



*Dedicated to Freedom of the Road.*

**A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 4504 Portland, OR 97208**

# **BYLAWS**

# **A.B.A.T.E. OF OREGON, INC. BYLAWS**

## **ARTICLE I NAME**

- A. The corporation hereinafter referred to as ABATE, is legally known as A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. which stands for: A BROTHERHOOD AGAINST TOTALITARIAN ENACTMENTS and its duration shall be perpetual.**

## **ARTICLE II JURISDICTION**

- A. A.B.A.T.E. shall:**
- 1. Have jurisdiction of all members, chapters and use of name and logo within the state of Oregon.**
  - 2. Maintain equitable relations between all its members and chapters.**
  - 3. Assure the democratic right to assemble, voice opinions and take action on matters of mutual interest to motorcyclists.**

## **ARTICLE III PURPOSE**

- A. A.B.A.T.E. shall be organized and operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare. Subject to the limitations stated in the Articles of Incorporation, the purposes of this corporation shall be to engage in any lawful activities, none of which are for profit, for which corporations may be organized under Chapter 65 of the Oregon Revised Statutes (or its corresponding future provisions) and 501(c) (4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or its corresponding future provisions).**
- B. A.B.A.T.E.'s primary purposes shall be:**
- 1. Dedication to freedom of the road.**
  - 2. Education programs to assist all motorcyclists, especially the young and/or novice riders, to reduce accidents and to improve rider skills.**
  - 3. Public awareness programs promoting motorcycling.**
  - 4. Fair motorcycle legislation**

- C. **A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon promotes motorcycle awareness, education, safety and liberty through community involvement and legislative action.**

**ARTICLE IV**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

- A. **The structure of A.B.A.T.E. shall consist of the following:**
1. **Membership**
  2. **Chapters**
  3. **State Board of Directors**
  4. **Committees**
  5. **State Executive Board**

**ARTICLE V**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1 – Eligibility**

- A. **There is only one qualification for membership, that being the payment of dues established by the State Board of Directors. No group or class is required to join. No group or class is denied membership.**

**Section 2 – Application**

- A. **Membership in A.B.A.T.E. shall be obtained and maintained through application to A.B.A.T.E.**
- B. **Each application for membership shall be accompanied by dues established by the State Board of Directors and submitted to the State Membership Secretary.**
- C. **Memberships are non-assessable, non-transferable, non-assignable and non-refundable.**
- D. **Each member will decide which Chapter they want to belong to, or may decide to be a Member-at-Large (Indian Creek).**
- E. **A.B.A.T.E. membership records will remain confidential and will be used ONLY for A.B.A.T.E. purposes.**

### **Section 3 – Transfer**

- A. The transfer of membership from any Chapter to the jurisdiction of another Chapter, shall be in writing to the State Membership Secretary.**
- B. The transfer of Chapter membership must be registered with the Membership Secretary of the Chapter receiving the member and with the State Membership Secretary to acquire voting rights in the Chapter transferring to.**

### **Section 4 – Duties to Members**

**It shall be the duty of each member of A.B.A.T.E. to:**

- A. Abide by the A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. BYLAWS.**
- B. Conduct him/her self in keeping with the traditions and principles of the organization with respect to his/her fellow members, the community, its laws, and the good name of A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.**
- C. Bring to the attention of the State Board of Directors presiding officer any activity that is not in the best interest of A.B.A.T.E.**

### **Section 5 – Termination of Membership**

- A. Membership in A.B.A.T.E. will be terminated upon death, written request from the member, non-payment of dues, theft of A.B.A.T.E. assets or by decision of the State Board of Directors.**

### **Section 6 – Annual Meeting**

- A. The annual meeting of the Corporation shall be held at the same time as the Planning Session, after October Board of Directors meeting but before the November Board of Directors meeting and at the conclusion of the Planning Session, with the date, time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.**
  - 1. Notice of such meeting, describing the date, time and place, shall be delivered to the Membership by means of the newsletter, not less than thirty (30) day prior to the annual meeting.**
  - 2. The Board of Directors is authorized to set an alternative date, time and place for the annual meeting.**

**ARTICLE VI**  
**CHAPTERS**

**Section 1**

To receive a Charter as a Chapter in A.B.A.T.E. a group must:

- A. Have ten (10) paid-up members.
- B. Elect from those paid-up members a Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and one (1) State Representative.
- C. Make application to the State Board of Directors for a Charter.

