



Motorcycle Safety

2019 CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER NEWSLETTER

WEEK 2: 3 JUNE

**28% OF
MOTOR-
CYCLE
RIDERS
KILLED
IN 2017
WERE
DRUNK**

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Motorcycle Safety Awareness

The latest data on vehicle miles traveled shows that motorcyclists are about 28 times as likely as passenger car occupants to die in a motor vehicle traffic crash.

If you ride a motorcycle, you already know how much fun riding can be. You understand the exhilaration of cruising the open road and the challenge of controlling a motorcycle. But motorcycling also can be dangerous. Safe motorcycling takes balance, coordination, and good judgment.

Motorcycle riders are overrepresented in traffic fatalities. To keep everyone safe, we urge drivers and motorcyclists to share the road and be alert, and we're reminding motorcyclists to make themselves visible, to use



DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets, and to always ride sober.

Safe riding practices and cooperation from all road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways.

But it's especially important for drivers to understand the safety

challenges faced by motorcyclists such as size and visibility, and motorcycle riding practices like downshifting and weaving to know how to anticipate and respond to them.

By raising motorists' awareness, both drivers and riders will be safer sharing the road.

Mentorship Program

Marine Corps Order 5100.19F DRIVESAFE outlines the process and procedures for maintaining an excellent motorcycle program on and off road.

Per the order, All (battalion/squadron level and above) commands shall establish a Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) that is structured as a club-type organization.

The purpose of the motorcycle mentor program is to identify and mentor inexperienced riders, foster respectful riding practices, and ensure continuing education opportunities are available for all riders throughout their riding career. It follows the philosophy of no man or woman left behind.

Proper management starts with ensuring every rider gets the proper training at every level from permit to permanent mo-

torcycle license. The mentorship program assists in accomplishing such tasks.

The MMP is a dedicated training program to preserve lives, increase experience, and avoiding the motorcycle mishaps. Get involved in the MMP and participate in riding events, rider courses, and motorcycle safety awareness. Start today by contacting your unit MMP President or the Base Safety Center.

Training and Licensing

Driving a car and riding a motorcycle require different skills and knowledge. Although motorcycle-licensing regulations vary, all States require a motorcycle license endorsement to supplement your automobile driver's license. To receive the proper endorsement in most States, you'll need to pass written and on-cycle skills tests administered by your State's licensing agency. Some States require you to take a State-sponsored rider education course. Others waive the on-cycle skills test if you've already taken and passed a State-approved course.

In order to ride in California, you'll need a Class M1 license, also known as a motorcycle

endorsement. Option 1: You can obtain your M-I endorsement by attending and successfully completing the CA license waiver course (MTC). See your Motorcycle Mentorship (MMP) Club President to sign up for a class. Option 2: Take the California Motorcycle Driver Skills Test - If over the age of 21. Schedule an appointment and present required documents at a California DMV. Pass the knowledge tests. Pass the motorcycle skills test.

In order to ride on Camp Pendleton, you must complete a Basic Riders Course (BRC, level I). The level I course is intended to teach riders fundamental riding skills such as breaking, turning, and low speed maneuvering.

Within 120 days of completing the level I course, all riders must attend a level II training course for the required follow-on training. The MSF Advanced Riders Course (ARC) and the Lee Parks Total Control- Intermediate

riding course (LPTC -IRC) are the two approved level II courses offered here on Camp Pendleton.

In most states the BRC is the only requirement to receive a valid motorcycle endorsement – often making mostly inexperienced riders street legal. These riders should attend the ARC/IRC as soon as possible after the BRC to further develop their skills on their own bikes before hitting the streets. The level II courses are intended to ensure that a Marine can operate his or her own motorcycle at “real world” speeds.

All riders must have a valid motorcycle endorsement or license to operate any motorcycle on public roads. Motorcycle riders should be active members in an installation/base sponsored motorcycle mentorship program or club.

All riders must complete refresher training every 3 years.



The Camp Pendleton Motorcycle Training Team is here to assist you!

What makes a beginner a good rider? What makes a good rider better? What makes a better rider confident?

It's training, training and more training, – a continual learning program.

The traffic department of the Camp Pendleton Base Safety Center has developed a program and assembled Southern California's best instructors to train all levels of motorcycle riders, from novice and beginner to experienced riders. It is a comprehensive training program at no cost to the Marines, Sailors, and Civilian Marines.

Available Courses

- ◆ Basic Riders Course (BRC Level I)
- ◆ Advanced Riders Course (ARC)
- ◆ Lee Parks Total Control - Intermediate Riding Course (LPTC-IRC)
- ◆ ATV, dirt bike, and advanced riding courses (periodic offering)

Please contact your Motorcycle Mentorship Program (MMP) President for more information and to sign up



Camp Pendleton Training

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

If you're ever in a serious motorcycle crash, the best hope you have for protecting your brain is a motorcycle helmet.

