

**Bylaws
of
Great River Chapter
A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.**

**Great River Chapter
A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.
P.O. Box 448
Quincy, Il. 62301**

ARTICLE 1 - PURPOSE

A.B.A.T.E. (A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education) of Illinois, Inc., **Great River** Chapter, is organized for charitable, educational, civic, benevolent, social, and athletic purposes including for such purposes, 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 interaction, 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.

ARTICLE 2 - PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND REGISTERED AGENT

Section 1. Principle Office.

The principle office of the **Great River** Chapter shall be 311 E. Main Street, Suite 418, Galesburg, Illinois 61401.

Section 2. Registered Agent.

The address of the Registered Agent of the **Great River** Chapter shall be 311 E. Main Street, Suite 418, Galesburg, Illinois 61401.

Section 3. Auxiliary Office.

The corporation chapter may establish auxiliary offices within the State of Illinois as the Executive Board may determine from time to time.

Section 4. Trademark(s).

The name A.B.A.T.E. and A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. are registered service marks of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. and its chapters. The corporation reserves the right to regulate its use.

ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP OF THE CORPORATION CHAPTER

Section 1. Classes of Members.

All members of the corporation chapter shall be of two (2) classifications, that of individual members who vote at the chapter meetings, and Executive Board officers, who shall vote at Executive Board meetings.

Section 2. Election of Members.

Any person who meets the membership requirements as set forth by the Board of Directors, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. may become a member of the corporation, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc., by submitting a written application, on a form approved by the Board of Directors, to the main office of the corporation. Applicants submitting written applications shall become members of the corporation upon payment of the annual membership dues. Annual membership dues are to be established by the Board of Directors of the corporation.

Section 3. Transfer of Membership.

Membership in the corporation is not transferable or assignable to another organization or person.

Section 4. Chapter Affiliation.

Persons seeking membership in the corporation may declare an affiliation with any one of the chapters chartered by the corporation. If the person seeking membership specifies no preference, then the State Office will assign one. No person shall be a voting member of more than one chapter at any one time. Members may transfer affiliation to any chapter chartered by

A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, provided that there has been no action taken against said member by the Board of Directors, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, or the chapter with which affiliation is sought.

Section 5. Termination of Affiliation.

The Executive Board of the **Great River** Chapter, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, by affirmative vote of 2/3 of all of the members of the board, may terminate a membership affiliation for cause. Any member facing such action shall be entitled to a hearing before the chapter. All Officers of said chapter shall be notified of the time, date and location of the chapter meeting where such a hearing will take place by the chapter Secretary. Written notice of termination of a member's affiliation shall be sent to the State Office and the member at least seven (7) days prior to any hearing.

ARTICLE 4 - OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION CHAPTER

Section 1. Executive Board.

There shall exist an Executive Board composed of the officers of this corporation chapter as set forth in Section 9 of this article, including those officers whose positions have not specifically been stated therein but have been established by action of the Executive Board or a majority vote at a chapter meeting. Each Executive Board member shall have one (1) vote. Officers of the corporation chapter, except the President, may appoint an assistant to take their place. An assistant can not vote at an Executive Board meeting.

Section 2. General Power.

The Executive Board shall conduct the business and affairs of the chapter unless a motion is brought forth at a chapter meeting. The officers shall have such powers and perform such duties as may from time to time be specified in resolutions or other directives of the Executive Board or the Chapter.

Section 3. Advisory Panels.

The Executive Board may appoint advisory panels to deal with any issue the Executive Board deems necessary.

Section 4. Meetings

The Executive Board shall set the time and place for Chapter and Executive Board meetings. All Officers are expected to attend both Chapter and Executive Board meetings.

Section 5. Executive Board Decisions.

The act of a majority of the officers present at an Executive Board meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Executive Board, unless state law or these bylaws require the act of a greater number. A majority of the elected officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Executive Board.

Section 6. Removal of Executive Officer.

Any officer may be removed from office by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board whenever in its judgment the interests of the **Great River** Chapter would be served thereby. Removal of such officer will be the result of non-performance of specified duties, or actions deemed by the Executive Board to be contrary to the optimum operation of the Chapter. Such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights of any of the officers so removed. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the chapter's members present at a chapter meeting may remove any officer from office with or without cause.

Section 7. Personal Liability of the Executive Board.

Members of the Executive Board shall not be liable for acts of the **Great River** Chapter. Liability of the Chapter shall be limited to the extent of the assets of the corporation.

Section 8. Veto of Executive Board.

