



Point of Contact
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Club Guidelines/Goals

- To create an organization that promotes common sense four wheel driving.
- To educate members on the right way to engage trail obstacles by use of proven techniques and use of equipment associated with our sport.
- To organize trail runs, camping trips, day trips to local and out of state areas.
- Create a leadership position within the organization of volunteers that will effectively manage the club
- Establish a club logo.
- Establish a system of communication beneficial to all members.
- Create laws that will govern the organization and set a standard.
- Continuously build the membership by selecting people that would enhance the membership and that will bring credit to our organization.
- Maintain a positive and open relationship with the public and community where we trail.
- Create a set of by-laws that will govern the club actions and directions.

Common Sense Four Wheeling.

We all want to enjoy our experience as a Jeep Owner/S.U.V. This does require a certain degree of knowledge, experience and skill. To begin with, knowing what to do when on the trails, be it rocky roads, muddy terrain or sandy areas. This is accomplished by being a member of a S.U.V/4x4 club that has a sound membership; obtainable goals, recognition/is affiliated to an organization with nations accreditation, i.e. Maryland 4 Wheel Club, East Coast 4x4 Experience or the York/PA Jeep. You also need to know that whenever you go out 4 wheeling your actions both indirectly and directly affect the perception of all 4 wheeling organizations/clubs. It is very important that you maintain a good sense of awareness of where you may be driving at. Is it a public road, private property or an intrusion to someone's property?

In the State of Maryland, we are very limited as to where we can go on off road ventures. Primarily because we do not have a strong network of both public or private use roads for 4 wheeling. We need to identify and motivate a prospective farmland owner to let us develop trails where we can go off of roading. We need to establish a relationship with our County Governments or State Park Rangers who maintain vigilance of such areas. Theirs, is an issue of environmental preservation, safe driving and liability.

While common sense will always prevail, it helps to have the backing of officials that can provide support in our cause. What are we willing to do to gain such support? As a member of this organization we should always represent ourselves in the best light as possible, a positive image creates a tremendous advantage within the public eye. A club can loose their image just by its membership going out and dogging the roads or even tearing up the fields of private owners. It takes just one or two individuals to destroy what good we may accomplish in the organization. Therefore, I recommend we be vigilant and report noncompliant members and request their terminations from the club.

Common sense, good judgment, courtesy and safely negotiating the trails will yield you joyful and damage free experience. Remember, positive recognition can yield additional access to locations otherwise we wouldn't have.

EDUCATING MEMBER.

All members should have a basic understanding about the use of a 4x4 vehicle in the woodlands or off road driving. There are many books that address this issue and organizations that are always ready to help provide such information. I can think of one book we need to acquire it's called "Mark A, Smith's guide to safe, Common Sense Off-Road driving" it cost about \$7.95 and is available by writing to "Treat Lightly!" 298 24th Street #325, Ogden, UT 84401, you may also call them at 800-966-9900 or visit them on the web at www.treadlightly.org. You can check out videos about events past that will show you how to perform on certain types of trails.

WINCHING VEHICLES

It would be ideal for everyone to have a winch. However, not everyone can afford one. Those that do must have a comprehensive understanding on how to properly use it. You must also be properly equipped. Shackles, tow straps 30', 20' and tree types. When you winch, you don't want to destroy the tree, remember, our job is to preserve the natural habitat. You can apply to attend private sessions about the correct way of winching. This knowledge would be an asset to the organization not to mention you.

ORGANIZED OFF-ROAD EVENTS.

This is the ultimate purpose for this club, to organize our efforts in planning trail rides during weekend retreats or weekend camping trips. As with any organization, the membership needs to be comprised of legal age adults and vehicles that meet the club standards. There will be times when a 17 year old near his 18th birthday may join our club, but only after the parent(s) have also join the club and a proper waiver form has been signed. This waiver is to protect the membership from being sued for damages, liability, and medical incidents or in the case of sever dismemberment. Passengers, who hurt themselves, become the responsibility of the driver they are with. Therefore the driver must be very careful who they bring and how old they are.

MEMBERSHIP.

A member must have a Jeep to join this club. Each member will be charge \$35.00 (effective 8/28/2004) to join, this fee includes your membership to the United Four Wheel Drive Association. A dual membership such as that required by person who is 17 years old will be charged \$40.00, but will only have a single registry. On receipt of the membership fee Tico will provide you with a vehicle club sticker. A Non-Jeep vehicle owner may apply for membership, but will be subject to consideration on a case-by-case basis by the President or board members.

The minimum age acceptable is 17 years old and they must be 6 months from becoming 18 years old. His or her parent(s) must sign a waiver along with a membership application. Theirs will be considered a dual membership, which means that one of the parents will be a silent member in the club.

LEADERSHIP.

It goes without saying, “an organization is only as strong as it’s leader”. A leader keeps us organized, focus and from time to time in line. However, Tico retains the over all decision on the direction of the club. Must be a good communicator and has the know how on 4 wheel driving. Other positions need to be created to lessen the workload like;

- * Vice- President who knows and can act in the absence of the president of the club
- * Certified trail guides/winchng instructors
- * Treasure, a person that is of trust and knows how to manage money, make good decissions, and watch our resources.

CLUB LOGO.

The club Logo is such that represents who we are and what we do. Designed with effect, pride and something you will be proud to display on your vehicle. Our logo and/or lettering strips are not available to just anyone, they must be qualified members. As a member, remember that your actions reflect back to the club. Do not discredit the club!

COMMUNICATION.

The best method for communication right now is by E-mail. However, the telephone works just as good too. The Internet can be used as a means to post pictures, findings new trails or important information that the membership can benefit from. Equally any trail events or trip will be posted by E-mail to each individual member. When possible notification by mail will follow. You may also use the forum to post a message to the membership or used the membership E-mails address to send messages about an event of importance. Do not the privaledge!

OFFICIAL WEB AND E-MAIL.

www.marylandrockraiders4x4club.com

tico@ticothejeepman.com

FINES AND LAW SUITS

Should a member responsible for the club being issued a fine or served with a law suit for an infraction of the law, property damages, medical/psychological trauma or other wise and it was due as a result of his or her own negligence. That member will be terminated, and charge with a counter civil suit for whatever damages or monies the club losses. Violation of these guidelines or memorandum of understanding and or any other charge applicable by Maryland State law will be address accordingly to the severity of the violation.

Should the club end up with a demand for payment as a result and an infraction that doesn't fall in the category disclosed above then that member will be expected to refund the club or receive a suit for damages.

RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERS.

Each member has the potential to recruit another person whom they feel first meets our standards, has the right type of vehicle and would be a model member of this club. There would not be votes, but rather an evaluation to see if that person meets our standards. Whenever possible, Tico would want to meet them personally.

ADMINISTRATION

Tico Carreras will handle all the E-mail correspondence, along with Rich Althouse or Mark Donnellon, as well as implement the guidelines and act on behalf of the club membership.

Tico Carreras
President