

# RIDE

Winter 2020



## Weathering the Winter Ride

By Amy Robinson

Unless you're on the West Coast, many riders will inevitably have to face the decision soon if they haven't already: whether to winterize and store your ride till the spring or dare to brave the dropping temps on two wheels.

"It's a personal preference," said U.S. Marine Corps Master Sgt. Ryan Lowder, a tactical vehicle analyst at the Naval Safety Center. "Me – I like to ride, so if it's nice outside – and nice to me is when the sun's out – it doesn't matter what temperature it is."

Lowder, who has more than 20 years of experience riding both sportbikes and cruisers, said he doesn't mind riding in cold weather for a couple of reasons, with the first and arguably most important reason of having the right gear. The second is because of the type of bike he now rides, which blocks more of the wind and cold than the sportbike he rode in his younger years.

For those who plan to ride during the colder months, Lowder has a few recommendations on gear, stemming from his younger years of riding a sportbike when that was his only means of transportation.

"You absolutely want to dress in layers while you're riding because when you are going down the road at 60 miles an hour and it's 60 degrees outside, it typically feels like 40 with the wind chill factor figured in there," he said, adding that he even went so far as to buy a pair of boots a size bigger so he could wear thicker socks.

"Usually, the first things that get cold are your feet and your hands, so you want to ensure you invest in some really good gloves that allow your fingers to move freely, but also provide you with that warmth. You're going to spend a couple of extra bucks, but if you don't have a big fairing blocking the wind like some of the cruisers, your fingers and your hands are going to pay the price first."

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*"You're going to spend a couple extra bucks, but if you don't ... your fingers and your hands are going to pay the price first."*

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— Master Sgt. Ryan Lowder

Tactical vehicle analyst,  
Naval Safety Center

Lowder also recommends investing in a good neck gator, also called a balaclava, made of thick material that will help keep the wind off your neck and prevent it from going up inside your helmet.

So what else should riders pack while out on the roads during the colder months?

The Marine said it just depends on how far he's riding. Typically, he keeps some hand warmers, a blanket and a good, quality rain suit on his bike, with the rain suit being one of the must-haves regardless of

the temperature.

"That's just a good practice – no matter what type of season you're in, because even in summertime, if you get soaked to the bone and you're going down the road, your body temperature is going to drop real quick," Lowder explained.

In addition to having the right gear for the right time of

See "Weathering," Page 3

### Time to Winterize

Get helpful tips on storing your motorcycle during the winter so you're ready to ride in the spring

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### Attention MSRs

Share your insight and feedback with NAVSAFECEN on motorcycle programs, training and mentorship

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### Rider Down

View the last quarter of fiscal 2020's Rider Down Reports to learn from previous motorcycle mishaps

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*RIDE is intended for informational purposes only. This newsletter is approved for official distribution to Department of the Navy (DON) commands, motorcycle safety representatives (MSRs) and motorcycle riders in the Navy and Marine Corps. This information is designed to inform DON personnel of current and emerging motorcycle safety concerns to improve operational readiness by reducing the risk of operating a motorcycle.*

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# Winter is Coming

## Is Your Motorcycle Ready for a Rest?

**By Michael Borkowski**

Motorcycle riders have been fortunate these past few months, and the cold weather seems to be taking its time getting here, but rest assured, winter is right around the corner.

The riding season for a large part of the U.S. is ending. Many riders take a fair amount of time making sure they have the right wardrobe for colder temperatures, but have you thought about what you need to do if you decide not to ride – especially if you don't store your motorcycle inside?

Today – not tomorrow or the next day – is the best time to start winterizing your ride.

If it's your first time storing your motorcycle for the winter, we have some helpful hints to guide you. Even if this isn't your first time putting your bike up for the winter, refresh your memory before getting started. Always review and consult your motorcycle owner's manual for help or maintenance tasks to perform during the non-riding season before taking any of the following steps.

