

Riding Tips and Techniques

Over the last several months, my monthly messages have concentrated on what you as a sole rider can do to get ready to ride and to ride safely. However, as the weather warms up and you get more opportunities to go on group rides with the chapter and your friends, I thought it would be a good opportunity to go over some basic rules and tips to make group riding more fun and safe.

I also thought I would change it up by providing you with a presentation instead of the “normal” article format. I hope it makes my message clearer. Please let me know what you think.

Ride safe and ride well,
Bob Reagle, Chapter E Educator



Chapter E

Group Riding Guidelines





Definitions

- Lead - - The Road Captain who is in the first position in the group of bikes
 - Drag (aka Tail Gunner) - - The Road Captain who is the last position in the group of bikes
 - Trip Coordinator (Ride Director)- - The person responsible for setting up the ride
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Rider Responsibilities

- ✓ Show up on time
- ✓ Have a full tank of fuel
- ✓ Have a well maintained bike
- ✓ Perform T-CLOCK before the ride
- ✓ Be mentally and physically prepared to ride





Bike Placement

- Three to five bikes per group is ideal
- Bikes with no CBs placed between bikes with CBs
- Trikes in front of Drag (they can stop more quickly than standard motorcycles)





Hand Signals

- Process
 - *Lead Initiates*
 - *Riders pass signal back in formation order*
 - *Any rider can ID a hazard*

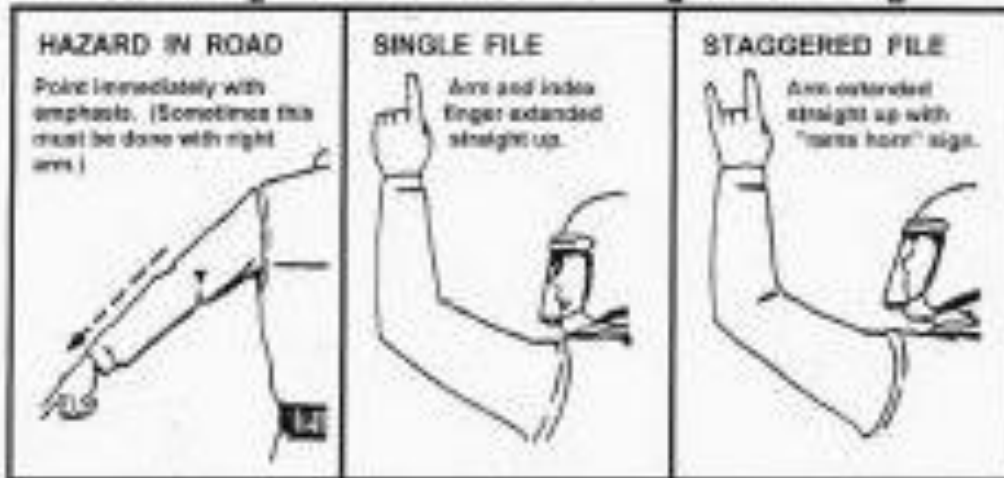
Please note: whether riders have radios or not, they must know the hand signals for Single File, Staggered File and Hazard





Hand Signals

Hand signals for communicating while riding:





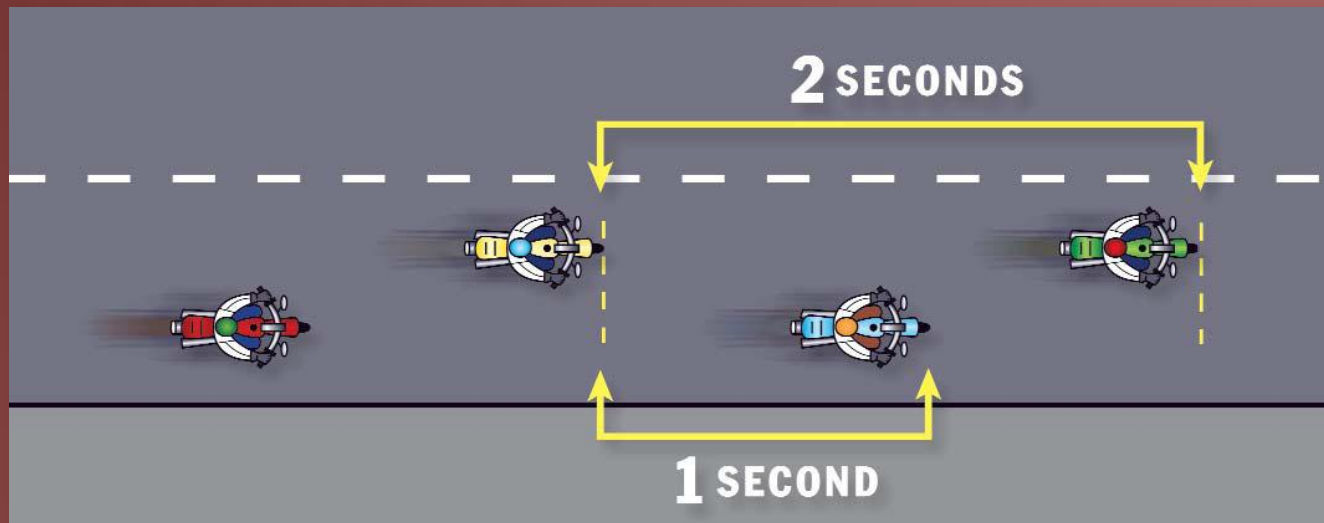
Formation Riding

- Ride in staggered unless directed by Lead
 - *One Second **between** bikes*
 - *Two Seconds **behind** bikes*
 - *Reduces the accordion effect*
- Listen/watch for commands that change the formation
- Maintain proper position





Formation Riding



Please note the gap increases to four seconds during inclement weather





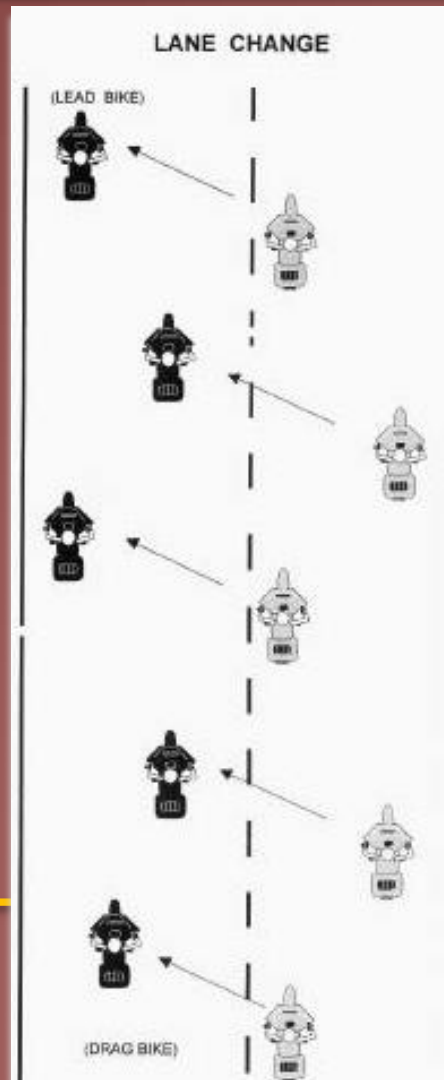
Lane Change

- Pay attention to commands and signals
- Change lanes only when the command is given.





Lane Change





Passing

- Listen for Lead direction
 - Pass one at a time in group order sequence at your own discretion and when it is safe
 - Reform in formation after pass
 - Leave enough room behind you for the next rider to pass safely
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Passing

SINGLE LANE PASS

