

# Motorcycle Operator's Checklist

If riding a motorcycle, use the following checklist to assess your "Preparation to Ride":

- Do you have the proper endorsement on your license to operate a motorcycle?
- Are your motorcycle registration, state inspection, insurance and base stickers current?
- Do you have and use all the REQUIRED personal protective equipment:

DOT or SNELL approved helmet

Long trousers

Long-sleeved shirt (minimum Requirement)

Jacket designed for the motorcycle rider (preferred)

Full-finger leather gloves

Hard-soled shoes with heels that protect the ankle

Protective eyewear

If the bike has been stored for an extended period of time, prepare for operation using the procedures provided in your owner's manual. Before each ride, remember the pre-ride check: lights/horn, tires/wheels, fuel/oil, cables, and suspension. Remember that tire pressure is a critical part of suspension. Inflate to manufacturer's recommendation. Remember that it has been several months since you have ridden your motorcycle. Regardless of your experience, it will be necessary to re-sharpen your physical and mental skills.

## Road Precautions

Once you have geared up there are precautions that need to be taken on the road:

Take extra caution at intersections. This is where the most motorcycle-vehicle collisions take place.

Remain visible to other motorists. Do not ride in the drivers "blind spot".

Ride defensively.

Avoid driving in bad weather.

Never drink and ride. Alcohol slows reflexes and greatly limits your ability to safely operate a motorcycle. Approximately 50% of all fatal motorcycle crashes involve alcohol.

If riding in a group – ride in formation (staggered riding formation) allows a proper space cushion between motorcycles so that each rider has enough time and space to maneuver and to react to hazards – avoid side-by-side formations, as they reduce the space cushion.

## Station Conduct

- At each station, there will be volunteers.
- Bike operators will approach the volunteers and be asked 3 safety related questions.
- For each question the operator gets correct, they will receive a prize ticket.
- At the conclusion of the ride, a drawing will be conducted for the prizes.
- Personnel must be present to win prizes