### 1 Think about where you can store your motorcycle

Storing your bike indoors is ideal, especially if it's a heated garage. If you do not have that option, maybe ask a friend if they have extra space available. Make sure you always take the key; we do not need to read a mishap about how your shipmate was learning to ride on your motorcycle. Sometimes local bases or dealers have available indoor storage. If you have no other option but to store it outside, never, and I mean never, leave it parked near a pier.

### 2 Scrub off all the yuck

Getting all the summer bugs, dirt and grime off your bike now will save you some aggravation in the spring when you break it out and clean it before riding season. Make sure you treat any leather seat, saddlebags, etc., with a conditioner.

### 3 Cover it up

No matter whether you're going to keep it indoors or out, a cover and

cable ties are a great investment to protect your ride.

### 4 Top off the tank

The last thing your gas tank needs is moisture buildup on the inside. Rust has no friends. If you want to add some gas stabilizer mix, check with your local auto parts store for additional guidance.

### 5 Remove the battery

Top the battery cells off with distilled water and store it at room temperature in a dry place. Cold can damage the life of your battery; if you can remove it and store it safely indoors somewhere, do so. If you have it indoors, consider hooking your battery up to a trickle charger; keeping it charged could help extend the battery's life. I never store my battery on a floor without some type of mat or wood underneath. Even newer batteries, which are typically made of durable plastic and less likely to develop leaks, should have something underneath.

### 6 Check up on your motorcycle

About every two weeks, check up on your winterizing procedures. Is the battery on the charger still getting the trickle charge, and what does it read? Start the motorcycle for a few minutes to help move the fluids through the engine. Move the bike a few feet to prevent it from sitting in the same spot on the tires. The weight bearing down on the tires may create flat areas.

During the downtime, review your motorcycle owner's manual for scheduled maintenance that could be done during the non-riding season. Doing it now means less work when riding season returns in the spring.

*Do you have any tips on getting your bike ready for the winter or stories about winterizing your ride?*

**Email us!**

navsafecen\_code521\_media\_comms@navy.mil

**MSRs: Have you checked your list twice this season? If not, see Page 10.**



# Attention MSRs:

## *Requesting your feedback from the fleet*

The motorcycle safety representative (MSR) is a key element in the Navy's traffic safety program as the liaison between commands and the rider population.

Since the MSRs understand the needs of the commands and the wants of the riders, the Naval Safety Center's policy manager for traffic welcomes feedback from anyone who would like to comment on the three topics of interest provided in the box below.

If you would like to share your insight on any of the topics below, send an email to Keith Wilson at [keith.e.wilson@navy.mil](mailto:keith.e.wilson@navy.mil).

**Pictured right: U.S. Navy and Air Force motorcyclists begin a mentorship ride at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. Riders used the opportunity to hone safe group riding practices. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Alexander W. Riedel)**



### Topics of Interest

- What makes an effective mentorship program, and how would you determine effectiveness?
- What programs, training, mentorship or best practices can be implemented to create a positive effect on the at-risk group of E-3 and E-4 under 21?
- What programs, training, mentorship or best practices can be implemented to create a positive effect on the at-risk group of E-4 and E-5 under 25?

*Send feedback to **Keith Wilson** at [keith.e.wilson@navy.mil](mailto:keith.e.wilson@navy.mil)*

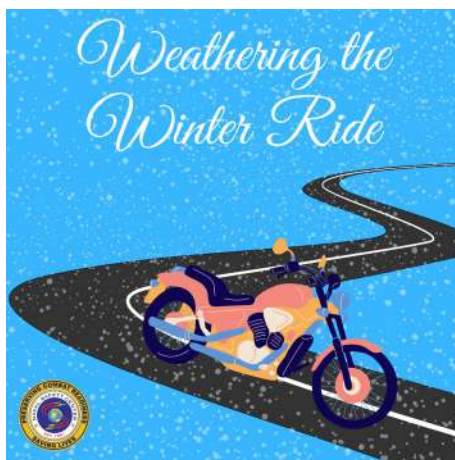
### ◆ **Weathering**

*(Continued from Page 1)*

year, he also reminds riders to make sure they're thinking about how the weather might affect the bike's performance, more specifically the tires, which are ... kind of necessary in order to get where you want to go.

