

# TUG HILL WHEELERS ATV CLUB BY-LAWS

APRIL 1987 REVISED: APRIL 1994, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2009, and 2013

## ARTICLE 1 NAME AND ADDRESS

The name of the organization is the Tug Hill Wheelers ATV Club. The address is 509 NYS Rt. 177, Copenhagen, NY 13626. It is composed of ATV enthusiasts who have desired to join together in forming this club, to abide by the by-laws and Code of Ethics.

## ARTICLE 2 ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

They By-Laws shall govern the club until such time that they are amended. In the event of any conflict, these By-laws shall govern. The club (or its Officers) will not be responsible for the injury or damage to persons or property of its members or guests.

1. Dissolution of the corporation may be decided by the Board of Directors. This decision will be given to all of its members through email or mailings 30 days in advance. All financial obligations and liabilities will be settled first. The Board of Directors will sell any and all assets of the club. After satisfying all financial obligations, the Board of Directors will donate all remaining monies to another non or not-for-profit organization of similar purpose

## ARTICLE 3 CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will be a good sportsman. I recognized that people judge all of ATV owners by my actions. I will use my influence with other ATV owners to promote sportsmanlike conduct.
2. I will not litter trails or camping areas. I will not pollute streams or lakes.
3. I will not damage living trees, shrubs, or other natural features.
4. I will respect other people's rights and property.
5. I will lend a hand when I see someone in distress.
6. I will be available with my vehicle to assist search and rescue parties.
7. I will not interfere with or harass hunters, skiers, and other sportsmen. I will respect their rights to enjoy their recreational activities.
8. I will know and obey all federal, state, and local rules regulating the operation of ATVs in the area where I use my vehicle.
9. I will not harass wildlife. I will avoid posted areas for the protection or feeding of wildlife.
10. I will stay on marked roads open to ATVs.
11. I will not endanger myself and other trail users by riding beyond my ability or while impaired by drugs or alcohol.
12. I will slow down, use caution and be courteous when I encounter other trail users.
13. I will not construct jumps or obstacles anywhere on the trail or riding areas.

14. **Club members may be terminated at any time by a vote of the Board of Directors. Just cause for termination includes but is not limited to failure to abide by the club's code of ethics.**

#### ARTICLE 4 BASIC POLICIES

1. The organization shall work for the development, expansion, and maintenance of the trail system. The organization shall promote education and training in the use and operation of ATVs and laws governing their use.
2. Trail Coordinator(s) are a member of the club to advice on trails but have no right to vote.

#### ARTICLE 5 MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

1. Membership dues shall be \$20.00 per individual per year and family memberships will be \$25.00 per year. Business memberships are \$50.00 which includes one family membership and advertising in the newsletter for one year. The year will be from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. Each membership cardholder is entitled to one vote. To vote at the annual meeting, dues must be paid before the April meeting is called to order.
2. Officers of the club will receive free membership during their term.
3. Members changing their addresses shall notify the secretary.
4. Members shall be limited, if necessary.
5. Membership in this organization shall be available without regard to race, color, creed or national origin.
6. Active members in good standing of this organization shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings, or to serve in any of its elective or appointive positions.
7. Any guest or member who causes trouble within or outside the club will no longer be allowed at meetings or on club property again. Their membership eligibility will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and will make the decision to terminate that member. **This will include but not limited to any defamation of the club, its members or officers either written, verbally, or electronically.**
8. A new member will not be allowed to vote that night of the meeting but has to wait 60 days.
9. No officers or member shall be personally liable for any bills or obligations of the club, past or present, except for payment of his own dues or fees.
10. No members shall involve the club in any financial obligation or contract without full consent of the officers and Board of Directors.

