



Group Riding

As performed by the Cajun
Chapter 1681



Topics to be Reviewed

- Riders' Meeting
- Hand Signals
- Riding in Formation
- Keeping the Group Together
- Intersections
- Parking
- Interstates & Freeways
- Passing
- Leaving the Group
- Roadside Emergencies
- Separated from Group
- Roadway Hazards
- Environmental Hazards
- Have Fun



Riders Meeting

- Meeting 30 minutes before the ride
- Road captain hands out routes/ maps
- Reviews Hand Signals that will be used
- If the group is large:
 - Divides into smaller groups, max. 7 bikes each
 - Selects road captains & sweeps for each group
 - Designates an area to line-up for the ride



Hand Signals

- Road Captain reviews all hand signals
- Emphasis on the most common ones



Stop - arm extended straight down, palm facing back



Single File - arm and index finger extended straight up



Turn Signal On - open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



Slow Down - arm extended straight out, palm facing down



Double File - arm with index and middle finger extended straight up



Fuel - arm out to side pointing to tank with finger extended



Speed Up - arm extended straight out, palm facing up



Hazard in Roadway - on the right, point with right foot; on the left, point with left hand



Refreshment Stop - fingers closed, thumb to mouth



You Lead/Come - arm extended upward 45 degrees, palm forward pointing with index finger, swing in arc from back to front



Highbeam - tap on top of helmet with open palm down



Comfort Stop - forearm extended, fist clenched with short up and down motion



Follow Me - arm extended straight up from shoulder, palm forward



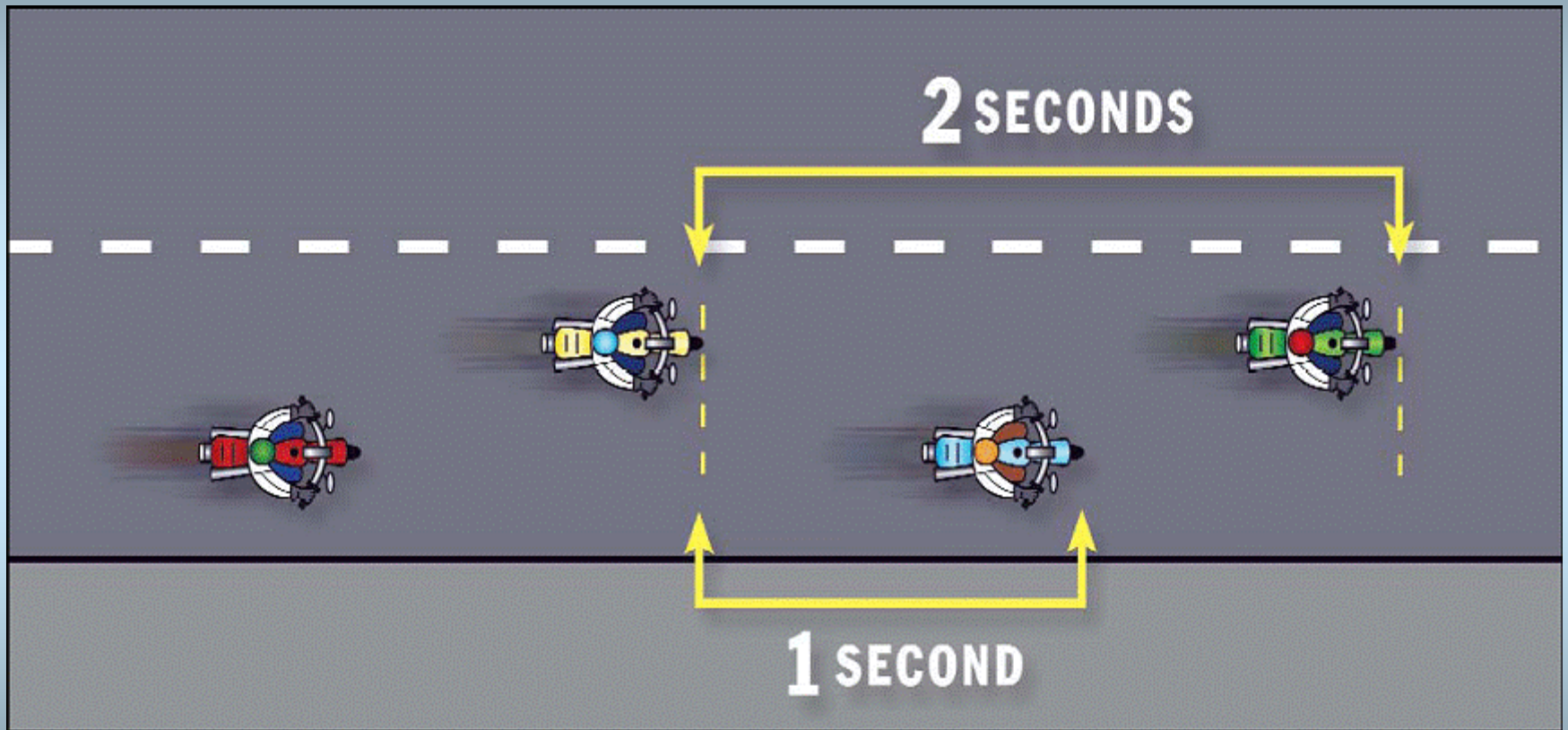
Pull Off - arm positioned as for right turn, forearm swung toward shoulder