"When it's cold outside, your tires take longer to heat up, and the ground is cold, so it's prone to be a little bit more slippery," he said. "You want to ensure you warm your tires up really good before you try to jump out there in traffic."

Lowder recommends driving side to side to touch the tire's sidewalls to the ground. This causes the tires to heat up so they grip the ground a little better – a technique that's taught in the basic rider course.



**U.S. Navy graphic by MC2 Weston Mohr**

And speaking of slippery – riders need to be aware of winter road conditions – especially ice.

"We're always cognizant of standing

water, but we need to be cognizant of the ice that may be on the road because it's a lot more prevalent when it's cold outside, especially in the early morning hours when the bike has been sitting all night," Lowder said.

Finally, be on the lookout for the evil element of sodium chloride.

"Salt trucks are the enemy," he cautioned. "If a road is freshly salted, that makes it treacherous to ride on. It is just like riding on gravel, and every biker who has ever been down knows that gravel is the enemy. It'll cause you to wreck faster than pretty much anything."

For those who prefer to stick to riding in warmer temperatures, it's time to say so long until the spring. But before you do, check out Page 2 for some tips on storing your ride.



# July 2020 Motorcycle Mishaps



The following report is a monthly update of motorcycle mishaps that occurred throughout the Navy and Marine Corps.

**The information contained in the report is based on preliminary information and is provided for hazard awareness and training purposes only.** The Naval Safety Center recommends motorcycle safety representatives use this information for training and mentorship programs and forward to others who may have an interest.

Official mishap data should be obtained from the Naval Safety Center.

## Navy

Rider fatalities this report: **3**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: **7**  
Motorcycle mishaps reported in WESS for FY 20: **166**

**Total mishaps this report: 18**  
**Total fatalities this report: 4**

## Marine Corps

Rider fatalities this report: **1**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: **5**  
Motorcycle mishaps reported in WESS for FY 20: **96**

### July Fatal Mishaps (All times local)

July 29, 10 p.m.: 36-year-old E-6  
Location: East Lyme, Conn.  
Year: Not reported (NR); make and model: Suzuki GSX R1000 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (August 2015), Level II (September 2015)  
Rider exited the Interstate 95 Exit 73 ramp too fast and crashed into the guardrail. Rider pronounced deceased at the scene.

July 18, 10:01 p.m.: 22-year-old E-3 (Reserve, not active)  
Location: Wilkes Barre, Pa.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (NR)  
Rider was heading north on Route 29 when the rider lost control, struck the guardrail and was ejected. Rider declared deceased at a local hospital.

July 7, 5 p.m.: 34-year-old E-6  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year: NR; make and model: Honda CB500R (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (July 2014)  
Rider was heading north on Interstate 15 when rider lost control, ran into another vehicle and fell off the motorcycle. Another vehicle then struck rider in the roadway. Rider pronounced deceased at the scene.

July 3, 9:45 p.m.: 29-year-old E-6  
Location: Silverdale, Wash.  
Year: NR; make and model: Kawasaki Ninja (Sport)

PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (October 2019), Level II (NR)  
Rider was involved in a crash with another motor vehicle and pronounced deceased at the scene.

### July Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)

July 31, 4 p.m.: 20-year-old E-3  
Location: Aversa, Italy  
Year, make and model: 2007 Honda CBR600RR (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (September 2019)  
Rider was heading toward the base gate when the vehicle in front of the rider stopped to make a U-turn. Rider ran into the left rear of the vehicle. No injuries reported.

July 31, 10:30 a.m.: 37-year-old E-5 (Reservist, not active)  
Location: Fargo, N.D.  
Year: NR; make and model: Victory Vegas 8 Ball (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (June 2017), Level II (NR)  
Rider ran into the rear of another vehicle. The rider suffered road rash injuries to arms.

