

056 Group Riding Outline

Legal Requirements

- Full Motorcycle license, no restrictions permitted during group rides
- Valid & proper registration & insurance on person
- DOT helmets, protective clothing & footwear
- Zero Alcohol – no grey area – ZERO while on a ride

Kickstands Up

- Must be ready and on bike at designated time
- Full tank – empty bladder
- Start engine when signal given
- No revving or other unnecessary activity
- Pull away in orderly manner in designated position

Stop Signs & Red Lights

- Each rider is driving under their OWN license and MUST obey all rules & laws
- Full stop at stop signs....
- Pull up in pairs – pull away in pairs – left rider advance immediately
- We do not turn right on red lights (4 or less exception sometimes)
- Wait for light in pairs – pull away in pairs – left rider advance immediately

The Hand Signals

- Hand signals are our communication tool
- Pass signals back
- Slow down (can also mean be aware of something ahead)
- Tighten up
- Single file & Staggered
- Obstacle on road
- Tap out
- Left & Right & Stop

Formation Riding

- Formation riding is precision riding requiring skill, confidence and attention
- Staggered placement
- Single file
- Time (not distance) between riders – 2 seconds
- Keep tighter in traffic
- Slingshot effect
- STAY in formation

Lane Changes

- Pass back signal light signal
- Move only after rider in front of you starts to move – follow
- Arm signal – shoulder check – mirror check

Riding Speeds

- At or within 10% above limit
- Faster in high speed traffic as an extreme safety measure
- Want to work with the traffic, but not get ticketed

Tapping Out & Fallback Rider

- Riders who know ahead of time ride at rear, ahead of T/G
- Tap helmet to indicate leaving group
- Tap out with emergency or problem
- Second T/G will fall back
- All others keep going until safe to pull off

Split Group Procedure

- Last rider in front section will act as T/G
- Last rider will pull over when front section turns off to flag rear section
- Front rider of rear section will act as R/C
- Front rider will spot 'Fallback Rider' and follow to the rest of group
- We do not pull off and wait – catch up at next POI etc – do not hurry

Controlling Traffic

- R/C's control traffic
- Hand waving a vehicle to move forward is to clear cars, not you.
- Lead bike may dip bars or swerve get attention, do not 'follow'

Emergency Vehicles

- We pull over, not off paved road
- We do NOT stop – crowd edge of pavement and keep moving slowly
- A stopped motorcycle at the side of the road is dangerous condition
- If we are stopped by police, we stop when safe to do so
- Only R/C & SO dismount to speak to & deal with officer
- Any helmet cam etc? keep them running & recording