

# Aire Valley Chapter

## Ride-Out Protocols

- We ride in a staggered formation where road and traffic conditions allow, leaving a 2 second gap between you and the bike directly in front, not the one to your left or right. **Remember, only a fool breaks the 2 second rule!**
- We ride within the speed limits wherever necessary and there should be no overtaking within the pack unless during an emergency or directed to do so by a Road Captain.
- We will be using second rider drop off, this means that when the lead rider is making a turn and cannot see the back of the pack (Back Marker) the lead rider will raise their arm as an indication that the junction needs marking. The rider immediately behind the lead rider will stop and mark the junction. It is up to you the rider to choose a safe place to stop ensuring that there is no risk to yourself but also that you are clearly visible to the other riders as they approach you.
- If you come to a junction and there isn't a rider indicating where to go then the rule is **STRAIGHT ON!**
- At the back of the pack we have Back Markers, their job is to protect the ride from the rear and to let the person marking the junction know that it is ok to leave the junction and re-join the ride behind the rearmost bike, you must not leave the junction until you are advised by the Back Marker. They will raise their arm to indicate that it is okay for you to **re-join the ride - IN FRONT OF THEM.**
- They are also there to deal with any issues that occur such as breakdowns or mishaps, they are not mechanics, they will stop and make sure you are okay but it is your responsibility to have adequate breakdown cover etc. and to be responsible for your bike and riding at all times.
- If you decide to leave the ride whilst we are riding, please pull to the nearside and signal to the Back Marker that you are ok and leaving the ride, a thumbs up signal is a good idea and confirms your intentions.
- If during the ride there is a mishap, please do not crowd round, just move out of the way and allow the Lead Road Captain and Road Crew to manage the incident, taking instructions from them as needed. If necessary, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Back Marker will overtake the rest of the riders to reach the front and halt the ride.
- Finally, as an official H.O.G. chapter Aire Valley UK are obliged to comply with a policy of zero tolerance in respect of alcohol or substance use on ride outs, if any rider appears to be under the influence of either, they will be asked politely to refrain from taking part in the ride.
- **Don't forget!      KEEP UP! – CATCH UP!**

Neil Walmsley  
Head Road Captain  
Safety Officer