

SPACE COAST HOG ROAD GUIDELINES for GROUP RIDES

Road Captains may modify the guidelines below, depending upon circumstances as seen fit by the Road Captain for safety reasons.

1. **RIDE SAFE - RIDE FOR YOURSELF** means: If you're not comfortable with something. Don't Do It! If everyone in front of you starts across a road and you think you should wait - WAIT! Don't just FOLLOW.
2. If you see situations that you think are unsafe tell a Road Captain as soon as you have the opportunity to do so.
3. Be concerned about others as well as yourself. Move over, if possible, when necessary. (i.e. Vehicle getting on highway, object on road, etc.) Remember, if one bike goes down chances are others may also and one of them may be you. Also know your HOG Group Riding Hand Signals.
4. Don't leave too big a space between bikes. Use the 2 second 1 second rule. Other vehicles may try to cut in or it may be hard to catch up to the group if you fall far behind. The group will take up too much road space and people in other vehicles may try to race to get ahead of the group which becomes a very dangerous situation.
5. When passing a vehicle on a two lane road, the Road Captain can remain on the left side which means it is still safe to pass. If the Road Captain pulls back into the right lane, it means it is not safe to pass at that time. If all of the bikes have not passed the Road Captain will pull out to the left lane as soon as he thinks it is safe to pass again.
6. After passing a vehicle on the road, keep up your speed when returning to our original lane. This allows the bikes behind you enough room to get back in line safely.
7. If you or someone near you is having a problem PLEASE let someone up front know. It is almost impossible to see the back of the line from the front of the line and we don't want anyone being uncomfortable or left without help. If possible we will have one of the Road Captains as a "sweep" in the back of each group.
8. When lining up for a ride, get to a spot where you know you will be comfortable riding and near people you are comfortable riding with. After stopping for fuel, food, etc., return to the same position in line unless you have made other arrangements.
9. Stay in the same lane as your group. Groups should occupy only one lane of a road to give all other vehicle's the opportunity to pass. Do not break-out of a line unless it is an emergency. No "Hot Dogging", (pulling out and passing the group(s); this could cause an unsafe situation). Also, please tell someone in the group if you are going to leave so that we don't think something is wrong.
10. For safety reasons we ride in a staggered formation. New riders/members should ride where you are most comfortable. You may want to ride in the back of the group for a while to familiarize yourself with group rides.
11. Side-car and bike trailers are to line up in the rear of group assigned, but ahead of sweep. This is for safety reasons while riding in a group. Turning radius, the ability of bikes following to see hand signals are a few of these reasons. Contact the Head Road Captain for more information.
12. We try to ride in groups of approximately "10" bikes, if feasible. Do not "run" a red light to keep up with your group. We will slow down to wait if necessary.
13. Be sure to fuel up before meeting for a ride. It is unfair to have everyone stop for one or two people who did not think to do so. We do stop often enough for fuel, restrooms, etc., so if you have a smaller tank on your bike it is not to worry.
14. When a single rider must drop out of the group, Florida State law requires that the next rider in line should take that rider's position (in a staggered format) by crossing over to that position. Once that move has been made, the next rider fills the new vacant slot in the same manner, and so on to the end of the group. Riders should never move all at the same time.
15. All trikes should ride in the right side of the traffic lane. Preferably with two 2-wheel bike between them and another trike. This arrangement is designed to allow the signals to be seen and passed around 3-wheel bikes through to the Sweeper.

Be sure to check your tires, battery, oil, lights, etc, before the ride to avoid a possible problem.

We all joined Space Coast HOG for the same reasons; to meet people with similar interests in riding and to have a good time. If we all follow these few simple and safe rules and are considerate of each other we can look forward to continuing the safety and fun we've had in the past. People do pick up their own style of riding which is fine when riding with friends but "Group" rides need to be more structured for the comfort and safety of all concerned. We certainly don't want to lose the "fun" but we do need to be "safe". If you have any questions or concerns regarding any of the above, please see one of our Road Captains and they will be happy to help you.