

SUPER-CHAPTERS (COMBINATION PARKS) GUIDELINES

A Super-Chapter is usually made up of a "Main Park" which has an active chapter and one or more nearby "Satellite Parks" which are not able to form a chapter of their own. If there is no park with an active chapter to act as the Main Park, the park with the most GSMOL members may be considered the Main Park.

Your local Associate or Region Manager can help you and your neighbor park(s) set up a Super-Chapter using the following guidelines.

1. The parks which form the Super-Chapter must be within the same jurisdictional boundaries. They must be close enough together so that residents can easily attend meetings at one or more of the parks.
2. The park acting as Main Park, if it has an active chapter, must poll its GSMOL members to see if they are in agreement to take on this role (simple majority).
3. A letter should be sent to the GSMOL members of the prospective Satellite park(s), explaining the Super-Chapter concept and asking for input from them. At a later date, on-site resident meetings should occur to discuss the benefits of being a part of GSMOL and to promote membership.
4. There will be one set of GSMOL officers per Super-Chapter. Initially, the Main Park's original chapter officers will govern the Super-Chapter, but if there are members in the satellite parks who wish to run for office, the Super-Chapter may hold elections at any time after formation. If none of the parks has a chapter, there must be an agreement among the members in all the parks as to whether officer candidates can only be from the Main Park or whether the satellite parks may also contribute candidates. The elected officers for the Super-Chapter are President, at least one Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer (Secretary and Treasurer may be the same person). The officers, once elected, must also appoint at least one Membership Chair and one Legislative Advocate. Each of the component parks may have its own Membership Chair and/or Legislative Advocate if desired.
5. The Super Chapter's Bylaws may be created in a couple of ways:
 - a) The Main Park's original Bylaws can be amended to include details of the Super-Chapter structure.
 - b) A sample set of Super-Chapter Bylaws (Form #290) is available from your Associate/Region Manager or the Home Office, if the parks prefer to use those.

The Super-Chapter's Bylaws need to reflect the inclusion of the satellite parks by name, address and size.

6. The means of communicating information to and from the parks needs to be addressed. The Membership Chair(s) and Legislative Contact(s) should work together to expand the communication network by collecting email addresses and phone numbers, including nonmembers as well as members. This network can be used by the Super-Chapter for legislative action alerts, education, membership outreach, emergency response, and other purposes.

7. When you have written up your plan for the Main Chapter's Bylaws and transition process (including the above details), review it with your Associate or Region Manager, then submit it to the Zone Vice President for presentation and approval before the State Board.