Provincial Grand Lodge of The Scottish Borders

# WINTER DRIVING SAFETY

## Top Tips for Staying Safe on the Road

**DISCLAIMER**

These tips are provided in good faith for general guidance only. They should not be regarded as professional driving or vehicle advice. You may wish to seek further advice from suitably qualified driving instructors, vehicle specialists, or other relevant professionals.

### BEFORE YOU SET OFF

- Check the weather forecast, plan your route and allow extra time.
- Check tyres, lights, battery, oil and screen wash.
- Keep at least half a tank of fuel.
- Clear all windows, mirrors, lights and roof of snow/ice.
- Make sure your mobile phone if fully charged.
- Tell someone at your destination your estimated time of arrival.

### WHILE DRIVING

- Reduce your speed and drive to the conditions.
- Leave a bigger gap to the vehicle ahead.
- Accelerate, steer and brake smoothly.
- Use dipped headlights in poor visibility.

### IF YOU ENCOUNTER ICE OR SNOW

- Stay calm if you skid and ease off the accelerator.
- Steer smoothly in the direction you wish to travel.
- Take extra care on bridges, shaded roads and rural lanes.

**WINTER EMERGENCY KIT**

- Ice scraper and de-icer
- Warm coat, hat and gloves
- Blanket
- Mobile phone charger
- Torch
- High-visibility vest
- First aid kit
- Water and snacks
- Jump leads

**THE WINTER DRIVING GOLDEN RULES**

1. Prepare your vehicle
2. Plan your journey
3. Slow down
4. Leave extra stopping distance
5. Drive smoothly
6. Carry emergency supplies

**A safe winter journey starts before you turn the key. Drive safely. Arrive safely.**