

BKTX35 Safety Meeting September

Subject: Helmet safety and care

When we ride our motorcycles, we all love the freedom of feeling the wind in our faces and for those lucky enough, in our hair too. However riding without a DOT approved helmet is never a good idea. You don't need to be going very far or fast to sustain a head injury if you're misfortunate enough to fall or go down. Here are some facts and best practices as far as your helmet goes:

- in order to ride without a helmet IN TEXAS -the rider /operator must carry 10k in liability insurance. This goes for the pinion rider as well- meaning pinion riders must wear a helmet if the bike does not have 10k liability insurance on it.
- your helmet must fit snugly. Most dealers have a professional that can measure your head and ensure that you get correct fitment. It should not hurt your head but it should not be able to shake or wobble when strapped down.
- if you drop it or go down with it it should be replaced! That sounds expensive as we all have dropped our lids but those are the facts. The protective layers in the helmets make up shatter or become useless if the helmet is impacted.
- never modify the inside or outside of the helmet. Pinstripes are ok but any other mods should be avoided.
- look for a helmet that has removable liners for washing and good hygiene. They get sweaty and smelly after some Texas riding!
- consider a safety sticker for your helmet instructing anyone that may assist you in an accident not to remove it until professional medical attendants can evaluate you and ensure it will not cause further injury if removed. These decals are not fashionable but necessary and can be obtained at most bike shops or on line.
- be wary of aftermarket visors and tinted visors. They look cool but can obstruct vision and cause issues and slow reaction times.
- don't be cheap- name brands are expensive but the money you pay is for the testing and quality - noise reduction and comfort cost money. I personally like Shoei or ARAI but they are in the upper range of cost. If you can spare the dollars - don't spare the dollars here. Your head is worth it.

BKTX35 supports helmet use on all club sanctioned rides and really for all rides, you should consider using your protective headwear and gear. There are many fashions and styles so shop around and find one that suits you but make sure you have and use one!

Protect your head! It's the only one your getting for life!

Thanks for reading.

RWP

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