

RIDE LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ride Leader is responsible for the safety of those following in the group from the beginning of the ride until reaching the destination.

Follow the Rules of the Road.

Set the appropriate & constant speed. Avoid jack-rabbit starts which increase the rubber-band affect.

Adjust the route as required by road conditions, hazards, construction, weather etc.

Know how to pass slow moving vehicles on both 2 lane and 4 lane roads.

Initiate lane changes as necessary.

Understand how to turn at stop light signals and stop signs in heavy traffic and rural settings. Wait for the group to catch up prior to making the turn which will reduce the rubber-band effect.

Know the limitation on fuel consumption or range, so the group can refuel before riders reach their reserve levels.

Know when to take a refreshment break or rest stop.

Make reservations for the destination, if prudent.

***Make sure any New to GEMC Riders have a Member to ride with.



PRE-RIDE MEETING

Identify the Ride Leader, Sweep and Slot Leader (if one is necessary) for today's ride.

Describe the general route, if possible noting any special conditions and total travel time for arrival at the destination.

2 second rule with staggered formation is the desired manner for group travel. Keep up, so gaps don't develop which allows cars to penetrate our line of bikes and because gaps create frustration from riders following the rider creating the gap.

BREADCRUMB - this is the foundation for a successful group ride. Know it...follow it! You are responsible for keeping up with the bike in front of you and insuring the bike behind you doesn't get left behind. Have the confidence the rider in front of you won't leave you behind and the commitment to not leave the rider behind you. If you lose the bike behind you, stop in a safe, but noticeable and/or visible location, until the trailing bike catches up. Remember, the bike in front of you will notice you stopped and they will pull over in a safe, but noticeable and/or visible location, and wait for you as well.

Address any stops for gas, restrooms etc. prior to departure.

Introduce the Slot Leader (positioned in the middle of the group), they will become the Ride Leader in the event the group become separated.

Introduce the Sweep and their role in the ride.

SWEEP

The Sweep is the last bike in the group and provides a "safety net" for all riders in the group. They will know where the group is headed for the ride and will be able to communicate with the Ride Leader via cell phone etc, if necessary.

If your bike becomes disabled or you have to pull out of formation, the Sweep will assist you.

If you plan to split off from the group prior to arriving at the destination, make sure the Sweep is aware of your intentions, so he knows your departure is planned and you are not having an issue requiring assistance.

The Sweep, or a designate, will identify any riding actions deemed dangerous or unacceptable and take corrective action as necessary.

RIDERS

You are responsible for your safety and the safety of those around you by riding in a responsible manner.

Arrive prepared to ride:

- be on time
- alert and attentive
- gassed up
- have your bike in good mechanical condition
- bring appropriate riding gear

If you are currently a GEMC Applicant, find your sponsor to ride with.
If your sponsor is not on the ride, find another GEMC Member to ride with.

Understand the Breadcrumb Rule and the importance when riding in a group.

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Repeated three time because the cohesiveness of the group depends on this rule.

Know the motorcycle hand signals and pass them to the riders behind you as necessary.

If the group is passing a slower vehicle, pedestrian, farm equipment etc. YOU are responsible to pass when safe conditions exist.

Double-up at stop signs and traffic signals.

Trikes and motorcycles pulling a trailer, due to their massive size, should be positioned at the back of the group, so others can clearly view the road ahead.

Listen and follow instructions, otherwise known as the GEMC motto "shut-up and follow".

Ride your own ride, but understand group riding is not for everyone, so decide if your riding style is compatible with group riding.

Drugs and alcohol inhibit your riding abilities, so ride smart and impairment free to protect yourself and those in your group.