



VERMONT MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOC.  
SINCE  1997

## New Chapter Questionnaire

Welcome! We are very excited to hear that your community is interested in becoming a VMBA Chapter. The local effort of Chapters in tandem with VMBA's advocacy is a uniquely productive combination. Our environment of shared success and interconnectivity promotes an atmosphere of constant innovation.

Before we begin the process of becoming an official VMBA Chapter, we ask that you and your community take the time to consider the following checklist and answer the following questions. Please send back your completed answers to Amy Potter, Operations Manager, at [amy@vmba.org](mailto:amy@vmba.org).

Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you!

### **Checklist**

Does your group have the following in place? If not, we encourage you to get these tasks/objectives completed before continuing.

- Support from local community members and businesses
- At least 5 individuals to steward the Chapter as a Board of Directors (we encourage this to be individuals from a variety of backgrounds in the community)
- A plan to have enough land to build 5 miles of trail or roughly 100 acres of land
- Permission/Interest from the landowners, town managers, etc to use the land for outdoor recreation
- Support from the neighboring landowners/property managers to have a trail network next to their property. This will help ease potential future conflicts if you have support from neighboring stakeholders

## Questions

1. How long has your group been in existence?
2. What central goal does joining VMBA help your group achieve?
3. Please provide a list of your Board of Directors (if there is one). If not, please describe how your group has clear community support? Ideally, representation from local business owners and town selectboard members. The expectation is that you'll gather at least 5 individuals that are representative of the community and agree to be: Board President, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and Board Member at-large.
4. Do you currently have a 501(c)3 status? If so, do you understand that VMBA's insurance, per insurance company requirements, will not extend to your organization, landowners, or board of directors unless you agree to fall underneath our 501(c)3 umbrella through the signed Letter of Consent?
5. Is your group affiliated with any other organizations? If so, please explain how your work with the other organization(s) would work if you become a VMBA Chapter?

6. VMBA works towards shared success and interconnectivity for the riding community. Is your entire board genuinely interested in the value that other Chapters bring to your potential chapter? Are you willing to routinely make investments of time, expertise sharing and grant decision making with other Chapters?
  
7. Does your group currently have any trails already built? If so, describe the process you've gone through to build them, if you've worked with any professionals or have gone through an environmental audit, and who currently owns the land. If there are already trails in place, expect a VMBA representative to conduct a site visit.