For good cause, the members of the chapter may veto any action of the Executive Board with a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a chapter meeting.

Section 9. Officers.

Officers of the **Great River** Chapter, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Legislative Director, Safety and Education Director, State Board of Directors Representative, Public Relations Director, Membership Director, Activities Director, Products Director. Such Officers shall have the authority to perform the duties prescribed in these bylaws. Any two (2) or more offices may not be held by the same person unless no member is elected to fill a position.

Section 10. Election or Appointment of Officers.

- A) The Officers of the **Great River** Chapter shall serve a one (1) year term and be elected annually, in the month of November, by a majority of the membership present at the chapter meeting.
- B) New offices may be created by a majority vote of those present at any chapter meeting, pursuant to amendment of the bylaws.
- C) Vacancies. - An officer of the corporation chapter may resign after his/her written resignation has been approved by the Executive Board. The Executive Board may fill a vacancy in an office due to resignation, death, removal or disqualification or otherwise with any chapter member in good standing. The successor to the office will serve for the remainder of the predecessor's term.
- D) New offices. New offices created by the membership may be filled by appointment by a majority vote of those present at any chapter meeting.
- E) Each officer shall hold office for one (1) year or until the next scheduled election, whichever comes first. Terms for each office shall begin December 1st and end November 31st of the following year.
- F) Nominations. Persons seeking election to the Executive Board shall have their name placed in nomination and seconded by a chapter member.
 - 1. Candidates may only run for one (1) office.
 - 2. Nominations shall be open at the beginning of the regularly scheduled chapter meeting, two meetings prior to election date.
 - 3. Nominations shall be closed at the end of the regularly scheduled chapter meeting, one meeting prior to election date.
 - 4. Notification of the nomination shall be published in the chapter newsletter one month prior to the intended election. This notification shall include position voting for, name(s) of individuals nominated and intended date the election will occur.
 - 5. Balloting and potential election of the individual shall take place at the next regularly scheduled chapter meeting after said notification in the chapter newsletter.
 - 6. Ballots. Ballots will be drawn up by two (2) non-officers of the membership as chosen by the Executive Board and will be administered and counted by same. Election results will consist of winner only. Election judges will destroy ballots. Only currently active members will be allowed to vote. No absentee ballots will be provided or accepted.
- G) All offices shall be created by the chapter membership and governed by the chapter membership

ARTICLE 5. - DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS.

Section 1. President.

The President will preside over all meetings. The President will assist any officer in his/her duties as requested. The President will represent the best interest of the **Great River** Chapter of A.B.A.T.E of Illinois, Inc. and will officiate on all contracts in promoting the interests of the organization.

Section 2. Vice President.

The Vice-president will perform the same duties as the President in the absence of the president, and also head any special projects as requested by the Executive Board.

Section 3. Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Executive Board and Chapter meetings, review those minutes at meetings, and take roll call of all Officers present. The Secretary shall keep a permanent record of all Chapter and Executive Board minutes. The Secretary shall perform any other secretarial duties as directed by the Executive Board.

Section 4. Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall maintain and keep all financial records for the **Great River** chapter, and be responsible for all moneys collected by the chapter. The Treasurer shall review all receipts submitted by chapter officers for reimbursement. The Treasurer shall act as the liaison to the State Treasurer and any certified public accountant hired by the corporation, and insure the timely filing of state and federal income tax forms. The Treasurer shall also perform any other financial duties as directed by the Executive Board. The Treasurer must be bondable.

Section 5. Activities Director.

The Activities Director shall coordinate and report on all social activities of the chapter and report on other social activities of interest to the chapter.

Section 6. Legislative Director.

The Legislative Director shall report on all state and federal legislative concerns and work in conjunction with the State Legislative Coordinator on all legislative issues of the corporation.

Section 7. State Board of Directors Representative

State Board Representative shall represent the **Great River** Chapter at the State Board of Directors meetings. The State Board Representative shall inform the chapter membership of all activities at the state level and shall vote on state policy according to the chapter membership wishes.

Section 8. Newsletter Director.

The Newsletter Director shall be responsible for compiling, assembling and distributing the chapter newsletter. The Newsletter Director shall be responsible for distribution of all moneys collected in association with the publication or distribution of the chapter newsletter to the Chapter Treasurer.

Section 9. Public Relations Director.

The Public Relations Director shall work in conjunction with the State Public Relations Coordinator to communicate the activities and events of the **Great River** Chapter and A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. to the general public.

Section 10. Products Director.