July 30, 8:30 p.m.: 36-year-old O-4  
Location: Aversa, Italy  
Year, make and model: 2011 Honda V-Star (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (July 2017), Level II (December 2017)  
Rider and motorcycle found alongside the road after an apparent crash. Rider transported to an Italian hospital for minor injuries.

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## ◆ July 2020 Mishaps

*(Continued from Page 4)*

July 30, 5 p.m.: 44-year-old O-4  
Location: Pearl City, Hawaii  
Year, make and model: 2016 Aprilia (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (September 2014), Level II (May 2017)  
Rider was involved in a low-speed, head-on crash with another vehicle. Rider treated for minor lacerations to the shoulder and legs.

July 28, 7:30 p.m.: 33-year-old E-6  
Location: Norfolk, Va.  
Year, make and model: 2019 Harley Davidson Road Glide (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: NR  
Rider was heading north on Hampton Boulevard when a vehicle suddenly changed lanes in front of the rider to make a U-turn. Rider struck the vehicle and was knocked unconscious. Rider transported to local hospital for a concussion and dislocated right shoulder.

July 24, midnight: 24-year-old E-3  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year and model: NR; make: Triumph (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (June 2018), Level II (NR)  
Rider was in the process of a left turn and ran into a wall. Rider treated at a local hospital for minor injuries.

July 24, 11 a.m.: Age: NR; E-6  
Location: Escondido, Calif.  
Year, make and model: NR (dirt bike)  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Rider received several injuries while riding a dirt bike. Rider transported to a local hospital and treated for the spine, multiple rib fractures, and a leg femur fracture.

July 22, midnight: 23-year-old E-4  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year, make and model: 2019 Honda Rebel (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (November 2019), Level II (NR)  
Rider was exiting Interstate 295 when the chain on the motorcycle came off and wrapped around the back wheel, causing the rider to crash. The rider sustained road rash and bruising.

July 19, 10 p.m.: 24-year-old E-5  
Location: San Antonio, Texas  
Year: NR; make and model: Kawasaki 650 ABS (Sport)  
PPE: Yes

License: Yes  
Training: NR  
Rider was involved in a crash with another vehicle that was changing lanes. Rider transported to a local hospital for treatment.

July 17, 4 p.m.: 25-year-old E-4  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year: NR; make and model: BMW S1000RR (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (June 2016), Level II (April 2017)  
Rider cut off by a vehicle, swerved to try to avoid the collision. Rider lost balance, flipped over the handlebars and collided with a parked box truck. Rider transported to the hospital and admitted for a fractured back.

July 16, 7 p.m.: 23-year-old E-4  
Location: New London, Conn.  
Year: NR; make and model: Suzuki GSX (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (June 2019), Level II (NR)  
Rider was involved in a crash — no further information reported.

July 16, 1:15 p.m.: 25-year-old E-4  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year, make and model: 2013 Harley Davidson Street Bob (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (May 2019)  
Rider was transitioning through an intersection with the green light when another driver, who was texting, ran the opposing red light and struck the rider. Rider transported to hospital for pain and abrasions to the left foot.

July 13, 6 a.m.: 32-year-old, E-6  
Location: Sedro-Wooley Wash.  
Year, make and model: 2017 Indian Scout (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (August 2017), Level II (May 2016)  
Rider, while commuting to work, lost control of motorcycle trying to avoid an animal. No significant injuries to rider.

July 2, 10:30 p.m.: 19-year-old E-3  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year, make and model: 2020 Kawasaki ZXR (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (December 2019), Level II (NR)  
Rider was traveling north on U.S. 17 when a vehicle changed lanes and abruptly stopped. Rider struck the vehicle and was ejected from the motorcycle. The motorcycle continued across the roadway through a median, striking a bicyclist in the crosswalk and then the back of another vehicle. Rider transported to hospital for injuries and road rash.

