

**A.B.A.T.E.
OF
ILLINOIS,
INC.
CHAPTER
OPERATIONS
MANUAL
GUIDELINE**

**UPDATED
2006**

**THE MISSION OF A.B.A.T.E. OF ILLINOIS, INC.
IS TO PRESERVE THE UNIVERAL RIGHT
TO SAFE, UNRESTRICTED MOTORCYCLING
ENVIRONMENT.**

A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education; A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. is organized for charitable, education, civic, benevolent, social, and athletic purposes. Including for such purposes as, the promotion of motorcycle use, acceptance, safety and enjoyment. Said purposes include promoting the motorcycling interests of the corporation's members and affiliates. Said corporation is further organized to undertake such interactions, including lobbying and litigation support, with various governmental bodies as may be necessary or desirable to promote the motorcycling interests of the corporation's members and affiliates.

So says the legalese at the beginning of our by-laws; but, what does it mean. The bottom line is, A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. is a Motorcyclist's Rights Organization. Yes we do charitable work. What better way to promote motorcycling, and a positive image of motorcyclists to the rest of the world? Yes we educate; we educate our members on the merits of taking the motorcycle safety courses offered by IDOT. We educate anyone who will listen to be aware of motorcycles, both through individual effort through our Safety and Awareness Program. We also educate legislators that laws, which discriminate against motorcyclists, and motorcycling, are unacceptable. On the civic level we encourage all A.B.A.T.E of ILLINOIS, INC. members to be not only registered, but active voters. We also believe that all citizens should be active in their communities.

MEMBER DUTIES:

Aside from being required to be a paid member, members are strongly encouraged to:

1. Be registered and active voter.
2. Attend all appropriate A.B.A.T.E. meetings.
3. Consider becoming Chapter/State officer.
4. Become active in A.B.A.T.E. programs. (Legislative, Safety & Ed.)
5. Support A.B.A.T.E. fund raisers (Bike Raffle, State Party, local)
6. Attend A.B.A.T.E. events. (Freedom Rally, Seminar)
7. Support A.B.A.T.E. Political Action Committees. (State & Federal)
8. Promote A.B.A.T.E. membership to others.
9. Become active in politics.
10. Become active in national Motorcycle Rights Organizations.

CHAPTER DUTIES:

Each chapter will begin with, and maintain a membership of no less than 25 members in good standing, and will maintain a board of directors, which shall be made up of the following officers: (the duties listed are minimum, they may be expanded.)

PRESIDENT: (or Coordinator): to conduct meetings, oversee chapter business in accordance with chapter by-laws, and the by-laws of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. To communicate A.B.A.T.E. goals effectively to the chapter, the public in a professional and businesslike manner, and insure that all board position duties, are being fulfilled in the best interest of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. Should be acquainted with Robert's Rule of Order and use them where appropriate. Must assure that the chapter is operating within the by-laws of AB.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. It shall be the duty of the Chapter President to assure that all chapter events are properly insured. It is the duty of the

Chapter President to assure that someone is representing the chapter at all meetings of the State Board.

VICE PRESIDENT: (or Assistant Coordinator): To conduct meetings and A.B.A.T.E. business in the absence of the President. Also to take such responsibilities as the chapter and the President may assign. Should possess the ability to communicate effectively to the chapter, and the public the goals of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. in a professional and businesslike manner. Should be acquainted with Robert's Rule of Order. Must help assure that chapter business is run in accordance with chapter by-laws and by-laws of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC.

Secretary: To take and record the minutes of the membership meetings. To update, protect the chapter's records, and properties. To submit a list of names, addresses, and phone numbers of chapter officers to the state office after election. To submit semiannual schedules of events planned by the chapter, to the State office. To assure with chapter by-laws, and the by-laws of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC.

TREASURER: To conduct chapter financial affairs in accordance with chapter and state by-laws, and in accordance with chapter vote. To cooperate in full with the State Treasurer. To assure that all monies due to the state are forwarded to the State office in a timely manner. To ensure that all tax forms and financial statements are produced in a timely and efficient manner so as to be in compliance with State and Federal tax codes as well as the by-laws of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. (Additional information included in addendum.)

LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR: To communicate and cooperate with the State Legislative Coordinator to accomplish the goals of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. To work with area politicians to gain support for ABATE positions. To communicate to the chapter, and the public positions of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. To ensure all political endorsements are in accordance with the policy set forth by the State Board.

SAFETY & EDUCATION COORDINATOR: To communicate and cooperate with the State Safety & Education Coordinator to accomplish the goals of A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC. To promote to the schools, the membership, and the public A.B.A.T.E.'S Motorcycle Awareness Program. To assure that the proper reports are forwarded to the State Safety & Education Coordinator for all program presentations. To promote to the membership and the public the Rider Education program offered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

STATE BOARD REPRESENTATIVE: (May be filled by any previously listed officer.) To attend all State Board meetings. To report to the chapter on business transacted, decisions made at those meetings, and questions that the board has sent to the chapter for consideration. To be prepared, through knowledge of chapter sentiment to vote on issues that may need an immediate decision by the board.

SUGGESTED ADDITIONAL OFFICES: Membership Coordinator, Activities Coordinator, Public Relations Coordinator, Products Coordinator, any assistants to any of the above.

All officers are expected to cooperate with the corresponding State office and carry out the duties associated with their office to the best of their ability.

The chapters are the regional functioning body of the State organization, and are expected to run in accordance with the by-laws of the State organization.

Chapter efforts and moneys are to be used to promote Motorcycle Safety, Motorcyclists rights, and the growth of ABATE of Illinois, Inc. as a whole.

No chapter shall engage in fund raising activities designed to promote ant organization engaged in support of viewpoints which oppose the stated mission goals of ABATE of IL, Inc.

Upon payment of dues by a new member, the chapter is to provide: a membership patch, temporary proof of membership, a copy of the chapter by-laws, and anything else that may help encourage further involvement. Application and moneys must be sent to the State Office A.S.A.P.

No chapter shall endorse or promote any political candidate other than those endorsed by the State Board.

No chapter will be permitted to promote practices or products that would be detrimental to the reputation of ABATE of Illinois, Inc.

There shall be no back patches (colors) produced, distributed or worn bearing the name of ABATE of Illinois, Inc. Colors shall include any patch, airbrushing, or silk-screening that include upper/lower “rockers” (a.k.a. “banners”).

The Executive Board of ABATE of Illinois, Inc must approve all designs.

Appeal to the State Board is permitted upon disapproval.

All chapters should write a monthly article for the State Newsletter.

It is suggested that each chapter hold at least one fundraiser event each year for the chapter, one for the State organization, one for ABATE PAC, and one for the FEDPAC. (See Addendum and coordinate the event with PAC).

It is also suggested that the chapter support the MRF to the best of their ability.

Chapters should help promote member participation in State and Regional ABATE events and in ABATE and MRF sponsored programs as well as those sponsored by other Motorcyclist’s Rights Organizations.