



"Honestly, boss, I'm home in bed sick. That sound? That's the TV. I'm watching a show about ATVs."



"This is Jim's second speech on ATV safety. I missed his first speech."

ATV Club Rides Do's and Don'ts

- **BE ON TIME.** When a club ride starts at a certain time that is when the ride leaves the staging area. Arrive early and be ready to ride at the given time.
- **BE PREPARED.** Do you have the proper clothing for changing weather and temperature changes? It may be 90 in the valley and 50 degrees and rainy on the mesa. Got sun screen and bug spray? Water and food?
- **IT MAY (WILL) BE DUSTY.** Do you have eye protection and dust protection for your mouth and nose? This will make your ride much more enjoyable.
- **IS MY MACHINE IN GOOD SHAPE?** If you have concerns about your machine being able to make the ride you should seek repairs before going.
- **KNOW YOUR ABILITY.** Inexperienced riders should be behind the leader, not at the rear. Let the group leader know this. Following an experienced rider who can mentor you will make your ride more fun and a learning experience. Ask for help, request spotting on a difficult area. There is no shame for being a responsible rider.
- **WEAR APPROPRIATE SAFTY EQUIPMENT.** Teva's and flip flops are not a good choice. Shorts and tank tops may not be a good option. Helmets are encouraged. Long pants, long sleeves and durable ankle high shoes are a good choice.

The Ride....

- **THE LEADER WILL HAVE A BREIFING.** Listen for information and special instructions. Ask questions, ask for help, identify special needs now.
- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PERSON BEHIND YOU.** When you come to branches in the trail you must wait for the person behind you to see and acknowledge they see the turn. Difficult slopes, crossings or rough terrain may require some assistance from the person in front or behind you.;
- **BE A TEAM RIDER.** You are part of a group that stays together. If you want to stop and take pictures or admire something you are holding up those in front and behind you. It is not acceptable to ask those waiting to pass you. The person in front of you may not know he is now

responsible for another person. Be considerate of others. Enjoy the ride but don't be a hindrance to the overall ride.

- **IT IS OK TO SPREAD OUT SOME WHEN RIDING.** You do not need to "tailgate" the rider in front of you. Back off to ease some of the dust and increase safety. You do not need to keep the person in front or behind you in immediate view. But this does not release your responsibility to be responsible for the person behind you at trail divides or difficult areas. If you don't see your person in open areas you may need to wait for them. BEING A TEAM RIDER IS IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE.
- **DRAG RIDER.** There will be person at the end of the group called a drag rider. That person is responsible to make sure no one is left behind. The drag needs to communicate with the leader. That person must close all gates that are marked for closing by the leader. This should be an experienced rider who knows the planned route.
- **LEAVING THE GROUP.** If unforeseen circumstances require you to leave the group before the end of the ride you must inform the group leader before leaving. We do not like riders to leave the group solo. Expect someone to accompany you back to the staging area for safety reasons. If you do not have the time to complete the ride you maybe should consider not going.

PLEASE

- **RIDE RESPONSIBLY.** Spinning your tires on every start, speeding, tailgating, doing wheel stands, making doughnuts and ramp jumping are not part of club rides and are safety concerns.
- **STAY the TRAIL.** Also pack it in and pack it out.
- **THANK YOUR RIDE LEADER AND DRAG RIDER.** The team leader probably pre-rode the trail, took on the responsibility and safety of the group. Your Drag rider was the person responsible for eating all the dust and making sure everyone completes the ride.
- **DO...**Consider leading a ride someday for others to enjoy.