



ABATE of Iowa Facts

What is ABATE of Iowa?

ABATE of Iowa (A Brotherhood Aimed Toward Education) is a not-for-profit motorcycle rights organization. ABATE's purpose is to provide educational information to its members, motorcyclists and public and to promote safe riding habits and encourage favorable legislation for motorcyclists.

What Does ABATE of Iowa Do?

Education

ABATE believes that through education, lives can be saved. Statistics show that 90 percent of motorcycle riders involved in accidents were self-taught or learned to ride from family or friends. Additionally, in accidents involving a motorcycle and another vehicle, the motorcyclist's right of way was violated in two-thirds of the instances. With the proper knowledge, many accidents could be avoided.

ABATE offers a variety of education courses to promote safety, including:

- Motorcycle Rider Education Programs – Both beginning and intermediate bike riders benefit from this course, which is administered by the Office of Driver Services of the Iowa Department of Transportation. Because motorcycle riders are more physically vulnerable, his or her judgment is critical. This 15-hour course, which is required for riders under age 18, teaches life-saving skills and safe riding habits.
- Share the Road programs: This class provides motorcycle awareness training to all motorists and soon-to-be motorists on the road. This training is intended to reduce accidents between drivers and motorcyclists by teaching motorists to see, respect and understand a motorcyclists' needs and rights on the highway.

Additionally, ABATE sponsors and supports the following educational programs:

- Two Wheel Trauma Courses: These continuing education classes (CEU) are free to all emergency medical personnel. The class' purpose is to enhance the survival rate for the injured riders of motorcycles, bicycles, all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and other similar vehicles by educating medical personnel on appropriate accident scene actions. Participants receive six continuing education hours.
- Accident Scene Management Courses: Would you know what to do at the scene of a motorcycle accident? This class is designed to educate and prepare the general public regarding the initial assessment, treatment and stability of the motorcycle accident trauma victim.

Events

ABATE sponsors a variety of fun activities around the state, which benefit members of the motorcycle community, local residents and often charitable organizations as well. All ABATE events are open to the public.

One of ABATE's most notable events is the annual Freedom Rally, held during the Fourth of July weekend at ABATE's own campground in Algona. The Freedom Rally has evolved into one of the Midwest's premier motorcycle rallies, noted for its lineup of regional and national bands, wide variety of vendors and excellent facilities. The rally typically attracts more than 11,000 bikers. The event is ABATE's annual fundraiser, providing the resources for its safety education programs.

What is ABATE's membership like?

ABATE has thousands of Iowa members that are comprised from 23 districts around the state (a district map is available at www.abateiowa.com). Members represent all ages, professions and backgrounds. Each district contributes to its community through educational programs and literature, charitable activities, community events and social gatherings.

Where can I find more information about ABATE of Iowa?

Visit ABATE of Iowa's Web site at www.abateiowa.org for the latest ABATE information. Visitors to the site can also view ABATE's monthly newsletter, the *Free Way Flyer*.

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