the interests of unity, and in the expectation that those states will eventually see their way clear to join the national body.

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Let those who ride decide.



2.

South Australia wishes to make it clear that, other states' efforts notwithstanding, we believe Victoria has contributed a great deal towards the development of the MRA and has much to offer, and that its value to the Association should not be treated lightly.

We see these measures as designed to preserve the integrity of the MRA, and to ensure that a breach in our ranks does not occur which might be taken advantage of by the Government or other bodies, or which might be prejudicial to the MRA as a whole.

We must not allow our hard-won credibility to be undermined, or the vast amount of effort which has gone into creating the MRA to be wasted.

As the above points (1 through 5) were all discussed at the recent conference, we foresee no difficulty in obtaining a formal assurance from you. On the strength of this, we have prepared a press release to be issued shortly, a copy of which is enclosed.

If the guarantees we ask for can be given, MRA(SA) can be considered a member state of MRA Australia as of February 15, and will provide whatever assistance we can in support of the national organization.

Ride Safe,

B. Denson

Bruce Denson
President

Peter Mount
Vice President

* Copies to all branches.

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PRESS RELEASE

M.R.A.(S.A.) REJOINS M.R.A. AUSTRALIA



The South Australian Branch of the Motorcycle Riders' Association believes that the occasional misunderstandings which had arisen in recent months between the various state branches have been resolved sufficiently to warrant MRA(SA) rejoining MRA Australia.

The National Conference in January highlighted the need for a greater degree of unity, and promoted a fuller understanding of the operational problems associated with the individual states.

Prior to the conference there had been a groundswell of feeling that any division which may have existed in the past should cease, and this was reflected in the delegates' attitudes. Constructive ideas on a number of important issues were exchanged, and an agreement was reached on the funding of the national body.

South Australian members will have no cause to feel their independence threatened in any way. The State Branch will still remain autonomous in most aspects of its operation, including finance, the only exceptions being issues of national concern, such as Road Safety, which will be co-ordinated through MRA Australia.

South Australian members are of the firm belief that national stability is the safeguard of the MRA's existence, therefore, as of February 15, 1984, MRA(SA) can be considered a member state of MRA Australia.

Bruce Denson
President

Let those who ride decide.