



Our ref P 55202
Enquiries Alison Horsley

Department of
Transport and Main Roads

5 November 2014

Mr Chris Mearns
President
Motorcycle Riders Association of Queensland
PO Box 4405
RACEVIEW QLD 4305

Dear Mr Mearns

This letter is to advise you about upcoming changes to the road rules for motorcycle riders.

As you would be aware, the Queensland Government released the *Motorcycle Discussion Paper: Road Rules for Motorcycle Riders* for public comment in mid-2014. Over 9000 responses to the survey were received, with the majority of respondents indicating support for the proposed changes regarding lane filtering, motorcycle control and motorcycle helmets.

The Minister for Transport and Main Roads has now announced that a number of resulting changes to the road rules for motorcycle riders will be introduced in early 2015. To ensure that you have the most accurate information, below is an outline of the key changes for your information:

- From early 2015, rules will be introduced permitting 'lane filtering' between stationary or slow moving vehicles travelling in the same direction, provided it is safe to do so. Lane filtering will also be permitted on sealed road shoulders on roads where the speed limit is 90km/hour or more, for example, to avoid congestion on motorways when traffic has slowed down or stopped. The rider will be required to hold an open licence and not travel at more than 30km/hour. Lane filtering in school zones during school zone hours and 'lane splitting' at speeds over 30km/hr will be prohibited, with appropriate penalties applying.
- From early 2015, the rules about how a motorcycle rider must sit and where they must have their hands and feet when riding will be removed. This will allow riders to legally do every day practical tasks when riding a motorcycle, such as, stretching a leg to avoid fatigue, removing both feet from the footrests to reverse into a parking space, raising themselves from the seat on uneven road surfaces and turning their head to do a shoulder check.

Customer Services, Safety & Regulation
Transport Regulation
Floor 8 Transport House
230 Brunswick Street (PO Box 673)
Fortitude Valley Queensland 4006

Telephone +61 7 3066 2180
Facsimile +61 7 3066 2110
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au
Email
ABN 39 407 690 291

- From early 2015, motorcycle helmets approved for use in Queensland will be expanded to include the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) 22.05 standard, as well as the existing Australian Standard.

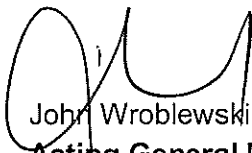
Please note, these changes will not be made until early in 2015 with a date yet to be confirmed. All existing rules continue to apply until such time that these changes are made. The Department of Transport and Main Roads will promote these changes prior to implementation through a public awareness campaign.

Information about the changes, along with a summary of the survey results, is available on the Department of Transport and Main Roads website by going to (1) <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au> (2) Safety (3) Queensland road rules (4) Motorcycle road rules.

I would be grateful if you could circulate this link to your members and contacts so that information about the upcoming road rule changes for motorcycle riders is available to them.

If you require further information please call Andrew Mahon, A/Executive Director (Transport Access and Use) on 3066 7175.

Yours sincerely



John Wroblewski

Acting General Manager (Transport Regulation Branch)
Department of Transport and Main Roads