



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS, 55TH WING (ACC)
OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, NEBRASKA

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL 55TH WING PERSONNEL.

20 MAR 2006

FROM: 55 WG/CC

SUBJECT: Offutt AFB Motorcycle Safety Policy, OAFB Guidance Memorandum 91-01

1. COMACC issued an updated motorcycle safety policy on 4 April 07. The motorcycle safety training policy remains unchanged. All squadron commanders will continue to ensure that all military and civilian motorcycle operators assigned to our installation, and those 55th Wing units abroad, comply with all DoD and AFI motorcycle training requirements. All military personnel must accomplish DoD-specified motorcycle training before they operate motorcycles on or off base, on or off duty. All DoD civilian personnel must accomplish DoD-specified motorcycle training before they operate motorcycles on base. There is only one exception to this policy: *Licensed operators at Offutt AFB may be granted a 24-hour temporary riding authorization (prior to completing the DoD-specified training) as long as they are scheduled with the Wing Safety office to attend the Experienced Rider training class within that 24-hour period. The temporary riding authorization is strictly for the purpose of allowing members to get their motorcycles to the training location on the day of training.*

a. Mandatory motorcycle training Course IVA and Course IVB, Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) training, is provided at no charge and is restricted to Offutt AFB personnel (military and DoD/NAF civilians) who own a motorcycle and active duty personnel who do not own a motorcycle. Others desiring training can attend on a space available basis and must pay the course fee prior to class start. The class fee is not refundable. Military and civilian employees will not be charged leave to attend this training.

b. Active duty military and DoD civilian employee motorcycle operators must carry proof of Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) course completion with them while riding on Offutt AFB and must be able to produce same when requested by a competent authority. Due to the vehicle registration sticker requirement being eliminated by the Air Force, all authorized riders assigned to Offutt AFB (military and DoD civilian) must present an MSF Card or Offutt AFB Authorized Rider Card at the gate when presenting their ID to gain entry to the base. DOD contractors, dependants, and retirees are exempt from the training requirements but not the Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) requirement. DoD Civilians and/or active duty military motorcycle operators that do not have either the MSF or OAFB Authorized Rider Card will not be permitted to operate a motorcycle on base.

2. I reiterate that the requirement for squadron commanders to personally conduct one-on-one counseling sessions with the motorcycle riders in their units also remains unchanged. Our best hope to reduce our rate of motorcycle mishaps is to convince our members to obey the law and to maintain high standards of conduct and self-discipline while riding motorcycles. As a minimum, this counseling will address standards of conduct, professional behavior, and proper protective equipment requirements. Commanders must also emphasize motorcycle rider self-discipline, responsibility, and personal risk management. Counseling will be accomplished before newly assigned operators are scheduled to attend a motorcycle training course and are authorized to ride on any military installation.

3. All squadron commanders will continue to appoint in writing at least two experienced riders to mentor their novice riders. Provide copies of the appointment letters to 55 WG/SEG. If there are insufficient numbers of experienced riders in the unit, solicit support from other on-base units to help. We need experienced riders who have been riding safely for years to share their experiences and professionalism with others.

4. Additionally, all personnel that ride motorcycles on base are required to wear the following PPE.

a. Helmets – A helmet designed to meet or exceed Department of Transportation (DOT) standards, shall be worn and properly fastened under the chin.

b. Glasses and Face Shields – Goggles, wrap around glasses, or a full-face shield (properly attached to helmet) designed to meet or exceed American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard Z87.1 for impact and shatter resistance will be worn. A windshield does not constitute proper eye protection. Host nation equivalent is acceptable if it meets or exceeds ANSI Standard Z87.1 for impact and shatter resistance.

c. Foot Protection – Riders will wear sturdy over the ankle footwear that affords protection for the feet and ankles (durable athletic shoes that cover the ankles may be worn). Sandals, low quarter sneakers, and similar footwear will not be used.


d. Protective Clothing – Wear of long sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, and full-fingered gloves are required. Gloves should be sturdy, non-slip type to permit a firm grip on the controls. Wear of a motorcycle jacket and pants constructed of abrasion resistant materials such as leather, Kevlar®, and/or Cordura® containing impact absorbing padding are strongly encouraged.

e. Garment and Motorcycle Visibility - Motorcycle riders will wear a brightly colored outer upper garment during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night. Outer upper garment shall be visible and not covered. Examples of bright colors are bright red, orange, lime green, yellow, bright blue, white, pink, etc. Dark colors such as black, non-reflective silver, gray, brown, dark blue, dark green, and dark red are NOT authorized. The outer upper garment shall be clearly visible and no portion may be covered (backpack cannot obstruct garment visibility, etc.).

f. Backpacks - Motorcycle riders may wear a backpack if the backpack is covered with brightly colored material during the day and reflective material at night.

5. This memorandum serves as your Motorcycle Safety Program guidance until an OAFB Supplement to AF1 91-207, *The US Air Force Traffic Safety Program*, is accomplished. For any questions concerning the Offutt Motorcycle Safety Program, please call the 55th Wing Ground Safety Office at 294-6357.

6. Thank you again for your continued leadership and support as we press forward to enhance rider development and protect our people through mishap prevention. Continued and engaged leadership will maintain our focus on motorcycle safety.


ROBERT L. MANESS, Colonel, USAF
Commander