

Hand Signals

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After going on line to see where we are in the world of motorcycle hand signals, there is almost as many as there are motorcycles. This is why I'm boring everyone by going over the Tally HOG official hand signals.

We all need to use these signals for safety because we ride in such a tight formation. Practice will make us proficient and smooth like the cool kids. The hand signal should be held for about 3 seconds so we don't get miss lead by Ronny Bell swatting flies or Karen Brunelle doing the YMCA. Most of the signals can be started by anyone in line as needed.

To start, the Road captain holds up their right index finger pointing up moving in a circular motion. This may take a little longer until the first biker shuts up and cranks their evil v-twin.

LEFT TURN is indicated by sticking your left hand straight out palm down.

RIGHT TURN is indicated by sticking your left hand up palm forward with the arm at a 90 degree angle.

SINGLE FILE is indicated by raising your left arm and index finger straight up. My favorite is making a shark fin on top of your helmet with your left hand.

Resume a **STAGGER FORMATION** by sticking your left arm up with index finger and pinky, palm forward. Then yell go **LONG HORNS**, this is optional.

To make a safe lane on multi lane highways, the Road Captain gives the **BLOCK** signal and the Gunner moves into the desired lane to block any more vehicles from entering. When all other vehicles have passed, the Road Captain moves into the desired lane and everyone then follows the Road Captain like a snake.

BLOCK LEFT is indicated by sticking your left arm straight up with a fist palm forward.

BLOCK RIGHT is indicated by sticking the same fist in the air with you thumb out the right.

SLOW DOWN is indicated by sticking your left arm out or slightly down with palm down parallel to the ground and making a patting motion.

SPEED UP is indicated by starting with left arm down to your side lifting arm and hand cupping palm up.

This should only be initiated by the Road Captain after the whole group has cleared the obstacle. Each rider is the captain of their bike and should make this or any adjustment at their comfort level.

STOP is indicated by sticking left arm down out a little with palm facing back.

ROAD HAZARDS can be pointed out at any time by anyone. The most common is by pointing it out with your foot left or right according witch side the hazard is on. You can also use your out stretched arm and index finger to point at the hazard. If the hazard is **SAND** or **GRAVEL** indication is by either arm at a 45 degree angle, palm down and fingers spread and shake hand back and forth keeping palm flat.

If for any reason you need to **FALL OUT** of the formation (you left something turned on at home). Take your left hand, palm down and pat the top of your helmet. Then give a **RIGHT TURN** hand signal, when safe, move to the right side of the formation and let the group pass. This is also an indication that the Gunner does not need to stop.

Lee

