## **Group Dynamics**

Most of our rides are group rides which too often is an overlooked skill and knowing how to do it right is a major deal.

Now you are wondering what is the big deal with riding in a line? It goes something like this, get it wrong, and the potential for a mishap is massive. You have no place to go, no time to react and the domino effect is unavoidable.

It is too easy to get caught up in the excitement of being in a group ride with your friends and ride beyond your comfort zone. Remember to ride your own ride. This is where you ride as safely as you can. No one here is here to judge how you ride unless you ride unsafe. Safety first and foremost.

Do not think of it as all doom and gloom, when you are with a group of friends a daylong ride of a few days tour are really satisfying. Just think of all the memories that will be created on every group ride.

Here are just a few of our rules to go by:

- Arrive fully gassed up and ready to rock.
- Read the ride description to where you are going
- Pay attention to the Road Captain during his safety brief
- Most of the time the ride is in a staggered formation so that if someone slows down too quickly, you have a space to move into safely.
- Take a cell phone and swap numbers with others in the group, if you break down or fall behind you will not be alone, the Tail Gunner will stay with you and notice the Road Captain.
- Always watch your mirrors; keep an eye on the bike in front, and look further up the line to give you the heads-up on a hazard or sudden braking.