

HERITAGE RIDERS GROUP RIDING POLICIES

The aim of our club is to RIDE and HAVE FUN – SAFELY!

We want you to know how we organize and operate our rides. The Ride meeting place to start from is at the discretion of the Road Captain and there are a few things you need to know before you show up for a ride.

Arrive prepared: full gas tank, proper gear, and a good attitude.

The posted run times are the DEPARTURE times! Please get there at least 15 MINUTES BEFORE the departure time.

All current Club members are allowed one guest, who MUST sign an Adult Waiver form prior to going on the ride. See the Road Captain for the form. Minors and their parent or Guardian also need to sign a waiver if minors are attending the ride.

Club rides function under the following general guidelines:

- A Lead Road Captain, who may be assisted by other qualified Road Captains, leads all rides. the person riding at the back of the pack is called the Sweep and sometimes there are Middle Road Captains depending on how large the group is. They will serve as Lead Road Captain should the riders become separated.
- The Lead Road Captain will give a pre-ride briefing which will include the route and rest stops, a review of riding rules, mention of any hazardous conditions discovered on the pre-ride and the destination plan.
- There is typically communication between the Lead Road Captain and the Sweep. If the group should get separated at a traffic light, the Sweep will inform the Lead Road Captain and the Lead Road Captain will pull the group over single file when it is safe to do so. Once the back of the group catches up, the Lead Road Captain will start the ride again, pulling back into the roadway when it is safe to do so. If the Lead Road Captain is pulling the group over onto the shoulder, please make sure you and your motorcycle are not over the white line in the roadway.
- Our Club rides in a double row, staggered formation – the Lead Road Captain will ride in the left-hand side of the lane and the next rider in the right-hand side and so forth.
- Riders will maintain at least a 2 second distance from the rider directly in front of them and 1 second behind the rider to their right or left. The actual distance will increase as speed increases – Note: if you cannot see the face of the rider diagonally in front of you in their mirror, you are too close. You are in their blind spot.
- Riders will not leave large GAPS while riding in the group. This will cause cars to try to pass and get in between us or pull out of a sideroad in between us. Keep the group tight.

- You “own” your entire lane. The object is to stay on your own side. Only move into the other side of the lane if you need to swerve to avoid an obstacle or use another lane through a corner. If you need to do this, then immediately move back to your side of the lane once you are clear of the obstacle. You must keep the lane clear for the bike in front of you as well. Do NOT slide up on the bike in front of you! Maintain the 1 second/2 second distance.
- Riders will remain on the side of the road that they started on. Only moving to the other side to avoid an obstacle. No changing lanes during a ride – stay in your own lane. If you are not comfortable in the lane you are in, wait until the group stops at the rest stop then change sides once the group starts back on the ride again.
- Hand signals will be used as appropriate – these will be demonstrated at the pre-ride briefing. Please see the “Motorcycle Hand Signals” document. If someone in front of you gives a hand signal, please be sure to pass the hand signal down the group.
- No one will be expected to ride beyond his or her comfort level.
- If a rider has any issues, they are encouraged to approach either the Lead Road Captain on a ride or any other available Road Captain. A problem cannot be solved if it is not addressed.
- ***Ride your own ride: do not blindly follow the rider in front of you. Remain aware – you are responsible for your own safety!***
- The Lead Road Captain will appoint someone with a cell phone as a 911 designee in case of a problem.
- If there is a problem or a breakdown, the Sweep will stop with the disabled bike and all other riders will continue on with the Lead Road Captain to a safe location before stopping.
- All rides end at the destination. Every effort will be made to ensure that all riders know where they are and how to get back from a destination. It’s always a good idea to carry a map of the local areas in case you are separated on the return.