

# Oakley Motorcycle Club

## Rides-out levels and overtaking protocols

### Introduction to Ride-out Levels and Overtaking Protocols

- Oakley MC operates 3 levels of Group Ride Outs and 2 Internal Group Overtaking Protocols.
- A suitably experienced Leader and Tail End Charlie (TEC) control all ride outs.
- No rider should drop out of a ride-out partway through without telling TEC.
- The Ride-Out level and the Internal Group Overtaking Protocol being applied will be published, in advance, so that riders can decide, in advance, if they wish to take part.
- Riders should only attend a ride-out in the full knowledge of the Ride Level and Internal Group Overtaking Protocol being applied to that ride-out.
- Riders should be **HONEST** with themselves about their abilities. Select the appropriate level.
- The over-riding requirement is **SAFETY**.
- Each rider is responsible for his or her **OWN** safety **AND** of those around them.
- **RIDERS SHOULD NEVER GO FASTER THAN THEY ARE COMFORTABLE WITH.**
- Riders and bikes must be licensed, insured, taxed and tested.
- Riders must conduct themselves in a manner that does not endanger themselves, their fellow riders or damage the name and good standing of Oakley Motorcycle Club.
- Riders on 'L' Plates must only attend level 3 ride outs as the overtaking demands on level 1 & 2 may not be suitable for lower powered motorcycles.

### Ride-Out Level 1 – Advanced

- For experienced road riders who have been on multiple ride outs and are able to ride **SAFELY** within a more demanding group ride, in terms of the route and road conditions that are likely to be encountered.
- Also for Level 2 Riders who are looking to improve their group riding skills.
- Riders will be expected to already have a good practical knowledge of OMC Group Riding techniques, including the Drop-Off Scheme, Staggered Formation and Internal Group Overtaking protocols.

### Ride-Out Level 2 – Intermediate

- For intermediate riders who have lesser group riding experience and are looking to improve their group riding skills in a comfortable and safe group-riding environment.
- Also for riders who don't want to go on a Level 1 or level 3 ride-out
- Riders will be expected to have some knowledge of OMC Group Riding techniques, including the Drop-Off Scheme, Staggered Formation and Internal Group Overtaking protocols.
- Riders can expect, where appropriate, to be given friendly tips and advice by the Leader and TEC.

### **Ride-Out Level 3 – Leisurely, Social and Training**

- For riders who have little or no group riding experience and are looking to improve their group riding skills in a comfortable, leisurely and safe group riding environment.
- Also for riders who like plenty of time to ‘smell the air’ and enjoy a leisurely & sociable ride.
- Riders will be expected to be willing to learn and use OMC Group Riding techniques, including the Drop-Off Scheme, Staggered Formation and Internal Group Overtaking protocols.
- Riders can expect, where appropriate, to be given friendly tips and advice by the Leader and TEC.
- It is recommended that Riders on ‘L’ plates use level 3 only

## **Oakley Motorcycle Clubs**

### **Internal Group Overtaking Protocols**

- These protocols cover the manner in which one rider may, or may not, overtake another rider within the group.
- These protocols do **NOT** cover overtaking other road users - normal Highway Code rules apply.

#### **Protocol 1 – Internal Group Overtaking permitted**

- A rider is allowed to overtake the rider in front of them.
- A rider should be prepared for the rider behind to overtake.
- A rider should only overtake a fellow group rider when road conditions allow a safe manoeuvre.
- Before overtaking, a rider should assess why the rider in front is at a slower speed – has that rider seen something that would make overtaking or travelling at a higher speed unsafe?
- No rider may overtake the Leader.
- The TEC will not overtake any rider in the group unless exceptional circumstances demand it.

#### **Protocol 2 – Internal Group Overtaking NOT permitted**

- A rider is not allowed to overtake the rider in front of them.
- A rider should not expect the rider behind them to overtake them.
- However, if for some reason a rider WANTS the rider following them to come past them then, when it is safe to do so, they can, by using a combination of hand signals and indicators, invite that rider to overtake.
- No rider may overtake the Leader.
- The TEC will not overtake any rider in the group unless exceptional circumstances demand it.