**Additional Motorcycle Rider Down Reports are available at:**  
<https://navalsafetycenter.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters/>





# August 2020 Motorcycle Mishaps



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Official mishap data should be obtained from the Naval Safety Center.

## Navy

Rider fatalities this report: **2**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: 7

Total mishaps this report: **28**  
Total fatalities this report: **2**

## Marine Corps

Rider fatalities this report: **0**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: **6**

### August Fatal Mishaps (All times local)

Aug. 13, 1:49 p.m.: 29-year-old E-5 (Reserve, not active)  
Location: Pensacola, Fla.  
Year, make and model: Not reported (NR)  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was heading south on Navy Boulevard when a vehicle traveled into the intersection and failed to yield to the motorcyclist. The rider struck the left front of the vehicle and crashed. The rider was transported to hospital and pronounced deceased.

Aug. 12, 4:21 p.m.: 30-year-old E-5  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year, make and model: 2019 Indian Scout (Non-Sport)  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was driving home from work, lost control of the motorcycle and crashed into a fire hydrant. The rider was pronounced deceased.

### August Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)

Aug. 31, 5:30 a.m.: Age: NR; E-3  
Location: Camp Lejeune, N.C.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was transitioning through the main gate and swerved to avoid a collision with another vehicle. The rider left the roadway and crashed into a ditch. The rider was transported to the Naval Medical Center at Camp Lejeune for a cut to the chin and evaluation.

Aug. 29, 6 p.m.: 26-year-old E-6  
Location: Brainerd, Minn.

Year and model: NR; KTM (Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (March 2014), Level II (August 2017)

Remarks: Rider lost control of the motorcycle and veered off the highway. Rider airlifted to the hospital for injuries.

Aug. 22, 2:30 p.m.: 21-year-old E-4

Location: San Diego, Calif.

Year, make and model: 2019 Yamaha XSR (Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (February 2020), Level II (NR)

Remarks: Rider was making a U- turn when the rider's foot scraped the pavement. The rider overcorrected and laid the motorcycle down, sustaining minor injuries.

Aug. 20, 8 a.m.: 22-year-old E-5

Location: Norfolk, Va.

Year, make and model: 2000 Ducati Monster (Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (October 2018), Level II (July 2019)

Remarks: Rider was in a turn when rider lost control of the motorcycle to avoid an animal. The rider was transported to the hospital for a broken wrist and hand bones.

Aug. 17, 1 p.m.: 31-year-old E-6

Location: NSA South Potomac Dahlgren, Va.

Year, make and model: 2011 Kawasaki Vulcan (Non-Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (NR), Level II (February 2017)

Remarks: Rider made a left turn into a parking lot when another vehicle moved into the rider's lane. The rider laid the motorcycle down on the right side to avoid a collision. Rider received minor injuries.

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## ♦ August 2020 Mishaps

*(Continued from Page 6)*

Aug. 12, 5:05 p.m.: 24-year-old E-4  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year, make and model: 2015 Yamaha FZ07 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (June 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was exiting Interstate 805 when another vehicle moved into the rider's lane, forcing the rider over. Rider lost control and laid motorcycle down, sustaining no injuries. Rider recovered motorcycle and drove home.

Aug. 11, 4:45 p.m.: 38-year-old E-6  
Location: Norfolk, Va.  
Year and model: NR; make: Harley Davidson (Non-Sport)  
PPE: NR  
License: NR  
Training: Level I (February 2014), Level II (March 2016)  
Remarks: Rider was traveling west on Little Creek Road when a vehicle in front of the rider slowed and the rider ran into the rear of the vehicle. The rider was ejected from the motorcycle and admitted to a local hospital for a broken wrist and severed tendons.

Aug. 9, 6 p.m.: 19-year-old E-1  
Location: Port Orchard, Wash.  
Year and model: NR; Yamaha (dirt bike)  
PPE: No  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was riding a dirt bike in a parking lot, ran into a parked vehicle and was ejected into a wooden structure. Rider transported to hospital for facial injuries.

