

**Welcome to the Connecticut Rider Education Program's Basic Rider Course. The course is offered by the \_\_\_\_\_ in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Transportation.**

**In preparation for this class we ask that you open your Student Rider Handbook to page 1 and 2, and underline (or highlight) the answers to the following questions.**

- 1. What will this course cover?**
- 2. What will this course provide you with?**
- 3. What will you learn during the classroom portion?**
- 4. What will you develop during the riding (range) portions**
- 5. What must you do to successfully complete this course?**
- 6. Write in your course schedule on page 2.**
- 7. What is a primary concern during this course?**
- 8. What do we recommend you focus on during this course?**
- 9. Do you understand the statement below?**

*“Today’s presentation is being made by me with materials supplied by \_\_\_\_\_, Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation as a public service. This does not imply any endorsement by these organizations or any other sponsors, supporting organizations, equipment, motorcycles or other materials involved in the presentation of a RiderCourse. Our aim is to expose you to ways to ride more safely. While we cannot and will not assume responsibility for the safe operations of your motorcycle, it is our hope that by presenting responsible viewpoints on safety, we will expose riders and the general public to proper and prudent motorcycle operation. We’re here to **assist your learning, we cannot guarantee it or put it to use.**”*

# Basic Rider Course

## Rider Handbook Study Questions

### Unit II

1. List the 3 types of motorcycles and the primary use for each.
2. Name the distinguishing characteristics of each of the 3 types.
3. What is the MSF DirtBike School and what is its toll-free number?
4. Name 2 primary differences between cars/trucks and motorcycles.
5. What are the problems that these differences cause?
6. Describe one crash from your group's experience (or that you are aware of), and briefly describe the circumstances. What would some preventive measures be?
7. Who is responsible for safety?
8. How can someone tell if they would likely be dangerous on a motorcycle?
9. What is the significance of the ladder of risk/crash chain?
10. What must happen before risks can be managed?
11. Part of being responsible means to give a lot of thought to what?
12. What is the primary cause of motorcycle crashes?
13. What leads up to most crashes?
14. In the crash chain, most of the attention needs to be focused where?
15. How does the Handbook define a "good motorcyclist"?
16. How does a rider reduce factors that lead to crashes?
17. What does it mean to have a margin of safety?
18. What is SEE, and what does each letter stand for?
30. Name at least 3 considerations in choosing gloves.
31. What is the value of motorcycle-specific clothing?
32. What are some considerations for choosing proper clothing?
33. Define "hypothermia" and provide an example.
34. What is the value of dressing in layers?
35. How can clothing make you more visible to others in traffic?
36. What are some considerations in choosing a rain suit?
37. What is the value of a pre-ride inspection?
38. What is T-CLOCS and what does each letter stand for?
39. Where can you find information about routine maintenance?
40. What is the value of routine maintenance?
41. What are the primary motorcycle controls?
42. What is the most common way to initiate and control motorcycle lean (for turns)?
43. How does a rider operate the throttle?
44. What does the clutch lever do?
45. What does lifting or pressing on the shift lever accomplish?
46. What is meant by "shift pattern"?
47. Where are the brake controls found?
48. What is the best source of information about your motorcycle?
49. What does the fuel supply valve do?
50. What are the positions on the fuel supply valve?
51. What does the choke control do?
52. Where is the engine cut-off switch located?
53. What is the function of the tachometer?
54. What are some common indicator lights?
55. What are the steps in starting the engine?
56. What is the friction zone?
57. Describe good riding posture.
58. List the 4 steps in turning.
59. What is the value of the "look" step?
60. What is the value of the "roll" step?
61. When is the counterweight technique used?
62. Why do you change gears?
63. What is the 3-part shift process?
64. What is engine braking?
65. How much of a motorcycle's stopping power is available from the front brake?
66. Why should both brakes be used simultaneously?
67. What's the purpose of the range safety rules?

### Unit III

19. Name several purposes of protective riding gear?
20. List the 6 items named as proper, protective gear.
21. What is the function of a helmet?
22. List the 4 basic components of a helmet named on page 10.
23. What is the purpose of each of these 4 components?
24. What's the difference between a full-face and three-quarter-face helmet?
25. Why aren't ordinary glasses or sunglasses sufficient eye protection?
26. What stickers are likely to indicate a well-made helmet?
27. What type of injury accounts for the majority of motorcycle deaths?
28. Name 2 types of motorcyclist eye protection.
29. What is the value of appropriate footwear?

# Basic Rider Course

## Rider Handbook Study Questions

68. Name 3 of the more important range safety rules.
69. How will the RiderCoaches communicate with you on the range?

### Unit IV

70. What does it mean to have a space cushion?
71. How does a motorcyclist utilize lane positions?
72. Name some ways to be more visible to others in traffic.
73. What are the 3 "lead times" (RiderRadar)?
74. Why is the 2-second following distance considered minimum?
75. Why is the 4-second lead-time called "immediate"?
76. What advantage is gained by using a 12-second anticipated path?
77. Name the 3 components of total stopping distance?
78. Safe riding is a skill of what kind?
79. What does it mean to Search?
80. What is the characteristic of a convex mirror?
81. What are the 3 general Search categories?
82. What does Evaluate mean?
83. What are the 3 action steps of Execute?
84. What 3 things in the oval of safety affect your margin of safety?
85. Where is the greatest potential for conflict?
86. What 4 steps should you follow when around an intersection?
87. What is significant about a traffic-actuated signal?
88. What are some hazards between intersections?
89. What is the No-Zone?
90. How should you respond to a tailgating driver?
91. What are some factors to search for when approaching a curve?
92. How can an outside-inside-outside path of travel help you in curves?
93. Name a couple of tips for parking your motorcycle.
94. Why rise off the seat when crossing an obstacle?
95. How is the throttle used when crossing an obstacle?
96. Why make a head check before changing lanes?
97. Is there a unique procedure when passing another vehicle on your motorcycle?
98. What makes starting out on a hill (upgrade) more difficult?
99. What is "overriding the headlight" and what is the solution?
100. Name and explain the 3 variations to standard braking systems.
101. What is the best way to achieve maximum braking?
102. What complicates braking in a curve?
103. What is a key to stopping quickly in a curve?
104. What should you do if the front tire skids because of too much braking pressure?
105. What is the danger of a rear-tire skid?
106. What is a "high-side"?
107. In a swerve, how should you lean?
108. What action should be avoided when swerving?
109. Why is a surface most slippery as it begins to rain?
110. What is hydroplaning?
111. How can a crowned road affect riding?
112. How does carrying a passenger affect operating a motorcycle?
113. What are a few tips for carrying passengers?
114. What 3 points should be considered when carrying loads?
115. What is the "load triangle"?
116. How should you respond to a dog that approaches from the side?
117. What is the primary cause of tire failure?
118. What is made more difficult by a broken clutch cable?
119. What is the solution for wobble or weave?
120. What are the 2 primary effects of alcohol?
121. How fast is alcohol eliminated from the bloodstream?
122. How much beverage alcohol equals one drink?
123. What are some other drugs that affect SEE?
124. What is the best way to approach intervention?
125. What are some ways to intervene when someone has had too much to drink?
126. What besides alcohol/other drugs can produce impairment?