



**Clermont Florida Harley Owners Group**

**ROAD CAPTAIN**

**CANDIDATE**

**ORIENTATION**

This training orientation is the chapters' method of orientating the new Road Captain to the paper work that must be done before a ride to protect the chapter and the members from legal problems. This includes;

Where the locker is located and the road captain log book is.

The combination to the lock and how to line up the numbers.

What forms need to be filled out and how.

How to get replacement forms before they are gone.

Where the completed forms go.

Who has to fill out what form.

What forms need to be completed in case of an incident and where to send them.

1. Any Road Captain can fill out the incident report.
2. Get the report back to the dealership, a Road Captain or anyone going past the dealer
3. The lead R.C. contacts the Activity Officer using the Web site under Contact Us.
4. Let the Activity Officer know if it was a member or guest so they can find the release

Where to find the pre-ride or table dance form and how to obtain your own copy.

Additional segments may be added by Clermont H.O.G. as needed to fit our Chapter.

In no event will this orientation supersede, nullify or change any state, county, city or local ordinance or law. It is simply a means of introducing new Road Captains to our way of doing things we must comply with.

**Ride often. Ride safe!**

### **Road Captain Role:**

The Road Captain role is more than wearing a rocker on your vest or jacket and riding as the leader of a group. It is a position of responsibility- in that you are accepting the responsibility for the safety and well-being of all riders & passengers in your group. It is your responsibility to make sure not only that everyone gets to the same place at one time, but also to insure they get there safely. This role is integral to group riding, a role not to be taken lightly and a responsibility you can be proud of when you finally become a Road Captain and one of a select few trusted with the safety of our fellow Chapter members. You are entrusted with the setting-up, planning and executing both fun and enjoyable rides for the benefit of everyone

### Road Captain Candidate Prerequisites:

- Possess a valid operator's license with a motorcycle endorsement.
- Have some experience and be comfortable riding a motorcycle.
- Have a valid National H.O.G. membership.
- Be an active member of Clermont H.O.G.
- Own a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and ride one for all scheduled rides.
- Candidate status will be determined by their performance.
- Willingness to participate in pre-ride & ride planning, leading or sweeping group rides in a safe manner while obeying all traffic laws. Our mission is to provide a safe formation utilizing common sense that ensures the maximum safety for all individuals riding in our groups.
- Willingness to be THOROUGH with the Pre-Ride talk, the ride sign-in sheet and release forms.
- Willingness to do a pre-ride, preferably the day before, if needed to ensure familiarity with the route.
- Willingness to plan scenic rides.

### Commitment to be a Road Captain

- Lead and set, by example, with safety foremost in all endeavors.
- Volunteer and participate in at least 4 scheduled rides per year.
- Plan at least 2 rides taking into consideration the concerns and needs of the riders that need restroom breaks more often and riders with a smaller fuel capacity.
- Caution members on the ride NOT to run red lights to keep up with the group. The pre ride discussion MUST include how to handle a split group and emphasize the procedure.
- Attend Road Captain meetings as often as possible especially the January meeting for group photo.
- Lead by example by wearing safety gear for all group rides limiting some left hand turns at busy intersections where possible and other hazards, etc.

## Candidate Qualification

The RC Candidate will demonstrate the following skills to become qualified for consideration for the awarding of the Road Captain 'Rocker':

### Rear Road Captain and Middle Road Captain:

Notice unsafe/improper group riding techniques and discuss it with the rider at the first safe opportunity with the assistant present.

Locate and safely stop on the side of the road or pull into a safe spot to lend support to a group member requiring assistance.

Demonstrate clear and proper hand signals per the Motorcycle Safety Foundation or State of Florida Motorcycle Drivers Handbook that can be found on line.

### Lead Road Captain:

Plan the route for 2 rides and critique each route with your Road Captain assistant.  
Conduct 'Ride Briefings' following the established Pre-Ride Guide (table dance) format.

Execute acceleration techniques and speed control keeping in mind the rear riders to slow the rubber banding effect of fast starts.

Demonstrate the safe execution of lane changes.

Proper use of the recognized hand signals.

Ability to recognize and adjust the ride to match the ability of less experienced or older riders for the entire group.

Ability to recognize and adapt to surrounding conditions including road construction, heavy traffic and weather changes.

Ability to lead a small group through high traffic areas.

Willingness to adhere to speed limits

## Candidate Assistants

The Head Road Captain will assign a Road Captain to assist each Road Captain Candidate to assure they understand their responsibility as a Road Captain and the completion of the paper work. The assistant will help the Candidate in completing their orientation.

It is VERY important to make this process fun for all. Remember that this is a VOLUNTEER position and being a Road Captain is more rewarding and FUN when you have members tell you it was a great ride.

The Road Captain assistants on a candidate ride will gather at rest stops and discuss the progress or problems of the candidates if any.

The lead Road Captain will then address the areas, if any, both good and or bad observations.

### Practical Exercises:

The Candidate will plan a route, pre-ride it if needed, conduct the pre-ride brief, obtain signatures (for non-member release forms, if required) for the Chapter Ride sign-in sheet.

The Candidate will then lead the ride with the assistant in number two position.

### Final Approval as a Road Captain

Once the RC Candidate has completed his/her orientation and attended at least two Road Captain meetings and participated in at least 4 rides the candidate will be assigned the status of Road Captain

**ROAD CAPTAIN ASSESMENT SHEET**      **NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

Road Captain Assistant is to initial each skill when satisfactorily completed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Ability to plan routes time-wise with comfort stops and honoring the reservation times?

\_\_\_\_\_ Mastery of all hand and/or foot signals, their purposes and use?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did the Candidate accelerate from a stop at a rate that enabled all riders to stay together? (Reduce the rubber band effect)

\_\_\_\_\_ Did the candidate while acting as Lead wait for the last riders to gather at the end of the group to reduce the Rubber Band Effect?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did the Candidate Lead the group in a safe and comfortable manner for all riders in the group?

\_\_\_\_\_ While acting as "Sweep", did the Candidate recognize any unsafe situations and discuss the corrective actions with the rider to maintain safe riding?

\_\_\_\_\_ While acting as "Sweep", did the Candidate execute a safe lane change when it was needed?

\_\_\_\_\_ Were hand signals given clearly and held up for a reasonable amount of time for the group to see them?

\_\_\_\_\_ Was the group led in a safe traffic lane for the given road conditions?

\_\_\_\_\_ Was passing kept to a minimum, or done in a safe manner if needed?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did the candidate attend at least two road captain meeting