



# GOLD WING ROAD RIDERS ASSOCIATION



## RIDER EDUCATION PROGRAM Application of the PLP Facilitator Program

This document covers the following topics regarding the Parking Lot Practice Facilitator Program.

- Purpose and Goals
- Usage in the Rider Education Levels Program
- Administration of the program

### **Objective and Goals**

The objective of the Parking Lot Facilitator program is to give Members a structured program to build confidence and reinforce basic riding abilities. It is intended solely for the use of GWRRA Members to enhance skill levels and as preparation toward other experienced rider courses. It is not meant for the beginning motorcycle rider, nor meant to take the place of professional motorcycle riding instruction.

The key is to provide a starting point from which they can build their confidence and motivate them to participate in more advanced rider courses. Statistically around 35% of our Membership participates in the Rider Education Levels program. Of those only half have taken a Rider Course. That leaves only 17-18% percent of our Membership who have participated in a Rider Course program to enhance their skills. Members who have taken a Rider Course have always felt that it was beneficial and would recommend it to fellow Members.

Membership surveys indicate that a primary reason for low participation is Members feeling intimidated by our advanced rider courses and, therefore not having the confidence to participate. This is an unfortunate misconception. The Rider Courses employ a "Building Block" method of learning designed to improve the Rider's skill level and confidence step-by-step in early exercises to prepare them for success in the later advanced exercises. However, the fact remains that we require a program that addresses this issue resulting in a higher participation of our Membership. Thus we created the Parking Lot Practice Facilitator Program.

This program has two basic components; the training of Facilitators and Parking Lot Practice Guides for Motorcycles, as well as Trike, Sidecar and Add-on Rigs.

- Training of Facilitators

Our Facilitator Certification consists of two sections, a 3-4 hour classroom presentation and a range review. The Facilitator's specific goals are to ensure

1. Proper preparation of equipment and facilities for the event,
2. That the orders of the exercises are correctly followed,
3. The Range is managed correctly keeping a safe environment for Members to participate in.

Facilitators may **NOT** under any circumstances offer instruction, suggestions, riding tips, etc. They may only facilitate as described above.

- Parking Lot Practice Guides

There are two Parking Lot Practice Guides. One is for Motorcycles and the other is for Trike, Sidecar and Add-on Rigs (such as Voyager, Tow Pak, or Insta-trike type kits that make a two wheeled motorcycle into a four wheeled vehicle with different operating and handling characteristics than a Trike). Both PLP guides use the same format and cover the basic skills of braking, cornering and swerving. They are designed to allow the Rider to "Discover" how to improve their skills and techniques through practice and application of the "**Rider Self Evaluation Tips**" they read in the PLP Guide.

One mission of our Rider Education Program is to provide the opportunity for our Members to get the needed instruction and training to travel the open road with confidence. The goal of this program is three fold.

- To continually increase the level of safety of GWRRA Riders and Co-Riders through continuing education and practice
- To increase the level participation of our Membership in a structured program which they may find less intimidating and more appealing.
- Demonstrating through taking this program that "it's no big deal" giving them the confidence to continue on in their Education by taking one of our formal Rider Courses.

## Usage in the Rider Education Levels Program

If a Region Educator chooses to sanction a Parking Lot Practice, the Member may apply his/her participation to satisfy the requirements of the GWRRA Rider Education Levels Program. The key word here is **sanctioned**. Region Educators are instructed to sanction the PLP for this use only in extreme cases where formal Rider Courses are not available. We encourage Members to download a copy of the Parking Lot Practice Guide from the GWRRA Website. Even though we encourage the use of this program at the District level, every District has different needs and we feel it is important that the Region/District Educator have the freedom to decide on how the PLP program will be implemented. However, when a Region Educator decides to allow the use of a "Sanctioned" PLP, everyone will follow the same guidelines on how it applies to the Levels Program.

- PLP usage guidelines All Parking Lot Practices, regardless of use must be approved by the District Educator and will be conducted by a certified PLP Facilitator in good standing of their choosing.
  1. The Facilitator must meet the following criteria:
    - Be a current paid GWRRA Member.
    - Preferably is a Chapter Educator or someone who has demonstrated their commitment to the Rider Education Program.
    - Is currently certified as a PLP Facilitator and has a card to prove it.
    - Commits to maintaining his/her certification through submitting a renewal very two years.
  2. A PLP sanctioned by the Region Educator is good for **one** year and can be used for the riding requirement to advance to Level 2 only.
  3. A sanctioned PLP cannot be used to advance to Level 3 or Level 4.
  4. For maintenance purposes a PLP sanctioned by the Region Educator can be used as a **one** year extension for the riding requirement of any Level.
  5. A Member completing a sanctioned PLP will receive a GWRRA Rider Course completion card with the PLP box marked. Expiration is one year from the date of issuing.

## Administration of the program

The administration of the program is primarily done at the District level by the District Educator. The District Educator must get the Region Educator approval prior to "Sanctioning" a PLP. As previously mentioned, even though we encourage the use of this program at the District level, every District has different needs and we feel it is important that the Region/District Educator have the freedom to decide on how the PLP program will be implemented.

- Steps to implementing the Program
  1. The District Educator will train a pool of Facilitators through the use of the PLP Facilitator Certification program. All files for this program can be found in the "REP Officer Section" of the GWRRA Rider Education website. Typically the Region or District Educator will conduct this training class. It would be a good idea for them to first be trained themselves to understand how to conduct the class.
  2. Regardless if the PLP is sanctioned for use in the Levels program, **all** PLPs must be approved by the District Educator. The District Educator will assign a Facilitator to conduct the PLP.
  3. With the Regional Educator approval, the District Educator can conduct sanctioned PLPs for use in the Levels Program in multiple areas throughout their District as "District Events" or have Chapter Educators request a sanctioned PLP from them.

## Course Paperwork

Regardless if this is a Sanctioned PLP, the following forms must be filled out by all participants.

- Parking Lot Practice Waiver
- Parking Lot Practice Student Evaluation (**Send to District/Region Educator**)
- Emergency Notification Data Sheet

If this is a Sanctioned PLP, the following additional form and cards must be completed.

- Sanctioned PLP Completion Card Tracking Sheet (**Send to District/Region Educator**)
- Facilitator will give all participants a GWRRA Rider Course completion card with the PLP box marked.

If there is an incident on the range you must fill out and send to your District/Region Educator a

- Parking Lot Practice Accident/Incident Report with attached PLP Waiver