

# ABATE of Oregon, Inc.

## Media Guidelines

Revised: 13 June 1998

The following Media Guidelines are applicable to all chapter members, chapter officers and state officers:

- 1) Any ABATE member responsible for providing content to any of ABATE's media outlets, including but not limited to press releases, newsletter editing, newsletter articles, chapter newsletters, e-mail sent on behalf of ABATE or any of its chapters or officers, and any web page publication, shall take reasonable steps to assure that the material published is accurate.
- 2) Any such article or media publication as described in 1) above, shall be presumed to be accurate, absent some obvious reason to believe otherwise, if it comes from a source which is regularly relied upon for accurate information. It shall also be presumed that the material submitted does not violate copyright laws.
- 3) None of these guidelines should be construed to inhibit the free flow of opinion by, from, and for ABATE members, except as normal editorial considerations of taste, space, and appropriateness for publication may dictate, and which discretion should be vested in the editor of the publication, subject to the authority of the Board and the State Coordinator.
- 4) Submissions of articles from other sources, such as from ABATE members, or reprints from other ABATE newsletters, should be reviewed for accuracy and potential libel issues, when such articles or links are more than mere opinions of policy. Both the author of any submission has an obligation to make reasonable efforts to insure the accuracy of any facts and the editor's obligation is to review for same, as needed. It shall also be presumed that the material submitted does not violate copyright laws.
- 5) ABATE requires all members submitting articles for publication with specific factual allegations which might be libelous, to take reasonable steps to insure that the facts alleged are accurate. This policy is not intended to stifle healthy public debate on any issue of importance to motorcyclists, nor of ABATE's members to engage in same, in print or otherwise, particularly as to matters of opinion on public policies. It is intended, however, to encourage responsible fact-checking of any potentially libelous fact intended for publication. Due to our non-profit incorporation, no one is allowed to either promote or demean a political candidate during the electoral process.

6) The ABATE of Oregon, Inc. newsletter and web site are official publications of ABATE of Oregon, Inc. The views expressed by advertisers, member links or correspondents do not necessarily reflect those of ABATE of Oregon, Inc., nor of its officers or members, and no warranty, either express or implied, is conveyed by ABATE of Oregon, Inc. regarding advertised products or services. ABATE of Oregon, Inc. reserves the right to edit or refuse advertising.

7) All ABATE of Oregon, Inc. chapter web sites must use the state domain: <http://www.abateoforegon.org/>. The Chapter Web Site Editor is expected to work independently unless there is a problem and then either the Chapter Coordinator and/or the State Web Site Editor can override any editing decision. The State Web Site Editor has final authority for legal reasons.

8) Publication of flyers at no cost is limited to MROs. Exceptions are to be made by the Executive Committee and not the editor.

9) Material appearing in any ABATE of Oregon, Inc. publication will be published as space and time permits. ABATE of Oregon, Inc. also reserves the right to edit or refuse all submissions. Submissions must be signed or non-anonymous when sent to the editor with name withheld only by request. Newsletter articles, letters, or other materials must be received no later than the 10th of each month preceding publication.

10) All correspondence should be sent to the following address:

ABATE of Oregon, Inc.  
P.O. Box 4504  
Portland, OR 97208

or via email through the ABATE of Oregon Web Site: <http://www.abateoforegon.org/>