Aug. 9, 6 p.m.: 20-year-old E-3  
Location: San Diego, Calif.  
Year and Model: NR; make: Yamaha  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (July 2020), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider exited interstate and lost control of motorcycle when back tire lost traction. Rider ejected from motorcycle, sliding on pavement. Rider transported to medical center for rib and clavicle fractures.

Aug. 9, 1 a.m.: 21-year-old E-4  
Location: Jacksonville, N.C.  
Year: NR; Make, Model: Indian Chieftain (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (October 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was making a right turn when the throttle stuck open. The rider lost control of the motorcycle and sustained minor injuries.

Aug. 8, noon: 22-year-old E-4  
Location: Dallas, Texas  
Year and make: 2017 Honda (Non-Sport); model: NR  
PPE: No  
License: No  
Training: None  
Remarks: Rider was learning to ride a motorcycle in a parking lot. Motorcycle was in gear, and rider inadvertently let the clutch out. Rider held on until the

motorcycle crashed onto the sidewalk. Rider transported to hospital for multiple injuries.

Aug. 7, 7 a.m.: 30-year-old E-6  
Location: Spring Valley, Calif.  
Year: NR; make and model: Suzuki GSXR (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (September 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was heading south on Campo Road when another vehicle failed to stop at a posted stop sign. The rider laid the motorcycle down to avoid the collision. The rider was transported to medical center for minor injuries.

Aug. 7, 6 p.m.: 23-year-old E-4  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year and make: 2003 Kawasaki (Non-Sport); model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (November 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was heading to work when the rear tire lost traction. Rider laid the motorcycle down, receiving minor scrapes and bruising.

Aug. 7, 11 a.m.: 40-year-old E-6  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year, make and model: 2017 Harley Davidson Road Glide (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (December 2018), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider overtook another vehicle in a passing zone when the other vehicle made a left turn. Rider struck the driver's door. Rider sustained minor injuries.

Aug. 5, 5 p.m.: 20-year-old E-3  
Location: Virginia Beach, Va.  
Year and make: 2008 Yamaha (Sport); model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (July 2019)  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a crash with another motor vehicle. The rider sustained minor injuries.

Aug. 5, 8 a.m.: 34-year-old E-6  
Location: NAS Lemoore, Calif.  
Year and make: 2018 Harley Davidson (Non-Sport); model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (Aug. 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider adjusted mirrors on the motorcycle and ran into the rear of a vehicle stopped at a pedestrian crosswalk. Rider transported to hospital for back injuries.

Aug. 4, 6 p.m.: 23-year-old E-5  
Location: Laurel, Ky.  
Year, make and model: 2010 Yamaha YZ 125 (Dirt Bike)  
PPE: No  
License: No  
Training: None  
Remarks: Rider was working on a motorcycle on a stand when the throttle stuck, and the motorcycle spun out of control. Rider jumped off the motorcycle. The rider was

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## ◆ August 2020 Mishaps

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treated for injuries to the right side of the body and sustained a mild concussion.

Aug. 4, 8:30 p.m.: 25-year-old E-4  
Location: Gulfport, Miss.  
Year, make and model: 2015 Suzuki GSXR (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (November 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was test-riding motorcycle after putting on new tires. Rider lost control in turn and laid the motorcycle down, sustaining minor injuries.

