

**CROSSROADS HOG
SAFETY THOUGHT
APRIL 2007**

FIT AND READY TO RIDE

We begin our group riding course with the statement: ***Every rider, and passenger, is responsible for being on time, fit and ready to ride.*** That is not a “feel good” statement – it references a lot of responsibility. When those responsibilities are understood, accepted, and fulfilled, we all have a much better chance of enjoying the ride. Here’s a review for you.

READY:

1. Be on time. To do otherwise is discourteous to others.
2. Have your gas tank full and your bladder empty. We will typically ride 100 miles or 90 minutes between stops. Unplanned stops affect the ride’s itinerary.
3. Attend the riders’ meeting before departure and use it to get your questions answered. Attend the pre-ride meeting when there is one.
4. Know where you’re going. Longer trips have published routes. Shorter rides, will always give you the destination at the rider’s meeting.
5. Know how CROSSROADS rides. Attend a group riding class. Listen carefully at the rider’s meeting for a briefing.
6. Check your bike – make sure it is operating properly – brakes, lights, throttle, etc. – make sure your tires are properly inflated and not “tread-bare.”
7. Clothing – check the pertinent weather forecasts before the ride. Bring proper clothing. Layers are the best way to handle varying temperatures. ALWAYS bring a rain suit.
8. Have your driver’s license (and MC endorsement), your personal insurance card, your HOG Card and your Crossroads Membership card with you.
9. If you have a non-member with you, make sure to fill out the waiver.

FIT:

1. Be well rested.
2. Be sober – and not “hung-over.”
3. If you have allergies, make sure they are under control.
4. Have emergency contact information for the group leader or another rider of your choice.
5. If you have a “medical condition” be sure to inform your group leader and instruct him/her what to do if you run into problems.
6. Don’t succumb to peer pressure. If you don’t feel well enough to ride safely, stay home. Catch the group later if you feel better. Or, wait for the next ride.