**Section 2**

To remain as a Chapter in A.B.A.T.E. the Chapter must:

- A. Abide by the A.B.A.T.E. BYLAWS, The State Guidelines for Forming a New Chapter, the A.B.A.T.E. Financial Policies and Procedures, the A.B.A.T.E. Media Guidelines, the A.B.A.T.E. Event Sanctioning Guidelines and any other A.B.A.T.E. documents that are relevant to Chapter operations or the corresponding future provisions of the aforementioned items.
- B. Abide by the decisions rendered by the State Board of Directors.
- C. Send copies of Chapter minutes to the State Coordinator within seven (7) days of the Chapter meeting.
- D. Ensure the participation of Chapter State Representatives at State Board of Directors' meetings, unless excused by the State Coordinator.
- E. Submit a monthly Chapter report to the State Newsletter by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month.
- F. Any Chapter in noncompliance with any of the aforementioned items for over:
  - 1. Thirty (30) days, will be put on probationary status.
  - 2. Sixty (60) days, will not be allowed to vote at the State Board Meeting.
  - 3. Ninety (90) days, action will be taken to revoke the Chapter's Charter.

- G. The Charter of any Chapter may be terminated upon receipt of a written request by the Chapter's Coordinator, delivered by a Chapter Representative to the State Board of Directors. The State Board of Directors has the final authority in this matter.**

**ARTICLE VII**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A. The State Board of Directors will be the governing body of A.B.A.T.E. and will meet at a time and place to be determined by the State Executive Board.**
- B. The State Board of Directors will be composed of one State Representative, elected from each Chapter, which will constitute the voting membership of the State Board of Directors.**
- C. The term of office for a Director is one (1) year.**
- D. Director resignations or vacancies will be filled by election by the responsible Chapter.**
- E. A majority of the State Board of Directors must be present and eligible to vote, to constitute a quorum.**
- F. The State Board of Directors will use Robert's Rules of Order as a guideline to conduct meetings.**
- G. Motions brought before the State Board of Directors which will directly affect the general membership will be referred to the Chapters for discussion and voted on at the next State Board of Directors meeting, unless a delay in voting will cause a disruption in the transaction of business by the organization.**
  - 1. Only a Director may bring a motion before the State Board of Directors.**
  - 2. Any member in good standing may draft or originate a motion.**
- H. No Director shall receive payment for services rendered/provided to A.B.A.T.E.**
- I. There shall be no voting by proxy.**
- J. Special meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.**

1. Notice of such meetings, describing the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting, shall be delivered to each Director not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting, by means of voice, mail or electronic devices.
- K. Any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors may allow the usage of telecommunication devices to enable remotely located Directors to participate in the meeting, so long as all parties can hear each other.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**COMMITTEES**

- A. The State Board of Directors may establish such other committees as it deems necessary and desirable. Such committees may exercise functions of the Board of Directors or may be advisory committees.
- B. Any committee that exercises any function of the Board of Directors shall have a minimum of one (1) Director or one (1) State Officer as part of the committee's composition.
- C. A quorum at a Committee meeting exercising Board functions shall be a majority of all Committee members present before the meeting begins.
- D. No committee may authorize payment of any part of the income or profit of the corporation to its directors or officers; may approve dissolution, merger, or the sale, pledge or transfer of all or substantially all of the corporation's assets; may elect, appoint, or remove directors or fill vacancies on the Board or any of its committees; nor may adopt, amend, or repeal the Articles, ByLaws, or any resolution by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**STATE OFFICERS**

**Section 1 – State Executive Board (required positions)**

- A. Coordinator
- B. Vice-Coordinator (1-3 positions as required)
- C. Treasurer
- D. Membership Secretary
- E. Recording Secretary
- F. Sanctioning Officer

## **Section 2 – Other Officer Positions**

- A. Other State Officer positions, not being Executive Board positions, may exist or be created as authorized by the State Executive Board and the Board of Directors.**

## **Section 3 – Duties**

- A. All State Officers are to abide by the State Officer Guidelines, A.B.A.T.E. BYLAWS and any other relevant A.B.A.T.E. documents in the performance of their offices.**
- B. No State Officer shall receive payment for services rendered/provided to A.B.A.T.E.**

## **Section 4 – Authority**

- A. The State Executive Board, by simple majority, has the authority to:
  - 1. Issue statements on the behalf of the organization,**
  - 2. Expend Funds**
  - 3. Take any action deemed necessary to accomplish the goals of the organization.****

## **Section 5 – Elections and Vacancies**

- A. The election of State Officers shall be held at the October meeting of each year by the voting membership of the State Board of Directors.**
- B. The number State Officers shall be at least, but not limited to, five (5).**
- C. Vacancies of State Officer positions may be filled by appointment by the State Coordinator, pending ratification at the next State Board Meeting, by the State Board of Directors.**

