

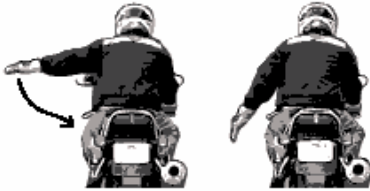
Often during the meeting, **hand signals** are reviewed so that you can communicate with the other riders during the ride. Hand signals are a useful tool to keep the group aware and cohesive on the roadway. Your group is free to determine its own set of signals, but here's a review of some commonly used ones:

Hand Signals

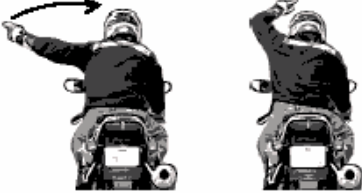
Stop - arm extended straight down, palm facing back



Slow Down - arm extended straight out, palm facing down



Pull Off - arm positioned as for right turn, forearm swung toward shoulder



Turn Signal On - open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



Highbeam - tap on top of helmet with open palm down



Speed Up - arm extended straight out, palm facing up



Follow Me - arm extended straight up from shoulder, palm forward



You Lead/Come - arm extended upward 45 degrees, palm forward pointing with index finger, swing in arc from back to front



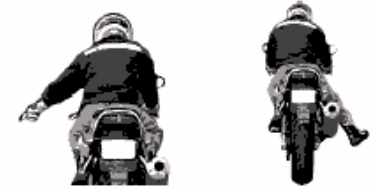
Single File - arm and index finger extended straight up



Double File - arm with index and middle finger extended straight up



Hazard in Roadway - on the right, point with right foot; on the left, point with left hand



Fuel - arm out to side pointing to tank with finger extended



Refreshment Stop - fingers closed, thumb to mouth



Comfort Stop - forearm extended, fist clenched with short up and down motion



CARGO

There are three points to consider when carrying loads: weight, location and security.

Weight

Every motorcycle has a maximum load specified by its manufacture. It is the difference between empty and the maximum allowable weight of the motorcycle and its load, including the operator and passenger. Other things add weight too, such as saddlebags, tank bags, luggage racks, etc.: don't overload these either. Check owner's manual for weight limitations and recommendations for tire pressure and suspension adjustments.

Passengers

Carrying a passenger can affect the way a motorcycle handles. The weight makes starting out more difficult and reduces acceleration capability. More time and space will be required for passing. It may also increase stopping distance. Stability may be affected in turns and curves. Here are some additional tips:

- Adjust the suspension and tire pressure per owners manual.
- Be sure a passenger is properly attired.
- Keep both feet on the ground and the brakes applied while passenger mounts. Have engine started and in neutral.
- Avoid abrupt acceleration and deceleration, and go easy on lean angles when cornering, especially inexperienced passengers.
- Passenger should avoid leaning or turning around, keep feet on footrests, hang on to rider or hand holds and avoid hot or moving parts