The Products Director shall oversee the production, design and sale of **Great River** Chapter, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc., merchandise. The Products Director shall purchase and maintain a

supply of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. products for sale to the chapter members. The Products Director shall be responsible for reporting all moneys associated with that position to the Chapter Treasurer.

Section 11. Safety & Education Director.

The Safety & Education Director shall promote motorcycle safety to the motorcyclists throughout the state and motorcycle awareness to the general public. The Safety & Education Director will coordinate the instructors of the Safety & Education school program and report results to the State Safety & Education Coordinator

Section 12 Membership Director.

The Membership Director will maintain an accurate membership record. The Membership Director will promote membership in the **Great River** Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. The Membership Director will coordinate with the State Office Manager to maintain the chapter membership role and the distribution of dues moneys. The Membership Director shall be responsible for reporting on all moneys associated with that position to the Chapter Treasurer

ARTICLE 6 – CHAPTER CHARTER

Section 1. Chapter Charter.

The **Great River** Chapter shall be incorporated by the State of Illinois and chartered under the Parent Corporation of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. The **Great River** Chapter shall be held to the bylaws and policies of the Corporation. The Chapter may adopt its own bylaws so long as they do not supersede the Bylaws of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. The **Great River** Chapter's charter may be revoked by the A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. Board of Directors for cause by a 2/3 vote of the Board present. The Chapter, facing such action, shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board of Directors. All officers of the **Great River** chapter shall be notified, not less than seven (7) days prior, of the time, date and location of the Board of Directors meeting where such a hearing will take place, by the State Secretary.

Section 2. Insurance.

The **Great River** Chapter shall not hold an event without obtaining liability insurance not less than two (2) weeks prior to the event. If the **Great River** Chapter holds events where alcohol is involved, it shall consult with the State Office to see if dram shop (liquor liability) insurance is required. If determined that dram shop (liquor liability) insurance is required, the **Great River** Chapter must obtain the required insurance not less than two (2) weeks prior to the event.

Section 3. Back patches.

The **Great River** Chapter shall not produce, sell or distribute, any A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc., patch, with or without upper or lower rockers, to be worn on the back of an individual. The **Great River** Chapter must present the actual artwork for any patch, other than a RIP patch, to the Executive Board, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. for approval.

Section 6. Property and buildings.

The **Great River** Chapter shall not purchase real estate or a building. The Chapter may rent facilities for monthly meetings or events, but not to facilitate a clubhouse.

Section 7. Taxes.

The **Great River** Chapter shall provide the necessary information for completion of the corporation's taxes to the State Treasurer no later than the February Board of Directors meeting each year.

Section 8. Exemptions.

The **Great River** Chapter, if seeking an exemption from any policy or Bylaw of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc., must make a written application to the State Office. Thirty (30) days' notice shall be required to be placed on the agenda for the next Board of Directors meeting. All chapters shall be notified by the State Secretary of the request for the exemption. All exemptions are to be reviewed annually

Section 9. Sanctions.

The **Great River** Chapter may be sanctioned by the Board of Directors, A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. for failure to follow the bylaws and policies adopted by the Board of Directors. Sanctions shall be determined by two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at a Board of Directors meeting, provided there is a quorum. The Chapter, facing such action, shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board of Directors. All officers of the **Great River** Chapter shall be notified, not less than seven (7) day's prior, of the time, date and location of the Board meeting where such a hearing will take place by the State Secretary.

ARTICLE 7 - AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS AND OTHER PROVISIONS

Section 1. Amendments of the Bylaws

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the membership present at any chapter meeting so long as at least thirty (30) days notice is given of intention to alter, amend, repeal or to adopt new bylaws.

Section 2. Miscellaneous Provisions.

The authority to enforce these Bylaws and for any item not covered herein shall be vested solely in the Executive Board. The Bylaws of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. shall not be superseded by any other document adopted by any chapter operating under a charter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.

ARTICLE 8 - OPEN BOARD MEETINGS

All Executive Board and Chapter meetings shall be open meetings and all members of ABATE of Illinois are welcome. The Executive Board may go into closed or executive session in the following instances only.

A) To discuss litigation when action against or on behalf of the corporation chapter has been filed and is pending in court or administrative tribunal or when the Executive Board finds that such an action is probable or imminent.

B) In the event of any individual being brought before the board for charges, potentially leading to disciplinary action, the individual may request and receive an executive session.

In executive session, only the above subjects may be discussed. No meeting of the **Great River** Chapter of A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc. may be adjourned in executive session.

End of Document

ByLaw Revision History

Date	Description of Revisions
February 16, 2008	Generic Bylaws Presented to Board of Directors