



The Straight and Narrow

C.B. Etiquette



Although we have not had a lot of problems with CB etiquette and improper use, I thought that it might be a good idea to go over some of the basics.

For some of the Chapter members that have had limited experience of riding with groups, you may not realize that our Chapter is very lenient about the use of the CB's. There are Chapters out there that frown very hard on the group members using the radio for the "light hearted" banter that we all have become accustomed to. There are some that even prohibit anyone except the Leader and the Tailgunner from using the radio at all. I have been fortunate enough that I have not had the pleasure of riding with such a group, and I assure that I would not have fared so well with them!



So here are a few things that we should all keep in mind.

- 1) **Keep it Clean!** Remember that we have to consider not only the members in our group, but since this is a public domain, you never know who is lurking out there listening to what we are saying. This like so many other things can be a reflection on the group as a whole.
- 2) During times of high traffic, frequent turns, or less than perfect road conditions the leader needs to be able to convey to the group of their intentions, and possible hazards. If during these times you feel compelled to use the radio, keep it short and to the point. If the leader feels the need for radio silence **they** will call for it. Remember that the Leader and Tailgunner are in charge of the ride.
- 3) Be respectful of the other members right to use the radio. Don't be a Radio Hog, be abusive or berating to others in the group.
- 4) Although I have never seen this group use it, I have seen other groups that do have a standard hand signal that can be used by the Leader if he feels like he needs the radio for emergency or informational purposes, and someone has it tied up.



This is a simple closed fist, with the arm extended straight up. This should be relayed throughout the group until the radio is clear. If you see this you should cease transmission **IMMEDIATELY!** The leader will inform the group when the air is free for group use again.

That is just about it. I think that by remembering these few things we will be able to keep in contact with each other, stay safe and keep out of trouble.

Till next time, Ride Safe, Watch out for each other, and most importantly "HAVE FUN"!

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