## **Section 6 – Rules and Dates**

- A. The nomination and election of State Officers shall be conducted under the supervision of the State Coordinator.
  - 1. The State Coordinator shall have the authority and responsibility to see that nominations are conducted in accordance with these BYLAWS, with reasonable opportunity for each Director to vote.****



- B. All questions concerning the conduct and challenges of elections shall be determined by the Executive Board, subject to the right of appeal by the Board of Directors.**
- C. The term of each elected office shall be one (1) year, or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified.**
- D. The State Coordinator will notify the Membership prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of the election year, that he/she will be receiving nominations for all offices and that all Members eligible to hold office are eligible to be nominated at the next regularly scheduled meeting.**
- E. Any Member in good standing may make a nomination.**
- F. The State Coordinator shall advise each nominee not eligible for election of the reason he/she is not eligible for nomination.
  - 1. The Coordinator shall also obtain assurance from each eligible nominee that he/she will accept the position for which he/she has been nominated.****
- G. The nomination of an eligible absentee member can only occur when the absentee member indicates their acceptance of nomination, in writing, to the State Coordinator.**
- H. Only Members in good standing shall be eligible to vote or hold office.**
- I. No elected Officer shall qualify to take office unless and until he/she meets the qualifications/requirements, set forth in these BYLAWS.**
- J. All elected Officers will assume office on the first meeting in January.**
- K. All Officers, presiding and newly Elected, will work together in a Mentoring program till the new Officer takes Office on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Mentoring program is to assist/insure the new Officer has the training necessary/needed to perform the duties of the office for which they were elected.**
- L. Annual Planning Session to be held after the October Board of Directors meeting but before the November Board of Directors meeting. Planning Session will include the following:
  - 1. Annual A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. meeting will be held the Saturday night of the two-day Planning Session, after conclusion of the Planning Session for the day.**
  - 2. An extra Board of Directors meeting to take place on the Sunday following the Annual Meeting, after conclusion of the Planning Session. This will require the attendance by all****

Board of Director members to process Planning Session issues. These do not include changes to the BYLAWS that require publication prior to voting, or other matters that need to be taken back to the Chapters/Membership for discussion/research.

**ARTICLE X**  
**GRIEVANCES**

**Section 1 – Procedure**

- A. Member complaints, disputes, dissatisfaction, problems and etc., with or about A.B.A.T.E., shall be handled as follows:
  - 1. The interested parties are urged to talk to each other with a view towards agreement, resolution or compromise.
  - 2. If necessary, the interested parties can present the issue at hand to the Chapter for discussion and possible handling.
  - 3. If conditions warrant it, the interested parties can request a hearing before the State Board of Directors.
  - 4. The State Board of Directors has the final authority in resolving grievances.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**DISCIPLINE**

**Section 1 – Procedure**

- A. In the event that a member of A.B.A.T.E. acts in such a way as to cause damage to A.B.A.T.E, its' Chapters, its' Officers, or its Members, a complaint may be lodged with a member of the State Executive Board.
  - 1. The State Executive Board will determine if there is merit to the complaint, and if so, will initiate disciplinary procedure.
  - 2. Disciplinary actions may be one or more of the following:
    - a. A verbal warning or discussion.
    - b. A written reprimand
    - c. Suspension
  - 3. The affected Member can request a hearing before the State Board of Directors.
  - 4. The State Board of Directors has the final authority with regards to disciplinary actions (as per Article V, Sec. 5A).

**ARTICLE XII**  
**FINANCES**

- A. The fiscal year of A.B.A.T.E. shall be January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- B. All funds obtained from membership dues, donations and organizational benefits shall be used for:
  - 1. Rider and non-rider education
  - 2. Distribution or dissemination of organizational information
  - 3. Legislative action
  - 4. Organizational requirements and general costs incurred in the operation of the organization itself, none of which shall go to any Member or Officer with the exception of reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenditures directly related to A.B.A.T.E. activities authorized by the State Board of Directors and/or the State Executive Board.

**ARTICLE XIII**  
**AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

- A. These BYLAWS may be amended by the Board of Directors by a majority vote of Directors present, if a quorum is present.
- B. Notice of proposed changes to the BYLAWS must appear in the State Newsletter before being voted on by the State Board of Directors.

**Addendum:**

**Articles of Incorporation history:**

established 8/22/1975 amended  
9/27/84

**Bylaw history: established 8/26/1975, ratified 1/3/77**

amended 5/9/78, ratified 11/13/78  
amended 10/93, ratified 11/1/93  
amended 11/95, ratified 1/13/96  
amended 12/4/00, ratified 2/10/01  
amended 1/12/08, ratified 4/12/08

**BYLAWS Effective 4/12/08**  
**as approved by the A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. Board of Directors.**