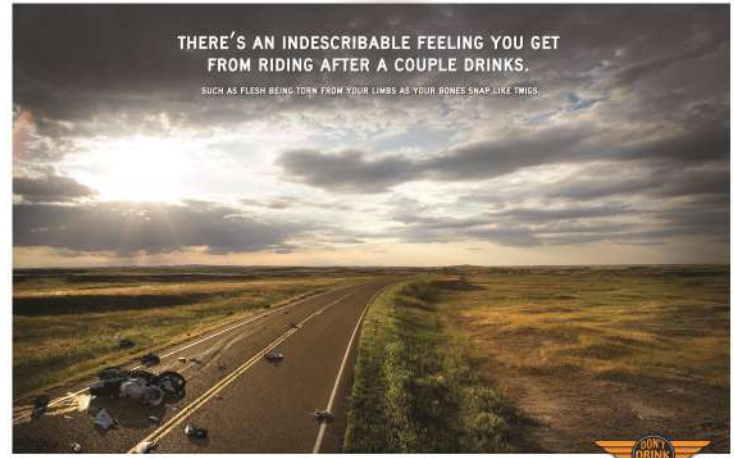
Aug. 4, 8 p.m.: 21-year-old E-4  
Location: Bainbridge Island, Wash.  
Year, make and model: 2007 Yamaha SZ6 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: No  
Training: Level I (November 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider lost control of the motorcycle in a turn onto a newly paved roadway. The rider sustained a broken ankle and foot lacerations.

Aug. 3, 6:30 a.m.: 31-year-old O-2  
Location: Okinawa, Japan  
Year, make and model: 2007 Yamaha Drag Star (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (NR), Level II (September 2019)  
Remarks: Rider struck another vehicle that made a right turn in front of the rider. No injuries reported.

Aug. 2, 5:50 a.m.: 23-year-old E-7  
Location: Cajon, Calif.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was stopped at a light and was rear-ended. Rider sustained minor injuries and was treated at a medical center.

Aug. 2, 6:30 p.m.: 23-year-old E-5  
Location: Jamul, Calif.  
Year, make and model: 2007 Yamaha SZ6 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (September 2017), Level II (December 2017)  
Remarks: Rider passed a vehicle on the left when the vehicle made an unexpected left turn. Rider locked up brakes and lost control of the motorcycle. Rider transported to medical center for broken wrist and fractured elbow.

Aug. 2, 12:30 p.m.: 25-year-old E-5  
Location: Honolulu, Hawaii



Graphic courtesy of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Year: NR; make and model: Harley Davidson Dyna (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: No  
Training: Level I (July 2020), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider lost control of the motorcycle while turning a corner. The rider fell to the ground and slid into a utility pole. Rider was transported to hospital and treated for injuries.

Aug. 2, 3 p.m.: 23-year-old E-3  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year, make and model: 2019 Harley Davidson Iron (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (May 2019), Level II (August 2019)  
Remarks: Rider laid the motorcycle down to avoid running into the rear of a stopped vehicle. The rider was treated at a local hospital for minor road rash and abrasions.

Aug. 2, 8 noon: 27-year-old E-5  
Location: Virginia Beach, Va.  
Year and model: NR; make: Honda (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (May 2012), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was heading east on Interstate 264 and changing lanes when the rider struck another vehicle's rear and lost control. Rider transported to hospital and treated for a fractured wrist and road rash.

Aug. 1, 12:30 p.m.: Age: NR; E-6  
Location: Jacksonville, N.C.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider lost control of motorcycle and crashed. Rider transported to medical center for broken ribs and internal bruising.

**Additional Motorcycle Rider Down Reports are available at:**

<https://navalsafetycenter.navy.mil/Resources/Motorcycle-Rider-Down-Reports-Newsletters/>





# September 2020 Motorcycle Mishaps



The following report is a monthly update of motorcycle mishaps that occurred throughout the Navy and Marine Corps.

**The information contained in the report is based on preliminary information and is provided for hazard awareness and training purposes only.** The Naval Safety Center recommends motorcycle safety representatives use this information for training and mentorship programs and forward to others who may have an interest.

Official mishap data should be obtained from the Naval Safety Center.

**Navy**  
Rider fatalities this report: **2**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: **11**

**Total mishaps this report: 14**  
**Total fatalities this report: 4**

**Marine Corps**  
Rider fatalities this report: **2**  
Rider fatalities for FY 20: **7**

## September Fatal Mishaps (All times local)

Sept. 30, 11 p.m.: 26-year-old E-4  
Location: Jacksonville, N.C.  
Year, make and model: Unknown (UNK)  
PPE: UNK  
License: UNK  
Training: Not reported (NR)  
Remarks: Rider was involved in a motorcycle crash on Route 17. Rider airlifted from the scene to a local hospital and pronounced deceased.

