



*Dedicated to Freedom of the Road*

ABATE OF OREGON, Inc.

Members

Handbook

A Member's Guide to A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.

A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments – A Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education

MISSION STATEMENT

*ABATE of Oregon promotes motorcycle awareness, education, safety and liberty through community involvement and legislative action.*

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

2532 Santiam Hwy. SE #311 Albany, OR 97322

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Most questions about the day to day operations of ABATE can be answered in the Bylaws and the Operations Manual. Some of the most common questions involve things like organizational and chapter operations, fundraising, and legislative activities.

### **What is ABATE?**

ABATE is incorporated as a 501(c)(4) organization which is not operated for profit and is operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare. ABATE's primary purposes include:

- Seeking fair motorcycle legislation.
- Promoting educational programs to assist all motorcyclists.
- Advocating for and conducting public awareness programs beneficial to motorcyclists.
- Continued dedication to freedom of the road.
- Acting to further the common good and general welfare of the people of the community.

### **Are my donations to ABATE tax deductible?**

Because of ABATE's incorporated status, donations of money, time, materials, etc. are not tax deductible.

### **How is ABATE money spent?**

Income made from dues, events, runs, product sales, advertising, etc. is used for organizational requirements and general costs such as insurance, printing, rent, postage, inventory maintenance, distribution of organizational information, rider and non-rider education programs, and legislative support needs.

### **How much of ABATE's business is private?**

All ABATE activities are conducted in public. All corporate documents are available for viewing by members and all finances, meetings and motions are open for members to see. Membership information, however, is not shared outside the organization and is only to be used for ABATE business.

### **There seems to be a lot of emphasis on legislative action. Why is that?**

Because of the need to gain some measure of control over increasing restrictions on motorcycling and its associated activities, there is an imperative need for ABATE and its members to be involved in the legislative arena on all levels: local, state, federal and international. Because ABATE is dedicated to freedom of the road, we each must act!

While it is each member's own political responsibility to actively participate in our democracy, it is against the legal rules governing our corporation for ABATE itself to lobby for, or donate to, specific candidates or ballot measures.

Members acting under the name of ABATE may promote issues or ideas, but may not take part in political campaigns or ballot measures. Members can, as individuals, participate in political campaigns of their choice, or even run for public office!

### **Why does my chapter have to follow the state policies and procedures? Aren't the chapters autonomous?**

ABATE is a group of Chapters that are chartered under one legally incorporated organization. Individual chapters operate according to ABATE's bylaws and policies. Tax returns are submitted under the name of A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. and all chapter tax responsibilities are included in that return. Chapters manage their own treasuries until such time as a chapter surrenders its charter. At that time, any remaining chapter money is to be transferred to the ABATE board of directors.

### **I heard that our chapter doesn't own the property we have. What does that mean?**

Again, ABATE is one statewide organization. Property acquired by a chapter may be used for many years by that chapter, and nobody will demand that it be given to another chapter or to the Quartermaster. If the chapter gives up its charter, any equipment in chapter possession is transferred to the ABATE board of directors.

## **What is expected of me as a member?**

Go to your Chapter meetings and events. Get involved, Speak your mind, Become a Chapter Officer, Read the ABATE Operations Manual, Read our newspaper and visit our websites. Register to vote.

## **STRUCTURE OF ABATE OF OREGON, INC.**

- 1. Membership**
- 2. Chapters**
- 3. State Board of Directors**
- 4. Committees**
- 5. State Executive Board**

The structure of ABATE of Oregon is simple. The State Coordinator, three Vice Coordinators, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary and Sanctioning Officer comprise the state organization's Executive Board. This group can make emergency decisions and authorize routine or small expenditures that cannot wait for the next board meeting.

ABATES' other Officer positions: State Auditor, Public Relations Director, Newspaper Editor, Webmaster, Products Director, Quartermaster, Sergeant-at-Arms, Historian, State Run Coordinators, Legislative Director, BikePAC Representative and MRF Representative. Additional Officer positions can be added as required.

## **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

The following is a list of the State Officers and a general description of their duties:

At times, not all positions are active (other than Executive Board officers). Officers marked with \* are members of the Executive Board.

\*Coordinator / President: Oversees the overall operation of the organization and directs Officers, Members and Chapters to ensure the directives of the Board of Directors are carried out.

\*Vice Coordinator(s): Assists the coordinator by carrying out actions delegated by the Coordinator. All three Vice Coordinators are responsible for communicating with and assisting Chapters within their assigned regions of Oregon.

\*Recording Secretary: Keeps the minutes of the State Board of Directors meetings and ensures that minutes are published in the newspaper.

\*Treasurer: Keeps the books of the organization and oversees the financial operations of the Chapters.

