



The Straight and Narrow

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When it all Goes Wrong

I would like to hope that we all are smart enough to realize that regardless of how many times we take the riders courses, watch all the videos, and have Chapter talks that there is a VERY good chance that there will come a time, when it will all go wrong.

That there will be a time, when we or someone in the group will be involved in a mishap. Either on a Chapter ride or when they are out on their own. All that we can do is hope that it will not be a serious incident, and that the others will know what to do.

The main thing that we can do to prepare for this would be to take the CPR / First Aid courses that many of us have taken. That will prepare us to do the things that we can until professional help gets there.

A few things that we need to remember:

Secure the scene. This will prevent the injured party from receiving more injuries, as well as protect the ones that are there to render aid. Block traffic if necessary, clear the roadway if possible, or redirect traffic if needed. Allow plenty of room for the ones attending, and emergency vehicles.

Notify The Professionals. As soon as you can determine that professional assistance is needed, make the call. When in doubt, make the call. If all looks well but you are not positive make the call. Always err on the side of safety. We all have to realize our limitations. There are many things that are outside our abilities, and many things that we are not able to see. Last but not least, **MAKE THE CALL!**

While waiting for assistance. While you are waiting for assistance, never leave the injured alone. If there are things that need to be done, have someone else take care of it, or leave it until later. All other things but your friend can wait.

Getting the facts. If the police are involved make sure that all the facts of the incident are correct and documented, and that those involved either get or will get a copy of the accident report. This will probably help when the insurance company gets involved. If there are no police involved, get the names and phone numbers of as many witnesses as possible.

Removing the Beast. Once the injured have been taken care of, it may be necessary to arrange transportation of a disabled motorcycle. (If there is any doubt as to the road worthiness of the bike do not attempt to ride it.) If towing is the chosen method, make the call then wait for the towing company to come. You may need to lend your assistance to them to properly load and tie down the bike. Many towing services are not familiar with the correct way to transport motorcycles. If a towing service is not the chosen method of removing the motorcycle, remember that there are several Chapter members that have motorcycle trailers. Keep them in mind. It could be a wise thing to keep their names and phone numbers on the bike.

Finishing up. Once all has been taken care of, your friend has been taken away for treatment, and the bike has been cleared away. You will have to face the fact that you will have to get back on your bike and make the ride home. This can be a nerve racking event in itself, considering that you have just witnessed your friend taking a nasty spill and being taken off to the hospital. Take your time, don't rush into it. It might be wise to take a few minutes, have a cup of coffee, a smoke, and let your better judgment kick in. You do not want to get back on your bike until you are in full control of your emotions and senses. Hopefully we will never have to go through this, but it is good to think about it and know that you do know what to do if the need arises.

Gold Wing Road Riders Association Chapter G2 Greenville, Texas "The Road Runners"