



# OFATV

Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs  
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## ALCOHOL POLICY

1. **POLICY:** The Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs, hereinafter referred to as OFATV, supports the practice of no tolerance for the use of alcohol while operating an all terrain vehicle.
2. **PURPOSE OF POLICY:** This policy is written to reduce the risk of injury/death to our members and the public at large, and the risk of litigation to our volunteers who are the backbone of organized recreational riding.
3. **DEFINITIONS:**
  - 3.1 Alcohol Policy – A set of rules and regulations that a club adopts to manage the safe and legal use of alcohol.
  - 3.2 Club – The word club shall be understood to mean either a club or association
4. **PROCEDURES:**
  - 4.1 The Risk Management Committee is directed to assist the clubs with the development of club alcohol policies. There may be three types of policies to deal with the use of alcohol in the ATV club's activities.
    - 4.1.1 A policy for the clubs who will not allow the use of alcohol in the ATV club's activities.
    - 4.1.2. A policy for clubs who will allow occasional sale and/or use of alcohol at their activities.
    - 4.1.3 A policy for clubs who will allow the sale and use of alcohol on a regular basis.
  - 4.2 Each OFATV member club shall be responsible to adopt one of the above named alcohol policies or develop one of their own for approval by the Board of Directors.
  - 4.3 All of the above policies shall include but not be limited to the following topics:
    - 4.3.1 Intoxication
    - 4.3.2 Illegal Drinking and Impaired Driving/Riding
    - 4.3.3 Event Workers, Job Duties and Training
    - 4.3.4 Insurance
    - 4.3.5 Alcohol Advertising and Sponsorship
    - 4.3.6 Alcohol Related Events – Locations and Types
    - 4.3.7 Policy Infractions and Enforcement
    - 4.3.8 Event Approval, Policy Implementation, Monitoring and Revisions
  - 4.4 A confirmation of an up to date Alcohol Policy must be filed at the OFATV office at the time of membership renewal
    - 4.5.1 A copy of the most recent club Alcohol Policy will be kept in the club master file in the OFATV office.
    - 4.5.2 Only if the policy is changed does a copy of the policy have to be sent to the OFATV office for filing.
  - 4.6 The OFATV will have no tolerance for the illegal sale or distribution of alcohol by a member club.
    - 4.6.1 In the event that a club is found to be selling or distributing alcohol illegally and has been substantiated by documentation to this effect, and has been received by the OFATV Office Manager, the

Office Manager shall notify the club, in writing, that the information has been received and that any further infraction of this nature will result in the loss of membership to the OFATV.

4.6.2 The complaint will be reviewed at the next Board of Directors meeting and final decision rendered.

4.6.3 A copy of all such documentation and correspondence shall be forwarded to the Executive of the responsible offending club.

4.6.4 All such documentation and correspondence shall be filed and shall remain the club's master file at the OFATV office.

4.7 The OFATV Board of Directors supports the slogan "Don't Drink and Ride"

## **5. WORK INSTRUCTIONS**

5.1 The District Directors will need to recruit a small committee from each club in their district to work together to make policy recommendations that will require final approval by the local club executive.

5.2 Review the eight ideal policy statements and develop similar policy statements for the local club.

5.3 Present the policies to the executive for their input and develop final drafts for approval of the club general membership.

5.4 Once the policies are agreed upon, develop a training and communication plan to implement these policies.

5.5 A legally binding agreement will be prepared by the local club executive for anyone who has the approval to run an alcohol-related event on club property or on behalf of the club.

5.6 A tracking system needs to be set up to record all event requests and the outcome of each event. One person should be responsible for keeping track of these records and providing this information to the OFATV office.

5.7 Each year the local club executive must communicate the club alcohol policy to its members.

5.8 The local club executive should review the club alcohol policy on an annual basis with input from event workers, club members, local police, and others as appropriate. The membership shall be informed of changes made to the policy.

### **Image Policy**

Policy Number 1

Passes: November 29, 2000

Display of photographs / graphic by OFATV Clubs and Members:

- Do not display photographs of riders in dangerous situations
- Show the variety of rider demographics, in accordance with manufacturer recommendations
- Show interactions, along trail, with other riders
- Do not display photographs of riders without all safety gear as recommended by the manufacturer
- Do not display photographs of environmental degradation on or off the trail
- Do not display riders and ATVs within wetland or bog areas
- Do display riders, riding trails at well spaced intervals
- Show trail signs within all media
- Show safety equipment on riders as recommended by manufacturers
- Do not display photographs of ATV riders "air borne"

# **OFATV Trail Etiquette Environmental Guidelines - 2006**

(Updated July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006)

## **Premises**

The Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicle Clubs (OFATV) is an organization of clubs that believes riding on designated trails protects the environment.

The OFATV promotes safe and responsible riding on trails. It believes that education and awareness programs will further protect the natural environment. At the same time, the utilization of a trail network provides for a unique opportunity to experience nature. ATVs provide and allow for an increased mobility for a variety of users.

The environmental guidelines address the biotic (living organisms) and abiotic (non-living) components of all ecosystems, and are directed to all trail users, including ATV riders.

The OFATV believes the future of utilizing a trail in the outdoors is directly related to how clubs and its members use it today.

## **Guidelines**

- Remove the doubt – Make sure it's out! Forest fires are a serious concern to all of us.
- Ride on designated trails. Do not utilize CLOSED trails. "If you don't know, don't go!"
- Avoid sudden stops and starts and quick directional changes with acceleration.
- Avoid sensitive and restricted areas at all times, especially wetlands, lakeshores, steep stream banks and hills. Cross at designated crossings and utilize bridges when available. Cross watercourses at 90-degree angles and drive carefully and slowly.
- Enjoy wildlife viewing opportunities; avoid stressing any species, particularly during the rearing stages. Adjust riding behavior according to season and location.
- Respect and be courteous to other users who are also using shared use trails. Always yield the right-of way to other trail users who are approaching or passing. Signal when approaching from behind. In particular, be certain to communicate with the riders of horses and those walking pets.
- Avoid running over young trees and shrubs, particularly in the spring and the growing season of the summer.
- Do not trespass on private property and do not utilize single-purpose trails designated for other (non-ATV) activities.
- Promote parking and dismounting from your ATV to walk to sensitive, scenic, historic and cultural areas.
- The ATV designated trail season begins and ends with the advent of winter and the appearance of snowmobile groomers.
- Avoid riding after heavy rains

- Do not venture out on new, non-ATV designated trails without consulting appropriate stakeholders.
- Comply with all applicable legislation and/or municipal by-laws.
- The planning and staging of rodeos and safety courses should be within areas such as pits, gravel parking lots and controlled areas.
- Take a rider safety course and ride within your abilities.
- Do not cut switchbacks or take shortcuts.
- Keep your speed and engine rpm low and steady when approaching other riders, homes, etc.
- What you pack in, pack out – DO NOT LITTER.
- Remove your helmet when talking to other trail users.
- Keep in mind the following OTC statement:  
“Shared use trail – expect/respect other users.”

**Note:** Guidelines will be altered as required. The OFATV invites any comments related to its guidelines: [info@ofatv.org](mailto:info@ofatv.org)

### **OFATV Winter Riding Policy**

(March 28, 2001)

That the OFATV adopt the following: “No OFATV club will utilize any trails that are groomed in the winter months unless they are expressly designed for the purposes and use of the ATV club. This includes, but is not limited to those trails maintained by snowmobile and / or ski clubs.”

### **Wardening Policy**

(November 29, 2008)

Motion “To put into OFATV policy that the OFATV recommends that Clubs provide Warden training free of charge to the individual.”