**Coe Hill Riders ATV Club**

**History**

The Coe Hill Riders ATV club was created by a group of individuals who love to ATV and wanted to see an established club with maintained trails in our area. The OFATV is the oversight governing body that manages clubs across the province. From the OFATV website:

“A group of clubs in Ontario, operated by volunteers, with the goal of providing safe, legal and sustainable trails across the province. Our staff and volunteers are constantly working with provincial government and municipalities, championing the rights of the ATV rider. We endeavour to help the general public understand that our members are a group of outdoor enthusiasts who respect other outdoor sports and are environmentally conscious. Joining an OFATV club gives you the opportunity to shape the future of our sport and the province wide trail system we’re building. Join a club, get involved, & go riding!”

Darren Stevens, a Wollaston Township resident, with Damian Greenop, Dave Markovich and Ted Schirk seasonal residents of Red Eagle Family Campgrounds (all ATV enthusiasts) had talked about establishing a local club. For the past two years this group has organized an ATV ride in the Spring that collected money that they donated to the Wollaston Fire Department. But they realized there was no formal club to help connect the trails and that such an organization would contribute to the economic development of the Township.

A few weeks ago, Darren, Damian, Dave and Ted began the process to formalize a local club. They registered the Coe Hill Riders ATV name as a formal entity with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada as a Not for Profit organization.

They completed an application form requesting to formalize the Coe Hill Riders ATV as an affiliate club with OFATV. To do so, they were required to list an initial Club Executive. For the initial term this includes the following members:

Coe Hill Riders ATV Executive Committee

President: Darren Stevens

Vice President: Damian Greenop

Treasurer: Ted Schirk

Secretary: David Markovich

They were also required to submit initial draft bylaws, which would be reviewed and approved by the Membership at the first Annual General Meeting.

On April 17, 2018 the OFATV considered and approved the application to formally establish the Coe Hill Riders ATV Club.

So how does it work? Why should I become a Member?

To join our Coe Hill Riders ATV club, you **purchase a pass through CHATV from OFATV** at a cost of $ 150.00.

We have established a website: <https://chatvc.ca>

There is a link to the OFATV site to purchase your pass. We are working with local businesses so in the future you might purchase your pass locally. Watch for announcements on this.

 Now that we have a local club approved by OFATV, our organization will be entitled to the following benefits.

* For each pass sold in our area, our club will receive $ 65 per sale
* The OFATV provides insurance coverage for the local clubs
* In addition, at year end, each club receives a share of some remaining funds based on KM of trails maintained
* These funds will be used to maintain and create new trails & cover Board operational expenses, which will be shown in the annual Budget
* The Executive and designated Members will work with local landowners to establish land use agreements that will help to connect the trails
* Currently, the next closest clubs are Ottawa and Lindsay. Our club is situated in an excellent position to link these two clubs and expand access to maintained trails.
* The OFATV provides resources for the local clubs such as: Event Waivers; Land Use Agreements; Special Events Liability Insurance and a Trail Warden Handbook.
* The OFATV Bylaws govern the Associate clubs. They also provide operational policies to assist local clubs and also support communications. Our club will have a place at the OFATV Board of Directors table.

**The Benefits of becoming an OFATV Member:**

As a member of the OFATV you are helping shape the future of ATVing in Ontario and through your membership dollars are contributing to the creation and maintenance of trails across the province.  You’re also contributing to increased access for ATVs and helping to protect your right to continue enjoying ATVing in Ontario in the future.  You can learn more about this on the [Why OFATV](http://ofatv.org/why-the-ofatv/) page.

As a member of OFATV you have access to thousands of kilometers of trails across Ontario.  Through reciprocal agreements, you can also ride other provinces trails, including [New Brunswick ATV Federation](http://nbatving.com/). Details about where you can ride with your OFATV Trail Permit can be found on the [Trail Pass Information](http://ofatv.org/trail-pass-info/) page.

If access to trails and a real contribution to the sport aren’t enough,OFATV membership also grants you access to a growing list of membership discounts.  OFATV is happy to offer member discounts through retail partners across the province as well as other great perks of membership

[Backroad Mapbooks](https://www.backroadmapbooks.com/), Canada’s #1 publisher of backcountry recreation maps and ATV trails from coast to coast.

[Napa Auto Parts](https://www.napaonline.com/) providing discounts to OFATV members.

All OFATV members will receive an in store discount at Benson Autoparts. The discount is anywhere from 0% to 50% depending on the product purchased.

All members automatically receive a free subscription to [ATV World Magazine](http://atvworldmag.com/).

[Princess Auto Kingston](http://www.princessauto.com/en/store?storeId=27) provides a 10% store wide discount to OFATV members.

Join [Horwood Lake Lodge](http://www.horwoodlakelodge.com/) for an ATV Wilderness Adventure and receive a 10% discount with your OFATV membership on any of the packages available from Horwood Lake Lodge’s [website](http://www.horwoodlakelodge.com/).

**So, what happens next?**

The Executive Committee will meet and open a club bank account.

We will establish an initial operating budget and establish year end processes.

We will formalize the agenda for the AGM.

As members register with us CHATV through OFATV, monies will be deposited into our account.

We will hold our first Annual General Meeting on May 20, 2018 at Red Eagle Family Campgrounds, 289 Wollaston Lake Rd., Coe Hill, Ontario at 1 pm at their pavilion.

At that time, we hope to have representative from OFATV present to answer questions.

We will need to fill various Directors positions on the CHATV Board of Directors

We will need Members to approve our Bylaws

We will be seeking feedback from Members on possible trail system expansion, or any other issues or concerns.

Looking forward to seeing you there! Remember to follow our website and Facebook page to keep up to date.