

On March 9, 2017, the VVCC provided IMBA with its 60-day chapter agreement termination notice. The below FAQ will provide some answers as to why the board arrived at this decision.

As of May 8, 2017, VVCC will once again be a fully independent nonprofit corporation.

Why is the VVCC moving away from IMBA?

Our decision has to do with our mission. We're a **bicycle** advocacy organization with mountain biking only part of what we do. As an IMBA Chapter, 60% of membership dues supported a national mountain bike advocacy entity rather than local advocacy concerns important to road cyclists. We became a chapter primarily for IMBA's membership fulfillment capabilities but after slightly more than two years in the program, found the cost - lack of support by our local road bike community as well as the dollars flowing to Boulder - too high for the service we were receiving. We were also being viewed by a large segment of our constituency as a mountain bike only club. Our board recognized this fact and made the change.

Is VVCC moving away from IMBA all together?

The VVCC believes in the mission of IMBA, and offered with our termination notice, to renegotiate the chapter agreement's terms during this 60-day period if IMBA desires. Our goal with this offer, was to help IMBA develop a new template for former chapters that wish to continue supporting IMBA on mutually agreeable terms as well as our desire to support IMBA's mission and to offer a convenient method for VVCC members who wish to support both entities with the opportunity to purchase an IMBA membership at a discount. We have heard back from IMBA and are exploring options on how we can mutually work together.

What does this mean for my current IMBA membership?

As of May 8, 2017, VVCC and IMBA memberships will be completely separate. Dues paid prior to this date, from members desiring to join both entities will be shared between IMBA and VVCC (60/40%) and you will remain a member of both organizations until your expiration date, 1-year from membership start/renewal.

Those wishing to support both IMBA and VVCC via annual membership will need to join each organization separately after May 8th. We are hopeful that IMBA will entertain our offer to renegotiate to make becoming an IMBA member easier for VVCC members.

How do I become a VVCC member?

Between now and May 8, 2017, you can become a VVCC member in one of two ways:

- If you wish to be a joint VVCC/IMBA member, go to www.vvcc.us and click on the “Join the VVCC button” on the right side of the web page. This will take you to the IMBA membership portal. 60% of your membership dues will be retained by IMBA.
- If you wish to be a VVCC only member, and have your membership dues not be shared with IMBA, we are processing these through PayPal.
 - The dues amount for individual VVCC membership is \$35 and the PayPal link to process your membership is found [here](#).
 - The dues amount for family VVCC membership is \$50 and the PayPal link is found [here](#). Note, the VVCC membership committee chair will contact those who choose family membership to get the names of their family members to add to the membership roster.

On May 8, 2017, the Join the VVCC button on the right side of the www.vvcc.us web page will process VVCC memberships only.

We are working to automate our membership fulfillment system and hope to have that completed by May 8, 2017. Fortunately we're small enough to manually perform this function in the interim.

Does this decision have anything to do with IMBA’s recent announcements concerning changes to its Chapter program?

No.

Does this decision impact VVCC’s non-profit status?

No. The VVCC received its IRS 501(c)3 designation on November 8, 2004.

How will my local bike advocacy requirements benefit?

As of May 8, 2017, all member dues will remain with VVCC (versus the previous 60/40% split shared with IMBA). Meaning all community support will stay local, and be applied towards VVCC’s mission!

What do my contributions to VVCC go towards?

Contributions to VVCC, whether via membership or separate tax-deductible donation, directly support VVCC’s mission of promoting bicycle safety, education and facilities, encouraging use of the bicycle as an energy-efficient, economical and nonpolluting form of transportation and as a healthful and enjoyable form of recreation; a robust insurance policy to protect our members and volunteers and

facilitate agreements with our Land Managing agency partners; and direct investment into road and trail biking infrastructure in the Verde Valley such as quarterly SR-179 bike lane sweepings and new trails.

What percentage of VVCC's membership does the road biking community represent?

We started taking independent memberships and renewals on March 1st - primarily from road cyclists. In the first ten days, our overall membership has gone from 2% to just under 20% road cyclists and this percentage will increase as the word spreads.

What does the VVCC do to support road cyclists?

In February, the VVCC board approved two sweepings of the bike lane between the Red Rock Ranger Station and Back O Beyond road to be in compliance with our ADOT sweeping easement permit. The first sweep was conducted on February 27th and the second will be in late May. ADOT has threatened to remove the bike lane markings and signage if we let the easement expire. The VVCC has received an easement extension through September 30th. We are currently fundraising for this effort and your [tax- deductible donation](#) would be greatly appreciated.

Several board members met with Yavapai County Supervisor Randy Garrison recently. From our meeting with Randy, he contacted the county's public works department and started discussions on how to accommodate some form of cycling lane on both the Dry Creek road as well as Boynton Pass road. Randy also reached out to the City of Sedona's portion of this project on our behalf.

The VVCC is a proud member of the [League of American Bicyclists](#).

What does the VVCC do to support mountain bikers?

The VVCC conducted a workday on the Sedona Bike Park to get it ready for the Sedona Mountain Bike Festival. Speaking of the Festival, the VVCC manned a booth with information on local trails as well as selling memberships and sold beer tokens for tips and a portion of the sales. We received over \$900 in cash tips that will go to our trail or SR179 sweeping funds depending on which jar the tips were deposited in. We haven't been told the beer and credit card tip totals, but 100% of those go to our trail fund.

We recently received approval from the Red Rock Ranger District to conduct VVCC led trail work days and look for these to be scheduled on our web site.

The VVCC's Red Rock Bike Patrol is one of the largest mountain bike patrols in the country with 22 patrollers assisting, educating, and informing all trail users.

The VVCC hopes that IMBA will entertain our offer to figure out a way we can work together moving forward.

Is the VVCC becoming a road [mountain] bike only club?

No. The VVCC's mission is to:

- Promote interest and involvement in all aspects of bicycling to encourage their use as an energy efficient, healthful means of personal transportation, fitness and recreation,
- Provide a collective voice representing the interests of bicyclists residing in and visiting the Verde Valley communities including, but not limited to Camp Verde, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Jerome, Rimrock, Sedona, and Village of Oak Creek, Arizona,
- Actively participate in roadway planning within Verde Valley communities to ensure inclusion of bicycle facilities,
- Provide volunteer assistance to Arizona State Parks and the US Forest Service, U.S.D.A. in planning and maintaining trails suitable for mountain bicycling within the Coconino and Prescott National Forests,
- Schedule group riding opportunities to promote enjoyment of bicycles,

Please send any questions not answered to board@vvcc.us .