

SLOW AND FAST RIDERS

After riding with the group for some years now I have noticed that we have several different types of riders within our group; Fast and Slow Riders. I also have noticed that when there are only a few bikes they seem to ride faster than when we get the “pack” together which results from participation to a competition ride. Some experienced riders ride slow to fast while inexperienced riders usually ride a bit slower.

Fast riders are usually “seasoned” riders that are very familiar with their bike and have been riding for some time and have experienced all types of conditions, from dirt and gravel roads to different types of weather. They are aware of their environment, are very confident riders and go through turns as if the bike was on some sort of a rail. You do not usually see an inexperienced rider riding fast, and when you do it is usually very obvious because they are not in control of the bike.

Slow riders are usually a little newer to the sport but on some occasions are seasoned riders that just prefer to watch the scenery go by at a little less fast pace. They are getting to know their bike and experience different types of riding conditions and constantly learning how to best handle the bike. When there is a group ride and you hear “the slower riders stay in the back”, there is still the intimidation factor of hurrying up, riding outside of your ability and not having the correct mindset to be riding because you are always feeling you are not riding as fast as the rest of the group. You have to keep focused and take your time getting to your destination.

Whatever your riding etiquette is just remember this: you bought your Harley Davidson to ride it and have some fun. It does not matter if you are a slow or a fast rider, just as long as you are being safe doing it and riding within your ability. Get to know other riders within the group that ride closer to the same way you do, it will make you feel more confident and comfortable on how you ride.

“He who’s fastest travels alone” – Rudyard Kipling

“I’ll see you when we get there” – Rob Scanzello