When the weather is warm, it can be tempting to shed some clothing for the ride. When you do so, you also put yourself at risk of severe injuries in case of a crash. Persons operating or riding as passenger on Camp Pendleton are required to use the following PPE:

HELMET: A helmet meeting the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), SNELL, or ANSI Safety Standard. Look for the DOT symbol on the outside back of the helmet. Snell and ANSI labels located inside the helmet also show that the helmet

meets the standards of those private, non-profit organizations.

EYE PROTECTION: Shatter resistant goggles or full-face shield attached to helmet.

FOOT PROTECTION: Sturdy over-the-ankle shoes (motorcycle riding boots are strongly encouraged).

HAND PROTECTION: full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on motorcycle (materials such as leather, Kevlar, or Cordura are strongly encouraged). Gloves allow for a better grip and help protect your hands in the event of a crash.

CLOTHING: Long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers. In addition to

providing protection in a crash, protective gear also helps prevent dehydration.

If you have any questions regarding PPE requirements for riding on and off base, as well as general guidance on selection, contact your unit MMP President.



Riding Tips

- ◆ Be aware of your surroundings.
- ◆ Check your mirrors and blind spots before changing lanes.
- ◆ Always use your turn signals.
- ◆ Don't let distractions or your cellphone take your eyes off the road; one text is all it can take and in that short time, traffic will change around you.
- ◆ Always be vigilant.

Lane Splitting

Lane splitting is a privilege enjoyed by California motorcyclists. With this freedom comes a greater responsibility for motorcyclists and drivers to share the road and create a safer highway environment.

Although lane splitting is legal in California, motorcyclists are encouraged to exercise extreme caution when traveling between lanes of stopped or slow-moving traffic. Every rider has the ultimate responsibility for their own decision making and safety.

These general safety tips are provided to assist you when riding; however, they are not guaranteed to keep you safe:

- ◆ Consider the total environment when you are lane splitting (this includes the width of lanes, the size of surrounding vehicles, as well as current roadway, weather, and lighting conditions).
- ◆ Danger increases at greater speed differentials.

- ◆ Danger increases as overall speed increases.
- ◆ It is typically safer to split between the far left lanes than between the other lanes of traffic.
- ◆ Try to avoid lane splitting next to large vehicles (big rigs, buses, motorhomes, etc.).
- ◆ Riding on the shoulder is illegal; it is not considered lane splitting.
- ◆ Be visible – Avoid remaining in the blind spots of other vehicles or lingering between vehicles.
- ◆ Help drivers see you by wearing brightly colored/reflective protective gear and using high beams during daylight hours.

Motorists can also do their part by sharing the road. Check your mirrors and blind spots frequently, especially before changing lanes or making a turn. Be alert and courteous while sharing the road.

NOTE: Lane splitting is not authorized when riding on Camp Pendleton.



Camp Pendleton Base Safety Center

Building 16142 on "A" Street

Commanding General's
Safety Hotline: 760.763.7233

Base Safety Center:
760.763.2366/5328
Cpen_safety_help@usmc.mil

Our Mission

The Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton Safety Center's mission is to promote the combat readiness of operating forces by providing safety support services. Our goals are to train all Marine Corps Base commands and organizations in occupational safety and health; mishap reduction and Federal Employees' Compensation Act costs through an aggressive safety program, and to exceed the reduction goals set by the Secretary of Defense, and Headquarters Marine Corps Safety Division. Our customers are Base personnel, the operating forces, extended Marine Families, tenant commands, and occasional Reserve components.

SAFETY = FORCE PRESERVATION

Motorcycle Training Contacts and Links

In 2018, California saw almost 17,000 collisions involving motorcycles, preliminary data from the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System (SWITRS) shows, with 460 victims killed. Preliminary 2017 SWITRS data shows more than 17,000 collisions involving motorcycles, with 577 victims killed in California. The California Department of Motor Vehicles reports more than 900,000 registered motorcycles in the state and more than 1.4 million licensed riders.

One way the CHP and OTS address the safety challenge is with the *Get Educated and Ride Safe (GEARS)* program, funded by a \$625,000 grant from OTS through NHTSA. As part of its continual motorcycle safety program, the CHP strongly encourages all riders, new and experienced, to enroll in the California Motorcyclist Safety Program (CMSP).

The CMSP has 107 training sites throughout the state and trains ap-

proximately 55,000 motorcyclists per year. Driving a car and riding a motorcycle require different skills and knowledge. The training provided through CMSP makes the journey safer.

For more information about training, riding events, and safety information, contact your unit MMP President or the Camp Pendleton Base Safety Center.

The Traffic and Motorcycle Safety Program Manager is Mr. Bromwell at 760.763.5070 or 760.207.9010.



Check us out on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Cpenbasesafety>

⇒ **Naval Safety Center**

<http://www.public.navy.mil/NAVSAFECEN>

⇒ **NHTSA**

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/motorcycle-safety>

⇒ **Motorcycle Safety Foundation**

<https://msf-usa.org/>

⇒ **California Motorcyclist Safety**

<https://www.chp.ca.gov/Programs-Services/Programs/California-Motorcyclist-Safety>

There's a life riding on it.

