



Combat Vets Motorcycle Association

Colorado 3-2

Basic Riding Protocol

The Combat Vets Motorcycle Association basic riding protocol is set up to ensure safety while riding in formation, along with a set of standards for all to follow. This protocol will ensure that we also look great rolling down the road to any event or ride.

1. Safety is always # 1 priority.
2. **Order of March** – Order of March is set up so that everyone knows where they fall within the CVMA pack. Starting in the front, The Chapter Command group is always in the front of the pack. The Commander is at the front left, The Executive Officer is to his right followed by Sgt. At Arms behind the Commander. Next to him is the Adjutant, behind the SAA is the Quartermaster. After the command group falls in line then any guests that the chapter has will be placed in. Following the guests of the chapter the members will fall in the pack. At the end of the group will be the Road Captain and his assistant. All formations will be staggered. So the pack should look like this –

Commander	
	XO
SAA	
	Adjutant
Quartermaster	
	Guests
Members	
	Road Captain

If we have a National Officer in the pack group for the day then the National Officer will be placed in the front to the right of the Commander (exceptions is a Nations Officer who is in our chapter then that person will fall in to the left next to their position. Example National Adjutant will be place next to the left of the chapter adjutant), then the rest of the pack shifts accordingly. Another exception to this is the National Commander he/she is always in the front left of the pack.

Any time that anyone rides with someone the most senior person rides to the left. So if the SAA is riding with another member than the SAA rides to the left always, XO is with the SAA then the XO is on the left, etc. No matter the length of time within the CVMA any officer rides to the left of someone else in the chapter.

If the Commander does not know the route than the Road Captain will be placed in the front of the pack to the right of the Commander and the group will shift

accordingly and the SAA will move to the back of the pack to assume the role of the Road Captain.

3. Before any movement the Road Captain will give a Safety briefing. This will ensure that the pack moves to the location Safely and everyone knows what is going on. If the Road Captain is not present than the most senior person will give the Safety brief. A Safety brief will be conducted any time that there is six or more people with in the pack. Also there will be a Safely brief any time that there is a guest to ensure they know the riding rules of the CVMA 3-2.
4. **Pack Safety** – The following rules are to be followed in any pack within the CVMA 3-2.
 - All motorcycles will be road legal. Non-compliant motorcycles will not ride with in the pack.
 - While moving the pack formation will be staggered at all times.
 - The pack will move at the posted speeds at all times.
 - There will be NO horseplay within the pack. If doing so, once the pack stops the person or persons doing so will be told to leave the pack.
 - There will be No breaking out of the pack unless there is an emergency. Then the person with the emergency will signal his way out and do so safely. * see bike issues.
 - If someone does not feel comfortable in the pack then they need to move to the back of the pack.

- What the Road Captain says is GOLD. Everyone will listen and follow all direction from the Road Captain.
- Hand signals will be passed down through the pack to ensure everyone knows what is going on.
- Everyone needs to keep up with the pack. Slow riders will be asked to move to back of the pack. The pack needs to stay tight. 1 to 2 second intervals. (The pack is moving at posted speed limit any separation can cause vehicles to get mixed in)
- Bike Issues - Pull off on the right side of the road. If you're on the left side of a staggered pack, advise those on the right and then pull into the right lane of the pack. Pull off to the side of the road and the Road Captain in the rear will pull over with you to assist.
- When in the pack and your bike has only one light in the front then use high beams to make it easier from the rider in front of you to see you.
- In town/ city we have a pack of more than 15 bikes than we will break the pack into two. The Commander or most senior officer will take the first pack. Then the XO or next senior officer will take the second pack. And 25 or more than we will break again, and etc. The packs will leave at staggered times. This will insure that we arrive at our locations safely.
- If you start with the pack, or meet up with the pack then you ride with the pack on any runs or events. If you leave the run or event early than let the

Commander, XO, or Road Captain know so we don't leave someone behind or think we had someone broke down or got in an accident.

5. **Hand Signals** – All hand signals are to be used in the pack to ensure safety and that everyone knows what is going on within the pack. All signals will be discussed during the Safety briefing.

- **Right turn**- left arm up to resemble an L
- **Left turn**- left arm out straight and pointing to the left
- **Slow down** – left hand down and inside palm facing the person behind you and move the hand like you are petting a dog.
- **Single File** – Left arm straight up and point with the index finger to the sky
- **Staggered Formation** – left arm up and put three fingers up and move them like you are waving with them.
- **Heads Up (watch out)** – left arm up and then pat your head
- **Road Debris** - point with either your foot or finger at the object so the person behind you sees it.
- **Things or People on side of Road** – Left arm up and point to that object or person so everyone sees it and move inward slightly to give both you and people room.

This set of rules is to be followed at all times while riding with the CVMA 3-2. This is just a basic set more will be added as to fit the needs of the CVMA 3-2 pack.