Riding in Formation

- Bikes ride in staggered formation
- Observe 2 second rule
- Keep the formation close to prevent cars from cutting in
- Inclement weather open the formation – ride in your comfort zone
- Single file on curves, narrow roads, poor visibility, entering or exiting the highway



2 SECONDS

1 SECOND



Keep the Group Together

- Lead rider and Sweep rider keep the group together
- Inexperienced or new riders, where to put them – Front or Back of the formation
- Check your rearview mirrors frequently
- Do not drop or lag behind the rider in front of you



Intersections

- This is the area of highest risk
- Approach all intersections with caution
- Make your turns single file
- Don't rush a red light or 4-way stop
- You will be able to catch up with the group if you get caught at an intersection
- The rules of the road apply even when group riding





Parking

- Park as a group wherever possible
- Try to park where you can pull through
- Avoid parking downhill or head-in
- Always exit a parking area single file
- Be alert when merging/ moving into traffic





Interstates & Freeways

- Enter the interstate in single file
- Form up into a staggered formation after safely merging onto the highway
- Be careful and watchful of cars entering your formation
- Maintain a space cushion
- Exit the interstate in single file formation

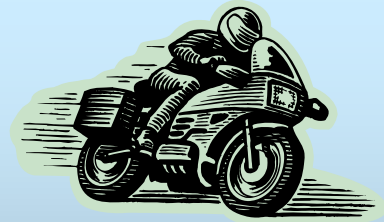


Passing

- Pass one at a time on two lane roads
 - Lead rider passes first then pulls in, staying in the left lane position and maintaining passing speed
 - Second rider and so on pass only when they can clear the roadway
 - The following riders fall back into position in the formation
- On interstates/ freeways
 - Lead rider signals to pass
 - Sweep rider moves over and takes charge of the lane
 - The other riders move over only after the lead rider moves over
 - Move over after the sweep clears the traffic

Leaving the Group

- Notify the leader beforehand
- The group adjusts after you exit
- Riders change position as necessary





Roadside Emergencies

- Following riders stop including sweep rider
- Riders ahead of the incident continues on to the next stop
- The sweep rider should assess the situation and if a delay is apparent sends one rider ahead to meet the group at the next scheduled stop
- If medical assistance is necessary the sweep can use a cell phone to call 911



Separated from the Group

- Don't panic
- Proceed to the regrouping area / next scheduled stop
- Or you can call the contact person/ road captain for your group





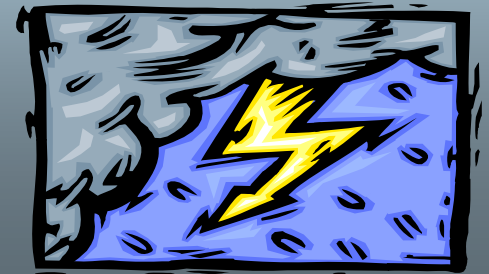
Roadway Hazards

- Be aware of changing road conditions
- When riding in construction zones slow down, ride single file, increase space cushion
- Watch the lead rider for hand signals
- Ride smooth, avoid sudden changes in speed or direction
- All of the above is true for wet roadways



Environmental Hazards

- Riding into the sun can be hazardous
- The glare from the sun makes it difficult for all motorists to be seen
- If you must ride into the sun reduce your speed and increase your space cushion
- Be sure all lights are working for night riding
- Slow down and increase space cushion
- Either condition above makes it more difficult to see road hazards





Have Fun