\*Membership Secretary: Maintains membership records, sends renewal notices, and ensures that all members are entered into the database and are receiving a newspaper.

\*Sanctioning Officer: Responsible for the proper sanctioning of ABATE events, including resolving scheduling conflicts, procuring insurance as needed, and monitoring promotional materials for compliance with the organization's tax reporting requirements.

State Auditor: Inspects, examines and assesses the records of the required State and Chapter monthly financial reports.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Keeps the State meeting operating in an orderly fashion. Also is in charge of security at all State events. There are three Sergeants-at-Arms, one for each region.

Legislative Director: Keeps the membership informed on current legislative events which affect the motorcycle riding community. Acts as liaison between ABATE and BikePAC.

Education Director: Responsible for efforts to educate ABATE members and all road users on motorcycle safety and rider training. The Education Director also organizes events such as S.T.E.A.M. (Seminar to Educate and Motivate),

Newspaper Editor: Responsible for editing and publishing a newspaper for mailing to the general membership

Webmaster: Responsible for maintaining and editing the content of ABATE of Oregon's websites on the internet, [www.abateoforegon.net](http://www.abateoforegon.net).

Public Relations Director: Works to inform the public and the media about ABATE activities.

Historian: Keeps the history of ABATE through archiving materials in albums and scrapbooks, writing articles for the newspaper, and sharing history with the membership through the website and at events.

Run Coordinator: Responsible for planning and running all State events such as the Fossil Campout and State Swap Meets.

Products Director: Procures, maintains, sells and keeps records of all ABATE products, and coordinates vending of those products through the website, newspaper, and events.

Quartermaster: Responsible for procurement, purchase, maintenance, inventory and record keeping of all ABATE property.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The voting members of the Board of Directors consist of one elected representative (Chapter Rep) from each chapter. Directives for actions begin with the Board of Directors. The Coordinator is responsible for making sure that State Officers follow up on such directives to be sure they are carried out. In cases where rapid action is required, the Executive Board will make decisions in lieu of a Board of Directors meeting, but will always bring it up before the board at the next meeting.

Bringing an item before the Board of Directors

To have a motion brought before the State Board, follow this procedure: A concept is brought out at a chapter meeting. If seconded, the chapter will vote on it. If passed by the chapter, the chapter will direct their State Board Rep to bring it to the State Board of Directors meeting. There, if seconded, it will be discussed and voted on.

The only people who have a vote at the State Board meeting are the individual Board Reps from Chapters that are in compliance with the Bylaws. A Chapter that is out of compliance may be denied the ability to vote until it is back in compliance.

Other State Officers, not being members of the Executive Board, can act as Board Rep for their chapters, and can vote. In case of a tie, the presiding officer (usually the Coordinator) will vote to break the tie. If the motion is passed, the Coordinator will take action to ensure the directive is complied with. It should not be assumed that all actions have to be started at the individual Member level. Many directives are initiated by State Board Reps once a need for them is perceived.

## **COMMITTEES**

The State Board of Directors will establish an advisory committee or a committee that exercises the function of the Board of Directors as required.

## **MEMBERSHIP DEFINITIONS, BENEFITS AND DUES**

Members shall be defined as:

Individual: Any single person, paying dues as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors, to ABATE of Oregon and being up to date

Couple: Any individual and any second person living in the same household, paying dues, as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors, to ABATE of Oregon and being up to date.

Family Member: Any minor, under age 18, living in the same household, paying dues at a reduced rate, as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors, to ABATE of Oregon and being up to date.

Sustaining: Any individual organization, group or business which pays dues as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors to ABATE of Oregon and being up to date. Individual members of Sustaining groups do not get ABATE memberships. Sustaining groups will receive a Certificate of Appreciation and a monthly newspaper.

Supporter: Any individual who wishes to generously support the goals of ABATE pays dues, as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors, to ABATE of Oregon and being up to date.

Lifetime Member: Any individual paying a one-time dues, as specified by ABATE of Oregon board of directors, to ABATE of Oregon.

Member Benefits: Individual members, Couple members, Family members, Supporter members and Lifetime Members will each receive a membership card, a patch, Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance, events discounts (as applicable), Team Oregon tuition reimbursement as designated by the Board of Directors and/or designated by chapters, and one monthly newspaper per address.

## **EVENTS**

The State Board of Directors meets the second Saturday of every month. All State Officers are expected to attend the meeting. All Members are welcome to attend the meeting. The meetings are held virtually, as well, using the Zoom app. Members and guests can join the meeting by accessing the Zoom links on the State website – ([www.abateoforegon.net](http://www.abateoforegon.net))

The Annual Meeting and Planning Session are held once a year in the fall at a time and place chosen by the Board of Directors. All members are encouraged to attend. At these two meetings, members and officers join to chart the course of the organization for the coming year, including state sponsored events and policy matters. Elections of state officers take place at the regular October meeting each year. Newly elected officers then have two months to intern and learn their office.