#### SECTION 2

Only those persons who have acknowledged their consent to serve if elected shall be nominated for or elected to such an office

## ARTICLE 6 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the organization; he shall perform such duties as may be prescribed in these by-laws or assigned to him by the members of the club and shall coordinate the work of the officers and committee in order that objects may be promoted. He shall appoint all committee chairmen.
2. The vice president shall act aside the president and shall perform the duties of the president in the absence or disability of the officers to act.
3. The secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the organization and the Board of Directors and shall perform such duties as may be delegated to him or her.
4. The treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the organization and shall keep a full accurate account of receipts and expenditures; and shall make the disbursements in accordance with the approved budget as authorized. The treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of the organization and at other times if requested by the Board of Directors and shall make a full report at the annual meeting. The treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of such books or account and records. The treasure's accounts will be examined annually in April by an auditing committee of not less than three members (non-officers), who, satisfied that the treasure's report is correct shall sign a statement of the fact at the end of the report. All checks must be signed by the treasurer or the president.
5. The club members who are present have the final say on all major financial decision.
6. To transfer money out of the Money Market account will require FULL approval of the officers and Board of Directors.
7. Any expenditures of \$500 or more will be brought up for discussion and will be voted on at next month's meeting with the exception of the club's insurance.
8. Anything over \$500 will require 2 signatures, the Treasurer and the President.

## ARTICLE 7 OFFICERS AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITES

1. The officers of this organization shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and Board of Directors.
2. All officers shall be elected by ballot every year in the month of April, nominating committee is appointed at a meeting in March (a chairperson must be designated by the president). If there is one nominee for any office, it shall be in the order that the secretary cast the elective ballot of the organization for the nominee.
3. Officers shall assume their official duties following the close of the annual meeting in April and shall serve for a term of one year and until the election and qualification of their successors.
4. The Board of Directors shall consist of four members and the president with all of the Directors having staggered three year terms.
5. To be a nominee for any office the member must be a paid member prior to the April meeting the previous year.
6. The Calendar of Events should be decided on or before the first club meeting.

## ARTICLE 8 CHARGES OF MISCONDUCT

1. Charges of misconduct against any member will be referred in writing to the Board of Directors and the accused may be suspended pending an investigation. The accused shall have the right to appear. Then should the Board of Directors deem the charges well founded, they may report in writing and recommend suspension or expulsion. Upon the filing of this report with the secretary, a meeting of the organization is called to take action thereon. The accused shall be notified by mail and then shall have the right to be heard at such meeting but shall not be present when the ballot is taken. No member shall be expelled or suspended except by 2/3 vote of all the Board of Directors.
2. Any member flagrantly violating their by-laws a second time will be permanently expelled by the Board of Directors and notice will be given to such member by the secretary within 10 days from the time such action was taken. The mailing of this notice to the member's last known address will be deemed sufficient notice.
3. Any member expelled for the violation of Article 8 will be reported in writing by the secretary to the Village and Town Boards.

## ARTICLE 9 MEETINGS

1. The president (or vice president) shall call the meeting to order at the appointed time. Once the meeting has been called to order, there shall be no individual discussions by a group of members unless the presiding officers declare a temporary adjournment for this purpose.
2. Order of Business for the club meetings which will be held on the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm sharp unless otherwise stated.
  - Call the meeting to order.
  - Read the minutes of last meeting
  - Treasurer's report
  - Reading of Communications
  - Report of Special Committees
  - Unfinished businesses
  - Reports of Standing or permanent committees
  - Old Business
  - New Business
  - Adjournment
3. The annual meeting will be held in April.
4. Three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in the meeting of the club.

## ARTICLE 10 STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. The president may add or delete committees as he may deem necessary to promote the objectives of the club. The terms of each chairman shall be one year and until the appointment of his or hers' successor or dismissed by the president.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

- Trails Master
- County Trail Coordinator
- Publicity
- All By-Laws
- Activities
- Membership

The president (or vice president, in case of disability or when deemed necessary by the Board of Directors) shall be the executive officials of all committees except the nominating committee.

## ARTICLE 11

The fiscal year of this organization shall begin January 1<sup>st</sup> and end December 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.

## ARTICLE 12

A committee may be appointed to submit a revised set of by-laws as a substitute for the existing by-laws and only by a majority vote at a regular meeting of the organization. The requirements for the adoption of a revised set of by-laws shall be at a regular meeting by 2/3 majority vote.