

GROUP RIDING

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This information came from the A.M.A. (American Motorcyclist Association). Here are 17 tips for having fun on group rides.

1. Organize the ride. Plan your what, when and where in advance.
2. Group riding does not mean you give up your opinion for a safe ride. You are still the captain of your ship. Ride at your level.
3. When routing a ride, make sure your group is having a fun ride and are not being stressed out.
4. Have some clear communication. Always use hand signals and radios when available.
5. When lining up, the Road Captain and the Gunner should be experienced. New riders should be near the front so the Road Captain can be paced by their ability.
6. To keep the group together, the Road Captain should ride at the pace of the least experienced rider.
7. The Gunners best tool might be their cell phone. Do not leave without one.
8. Do not get tunnel vision. Keep your eyes moving.
9. Ride your ride. If the group is riding too fast for you, signal the Gunner you are dropping out and be safe.
10. Everyone is responsible to ensure their bike is in good running condition. The T-CLOCS Inspection Checklist is important!
11. Large groups are a traffic hazard. Groups should be no than 9-12 bikes.
12. Group riding should use the staggered formation with a 2 second space between riders.
13. Trikes should use the lane as if they were a car.
14. When riding in bad conditions, you should use single file. Rough roads, poor visibility, sharp turns or other obstacles.
15. At intersection stops, you should tighten up the group side by side to minimize the group size.
16. Remember, there are no special laws for group rides. Do not block the intersections or run red lights.
17. When you reach your destination, lead the group far enough into the parking area to get everyone off the road quickly.

STAY SAFE: LEE