S.T.E.A.M. – Seminar to Educate and Motivate: ABATE produces this annual seminar to inform members about current issues and to offer training for coordinators, treasurers, legislative directors and other officers. Chapter officers and all members are encouraged to attend STEAM.

FOSSIL CAMPOUT – Started in 1978, ABATE's annual Memorial Day weekend event has been a fun, adventurous and entertaining time for all.

SWAP MEETS – Started in 1976, ABATE's Spring and Fall swap meets have been a fun, interesting and rewarding time for all attendees.

Information about Chapter and State Runs and Events can be found in the State newspaper, the websites and our social media pages ([www.abateoforegon.net](http://www.abateoforegon.net)) as well as through information brought back to the Chapters from monthly state board meetings.

## **LEGISLATIVE**

Oregon Legislative: Lane filtering, safer roadway design, rider gear choice and law enforcement affecting motorcyclists, all fit in the legislative agenda chosen by ABATE and BikePAC. For more information, go to [www.bikepac.com](http://www.bikepac.com) for current issues and how to help.

Federal Legislative - The Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF) is active in federal issues, including Right to Repair, fuel standards for ethanol, motorcycle profiling and more motorcyclist related issues. Go to [www.mrf.org](http://www.mrf.org) for current issues and how to help.

## **A BRIEF HISTORY**

1975 - ABATE (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments) of Oregon, Inc. was formed under our first Coordinator, Luke Metcalfe. Although the structure of the organization has evolved over the years, ABATE has always held firm to the principle of freedom of the road and a policy of nondiscrimination toward anyone wanting to be a member. ABATE has been a very effective political force as well as a nationally acclaimed educational body. 1976 - River City Chapter was formed, the first chapter outside of Portland.

1977 - ABATE began its first concerted effort to change the helmet law in Oregon. The membership worked to give freedom of choice back to motorcyclists in Oregon. At one point a round-the-clock sit-in and vigil was held at the capitol. This created a lot of attention and forced the helmet bill out of committee where it passed and was signed into law by Governor Robert Straub.

1978 - First Fossil Run was held. Originally a chapter event, the Fossil Run became one of the largest runs in the Northwest as well as the main fundraiser for ABATE of Oregon.

1979 - The first attempt to create a motorcycle training program to teach beginners to ride was proposed by ABATE in the legislature. In 1981 the motorcycle rider training program, which later became Team Oregon, was made into law. This safety and education program was conceived of and made to be by the efforts of ABATE of Oregon, Inc. and other motorcyclist groups in Oregon. It is now administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation, and it is still one of ABATE's proudest achievements.

1977 to 1988 – ABATE successfully resists attempts to reinstate a mandatory helmet law in Oregon during each legislative session.

1988 - The state legislature sent a referendum to the voters to mandate helmet use, to avoid dealing with the issue themselves. It was barely passed by the voters of Oregon in one of the lowest turnout elections in state history.

1989 to 1995 - Increasing numbers of reports came in about police using helmets as a tool for harassment. "Illegal helmet" tickets and even confiscation of helmets during traffic stops showed the need to address the helmet law again. Several attempts were made to give adult riders freedom of choice but none were successful.

1998 - A bill was proposed to define a "motorcycle helmet" at the request of BikePAC. ABATE and BikePAC held "Bikers' Days" at the Capitol to help motorcyclists directly lobby the legislature. This proved extremely effective and the bill passed.



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**A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon. Inc.**  
**2532 Santiam Hwy SE #311**  
**Albany, OR 97322**

# **BYLAWS**

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

## **BYLAWS**

**Amended 8 February 2025**

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **NAME**

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. ABATE 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. ABATE 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. ABATE'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. ABATE of Oregon promotes motorcycle awareness, education, safety and liberty through community involvement and legislative action.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

- A. The structure of ABATE 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 ABATE shall be obtained and maintained through application to ABATE.
- 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. ABATE membership records will remain confidential, and will be used ONLY for ABATE 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 transferred to.

#### **Section 4 - Duties of the members**

**It shall be the duty of each member of ABATE 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 ABATE.

#### **Section 5 - Termination of Membership**

- A. Membership in A.B.A.T.E. will be terminated upon death, written request from the member, nonpayment of dues, theft of ABATE 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 the 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 ) days 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 ABATE 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 ABATE the Chapter must:**

- A. Abide by the ABATE BYLAWS, The State Guidelines for Forming a New Chapter, the ABATE Financial Policies and Procedures, the ABATE Media Guidelines, the ABATE Event Sanctioning Guidelines and any other ABATE 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. Insure 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 10th 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.

