

Rider Education Report

Group riding is different from solo riding because not only is each rider responsible for their own safety, they also have a responsibility for interacting safely with the other riders in the group. In the past, sharing information between riders was easily accomplished with the CB radio. The CB radio is a great tool, but only one person at a time can convey information. Newer communication tools using Bluetooth technology can link riders together instantly in a type of “party line.” But in either case, every rider must have the equipment on board to share information. As Wing’d Rider grows and adds new members riding all brands and styles of motorcycles, keeping everyone informed requires a universal tool. Common hand signals can be used by everyone at any time and is the fastest way to relay important information to keep everyone safe.



Speed Up Inexperienced groups will benefit most from this signal. Experienced groups rely more on body language. Use it to tell the rest of the group to match your pace by increasing their speed. Extend your arm and swing your palm in an upward direction to give the signal.



Slow Down This signal is useful because motorcycles generate intense engine-braking forces, which do not activate the rear-facing brake light. Extend your arm and swing your palm down toward the road to tell everyone in the group to slow down.



Follow Me Used to announce a new, often self-appointed group leader. Also used to segment a large group into a smaller group. Make the signal by extending your arm forward at the shoulder with your palm facing outward.



You Lead/Come AKA the “YOU! Follow me!” signal. It has 2 distinct parts. Start by pulling up alongside the rider you want to follow or lead. In one motion, point to their bike and then swing your arm forward. Repeat this motion until the other rider understands.



Road Hazard This is a “2 in 1” signal. The signal is different depending on whether the hazard is to the right or the left. If the hazard is on the left, point with your left arm. Point with your right foot if the hazard is on the right.



Single File An easy gesture. Extend your left index finger and bend your arm up to the sky. In other words, pretend the riders behind you are asking “How many?” and then indicate the answer by gesturing with your *left pointer finger*.



Double File Bend your left arm at the elbow and point to the sky with your index and middle fingers. Do not forget to include your index finger.



Turn Signal On To make a “blinking” gesture using your left hand, alternate between extending your fingers and making a fist. Use this signal to let another rider know he left his blinker on, allowing him to save face during the next comfort or refreshment stop.



Pull Off Indicate to the rest of the group to pull off of the highway, either immediately or at the next exit. The pull off signal is given when the reason for the stop is something other than a comfort or refreshment stop.



Fuel When riding with most groups, running out of gas will earn you a nickname you probably won't like. Communicate your need to refuel by pointing to your fuel tank using your left index finger.

Please be courteous to your fellow riders, and signal important points, as necessary. Also, when another rider signals, be sure to pass it back for everyone else.

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