

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to ask you to please ban the selling any merchandise with the confederate flag and the display of the Confederate flag anywhere at your event. Also called the rebel flag, this flag has a history steeped in racism and is not a positive example of our inclusive motorcycle community or of the United States.

While I understand that many people see this flag as part of their heritage, the truth is, it is part of a racist heritage, not those who stand for the inclusion of all.

I know that some say, "heritage not hatred." However, this phrase seems to assert the flag can be associated with slavery and racism, but the buyer is actually supporting its cultural traditions. Why would anything that can be so strongly associated with racism have a place at this event? In 2015, Amazon, eBay, Walmart, and Sears all stopped selling merchandise with the confederate flag. In June 2020 NASCAR made the decision to not let the confederate flag be displayed at their events.

As motorcycle enthusiasts, we are tired of being associated with racism in our country and this flag is a symbol of racism.

Confederate flag items, represent hate toward people of color and tarnish the reputation of our broader motorcycle community.

Many think the flag just represents being a rebel, and that is something almost all motorcycle enthusiasts can embrace. However, the flag takes us back to one of the worst struggles of all: the great conflict that tore the nation apart more than 150 years ago.

The Confederate flag celebrates a cause that, had it succeeded, would have meant no United States as we see it today. It would have meant more generations of slavery in the 11 Confederate States of America — cruel bondage for close to 4 million men, women, and children. Had that happened, where do you think we would be now? There would be two countries, presumably, and neither as great as the one, big country we love.

If you do not support racism, why would you want to be associated with a symbol that is tied to such a racist past and is often used to discriminate today?

Please take a stand and remove all merchandise and images of the confederate flag from this event and make it an inclusive event for all of us who love the freedom to ride.

Yours in freedom,