

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS

Road Captain & Rider Safety

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RIDER'S CREED

Riders dedicate themselves to the success of the American Legion. I know that, through my efforts, I can make a difference.

I alone am responsible for myself and to my fellow riders. I will conduct myself with the highest degree of integrity and honor.

Deeds, not words, create change. I will persevere against any and all things that prevent my success. My resolve and strength will overcome all obstacles.

Each rider is first a member of the American Legion Family. I will actively participate and willingly support their endeavors.

Readily will I join other riders in activities and events which support our missions. I will do so gladly, knowing I volunteered to be an American Legion Rider.

Success is the only acceptable conclusion. I will allow nothing to dissuade me or impede me from service to my family, community, country, and especially our Veterans.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Road Captain's responsibility to the riders, group, and themselves.
- ALR's responsibility to the American Legion and other AL Family members
- Consequences of actions to our riders and their family
- Defining the role of a Leader and Individual responsibilities
- Methods for group riding with two-wheel and three-wheel
- Videos: Personal Protection, Group Riding, Awareness of safety



GROUP SAFETY PROCEDURE

- Road Captains, Safety Officers/ Sweep
 - Organize and promote safe group riding
- Pre-ride briefing. in-route communication and Small groups pre-ride briefing
- Group size accommodation and skill level for each flight of riders
- Rider's Care
 - **Bathroom, food and water** stops
 - Ride time between post and stops
 - Calling ahead for accommodations
- Flag displaying in group rides (as per manufacturer and speed)
 - Parade and Non-Parade
- Accident assistances
- Blocking and Chasing vehicles (See ALR Road Captain Guide)



Road Captains and Safety Officers/ Sweep Responsibility to the Riders and Group Riding

New Rider(s) Safety

Rider(s) Experience, Skills, AGE
and Physical Attributes

Road Captain(s) Experience, Skills,
Training

Defining your role as a leader and individual
responsibilities to decrease Accidents



INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES



**SAFETY
EQUIPMENT
PPE**



**DRINKING AND
MEDICINE**



**SPEED OF
TRAVEL**



**PASSING, LANE
POSITION, AND
FORMATION**



SIGNS



SKILL LEVEL



TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

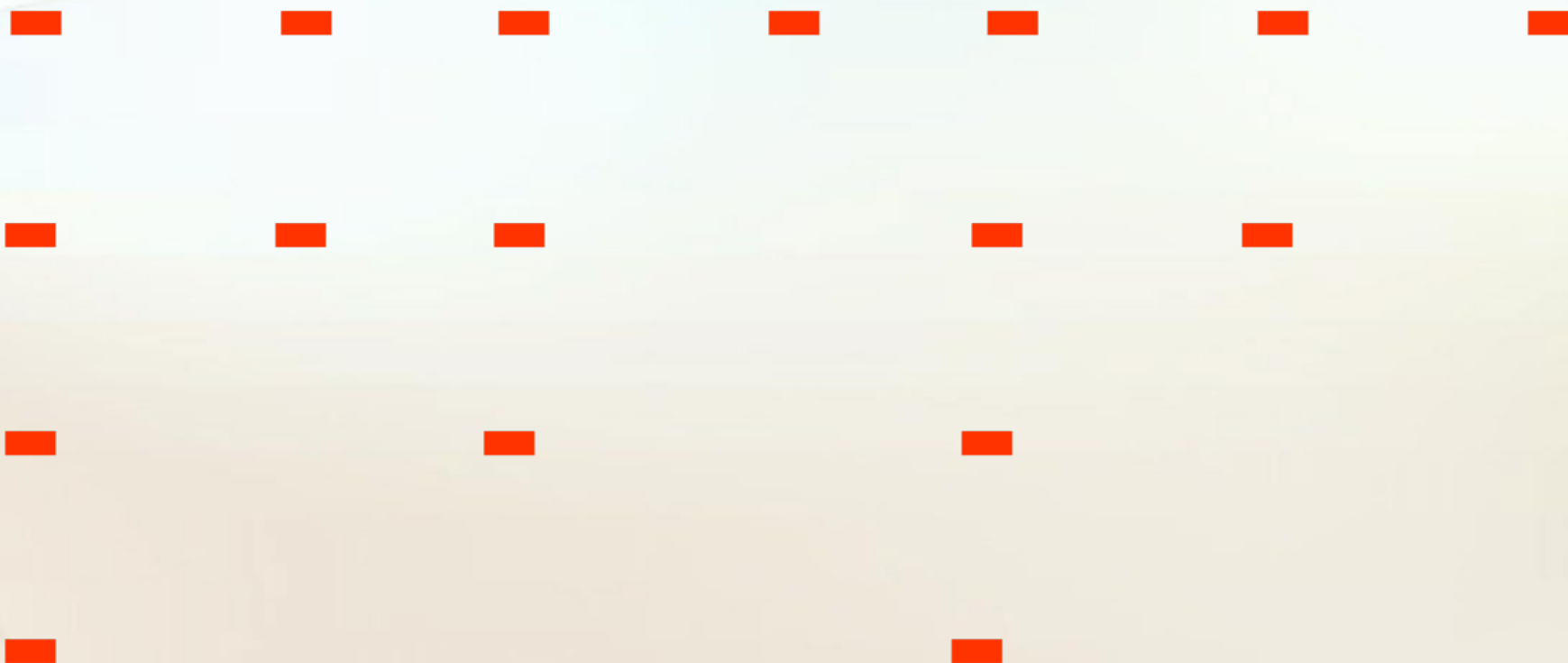
WHY TO BE AWARE ALL THE TIME



TBI- Traumatic Brain Injury-“It can happen to you”

**DECISIONS MADE AS A ROAD CAPTAIN AND RIDER WILL IMPACT OTHERS' AND YOUR SELF
(Sister's Decision)**

W Y L I W Y G





WHAT DO YOU SEE?

W Y L I W Y G

- **W** - WHERE
- **Y** - YOU
- **L** - LOOK
- **I** - IS
- **W** - WHERE
- **Y** - YOU
- **G** - GO

WHAT CHANGES TO FLORIDA'S COMPARATIVE NEGLIGENCE LAWS MEAN FOR MOTORCYCLISTS

Fran Haasch:

I realize this will not be the most popular view, but I have been advising every biker I know to start wearing a helmet. Here's why you should, too.

- Florida's new tort reform law, **HB837**, went into effect on **March 24, 2023**. One of the absolute worst parts of the bill is that we are now a contributory negligence state. This means that if a biker is injured in an accident and is found to be **50.1%** at fault, they could be barred from recovering damages.
- A possible "real world" example – you are riding your motorcycle without a helmet as you are legally allowed to do because you are over 21 and have insurance, you are stopped at a red light, a person in a CAR/ BIKE/ Truck rear-ends you, causing you to fly off your bike and suffer a brain/body injury. With the NEW LAW, the lawyer for the insurance company can argue that because you were not wearing a helmet, your negligence contributed to your injury, if they can prove that you were **50.1%** or more negligent, you can lose the case and get absolutely zero recovery.
- You are riding your motorcycle without a helmet, freedom that riders in the state of Florida have been legally allowed since **July 1, 2000**; another person is at fault for causing the accident and your injuries, but because of contributory negligence, you might not be able to recover anything for your injuries, pain, and suffering, long-term care, NOTHING!
- This means that riders who choose not to wear a helmet could be putting themselves at much greater financial risk in the event of an accident. Even if another party is primarily at fault for the accident, the rider's decision not to wear a helmet could be used against them in court and could result in a complete loss of damages.
- During the legislative hearings, there were at least four (4) separate amendments to exempt helmetless motorcyclists who complied with the helmet laws – **fs. 316.211** – from the new contributory negligence law. The Republican majority in both the House and Senate voted down all the amendments.

RIDE TYPES

Group
Riding

Sponsor
Rides

Poker
Runs

Parades



MFS GROUP RIDING



Classified - Confidential



MFS GROUP RIDING VIDEO

GROUP RIDER POSITIONS

Road Captain and Wing Rider

Experience Riders

Mid-Captain Rider (EMT-Paramedic- First Responder)

Newer Group Riders

Safety Officer- Sweep



Stop - arm extended straight down, palm facing back



Slow Down - arm extended straight out, palm facing down



Speed Up - arm extended straight out, palm facing up



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



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



Single File - arm and index finger extended straight up



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



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



Highbeam - tap on top of helmet with open palm down



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



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



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



Refreshment Stop - fingers closed, thumb to mouth



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



HAND SIGNALS and TURN SIGNALS “USE THEM”



DISCLAIMER

Information in this presentation, the Rider's Manual, and all associated documents are derived from various valued sources. This material is intended for educational purposes only and provided only to the American Legion Riders and Supporters. If you believe any information needs to be reviewed, bring it to the attention of the department leadership for review. The safety and the ride belong to each Rider and their passenger. If for any reason, the Rider and their passenger are not riding safely, they may and can be told to leave for the safety of themselves and other rides. If for any reason, you as a Rider believe that you cannot ride in a safe manner, ask for help, and it will be provided, or discontinue the ride in a safe manner.

***Let us ride safely, responsibly and set a good example for others.
We are representing the American Legion!!!***