### **Section 3 - How to close a Chapter**

- A. If at a Chapter meeting it is discussed and agreed by the majority of those present that it is desired to close down the Chapter..  
The following actions are to be taken to make that happen:
1. Contact the State Coordinator by mail, email or by phone. If unavailable, contact one of the Vice Coordinators or the State Recording Secretary of the upcoming meeting for this vote.on this matter. (preferable by phone).
  2. Mail or email a letter to ALL Chapter Members that their presence at the next Chapter meeting is requested. The closure of the Chapter will be voted on and they might consider what other Chapter they want to belong to.
  3. At the Chapter meeting, discussion should consist of the reason you are considering closure If at this time, there are enough members present to comprise a Chapter (10 member minimum) and they are willing and able to take over the Chapter, then you can hold a vote for the new Officers.
    - a. Inform the State Recording Secretary and State Coordinator of the recent changes.
    - b. Continue as a Chapter..
    - c. Apply for changes to Chapter Officers on the monetary accounts.
    - d. Send your new Chapter Representative to the next State Board of Directors meeting.
    - e. No further action is needed.
  4. If the vote remains that the majority of Chapter Members want to close the Chapter,;
    - a. All monetary accounts held by the Chapter must be turned over to the State Treasurer as soon as possible.
    - b. All acquired Chapter assets now belong to A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.
    - c. Delivery or pick up of all Chapter assets must be arranged for by the recent past Chapter Coordinator.
    - d. (Reference ARTICLE VI - Section 2 - G) of these guidelines..

### **Section 4 - How to merge a Chapter**

- A. If a Chapter no longer has enough active members to fill the required Officer positions, the Chapter Members can consider merging with another Chapter.  
(Reference - ARTICLE V -Section 3 - Transfer)
1. The Chapter Coordinator shall contact the State Coordinator with the situation of the Chapter to discuss which Chapter would be a good fit to merge with.
  2. The Chapter Coordinator shall contact the Chapter you'd like to merge with and set up a meeting to dicuss the matter.
  3. By mail, email or phone, the Chapter Coordinator shall contact ALL of the Chapter Members and request their presence at the next Chapter meeting to be brought up to date on the matter and to vote on the merger.
  4. The Chapter Coordinator shall request the State Coordinator be at this meeting.
    - a. The State Coordinator can appoint another Executive Board Officer to be present if they are unavailable.
  5. If a merger has been agreed upon by both Chapters:
    - a. Decide who the Officers will be. (they can stay the same as currently elected)
    - b. Discuss assets, combined strengths and what day you will meet.
    - c. Get to know each other.
  6. Submit all meeting notes to the State Recording Secretary for recording purposes.

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

- A. The State Board of Directors will be the governing body of ABATE 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 ABATE.
- 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 postitions )**

- A. Coordinator
- B. Vice-Coordinator (1 to 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 Board of Directors.

#### **Section 3. Duties**

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

#### **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 last meeting of each year by the voting membership of the State Board of Directors.
- B. The number of 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. 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. The Annual Planning Session is to be held after the October Board of Directors meeting but before the November Board of Directors meeting.
  - 1. The Planning Session will include the following:
    - a. The ABATE Annual meeting will be held on Saturday night of the two day Annual Planning Session after the conclusion of the Annual Planning Session for the day.
    - b. An extra Board of Directors meeting will take place on Sunday; following the ABATE Annual meeting after the conclusion of the Annual Planning Session.
    - c. This will require the attendance by all Board of Director members to process the Planning Session issues.
    - d. These issues 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 ABATE, 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 ABATE acts in such a way as to cause damage to ABATE, 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. 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 as regards disciplinary actions.  
(Reference - Article V - Section - 5A)

## **ARTICLE XII** **FINANCES**

- A. The fiscal year of ABATE 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 of out-of-pocket expenditures directly related to ABATE 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 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.

## ADDEMDUM

### Articles of Incorporation history:

Established: 8/22/1975

Amended: 9/27/1984

### Bylaw history:

Established 8/26/1975, ratified 1/13/1976

Amended: 1/13/1978, ratified 5/9/1978

Amended: 10/1993, ratified 11/1/1993

Amended: 11/1995, ratified 1/13/1996

Amended: 12/4/2000, ratified 2/10/2001

Amended: 1/12/2008, ratified 4/12/2008

Amended: 6/13/2024, ratified 2/8/2025

### Rules of Operation history:

Established: 7/1/1990

Amended in : 4/83, 4/84, 4/86, 6/89, 11/93, 1/96

### BYLAWS Effective: 2/8/2025

As approved by the A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc. Board of Directors.