Sept. 11, 9:55 p.m.: 28-year-old E-5  
Location: El Cajon, Calif.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: NR  
Training: Level I (October 2013), Level II (May 2017)  
Remarks: Rider found by police department on Interstate 8 and pronounced deceased at the scene.

Sept. 5, 11:42 p.m.: 19-year-old E-3  
Location: Rescue, Calif.  
Year, make and model: 2006 Yamaha R6 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider traveling at a high rate of speed left the roadway and crashed into a fence. The rider was ejected into a dirt field and pronounced deceased at the scene.

Sept. 2, 2 p.m.: 26-year-old E-4  
Location: Mira Mesa, Calif.  
Year and make: 2016 Harley Davidson (Non-Sport); model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: NR  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider involved in a crash with another vehicle. Rider transported to hospital and pronounced deceased.

## September Nonfatal Mishaps (All times local)

Sept. 21, 10:45 a.m.: 28-year-old E-5  
Location: Honolulu, Hawaii  
Year: NR; make and model: Yamaha MT07 (Sport)  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (August 2019), Level II (NR)  
Remarks: Rider lost control of motorcycle while turning through an intersection. Rider treated at medical center for minor injuries.

Sept. 20, 2 p.m.: Age and rank: NR  
Location: Bakersfield, Calif.  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: NR  
Remarks: Rider was riding at motorcycle raceway and lost control of the motorcycle. Rider transported to hospital and treated for severe concussion and fractured bones.

Sept. 20, 9:40 a.m.: 28-year-old E-5  
Location: Oahu, Hawaii  
Year, make and model: NR  
PPE: Yes  
License: Yes  
Training: Level I (August 2019), Level II (None)  
Remarks: Rider attempted to merge onto Highway 1 decided to take next exit ramp instead, lost control on the off-ramp and struck a concrete barrier. Rider treated for minor injuries and bruising.

Sept. 18, midnight: 34-year-old E-6  
Location: Jacksonville, Fla.  
Year and model: NR; make: Harley Davidson (Non-Sport)  
PPE: Yes

**Continued on Page 10**

## ◆ September 2020 Mishaps

(Continued from Page 9)

License: Yes

Training: Level I (NR), Level II (March 2019)

Remarks: Rider was involved in a crash, transported to the local hospital and admitted for multiple face lacerations and injuries to the jaw, ribs and knee.

Sept. 10, 2:08 p.m.: 30-year-old E-5

Location: Norfolk, Va.

Year: NR; make and model: Kawasaki 650 (Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (April 2018), Level II (NR)

Remarks: Rider was involved in a crash with another vehicle that failed to stop at a stop sign. Rider transported to local hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Sept. 7, 11 a.m.: 29-year-old; rank: NR

Location: Port Angeles, Wash.

Year and model: NR; make: Harley Davidson (Non-Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (May 2019), Level II (None)

Remarks: Rider lost control of the motorcycle in some sand while turning. Rider was treated at a local hospital for injuries.

Sept. 5, 8:39 p.m.: 20-year-old E-3

Location: Chula Vista, Calif.

Year, make and model: NR

PPE: Yes

License: No

Training: None

Remarks: Rider operating a newly purchased motorcycle lost control and ran into a tree. Rider transported to a local hospital and treated for minor injuries. Police department charged rider with underage driving under the influence.

Sept. 4, 7 p.m.: 38-year-old E-6

Location: San Diego, Calif.

Year, make and model: 2020 Harley Davidson Iron 883

(Non-Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: Yes

Training: Level I (February 2020), Level II (NR)

# Don't forget!

## Motorcycle Safety Reps,

Please take a moment this season to ensure your rider roster is **current**. Remove the names of those who are no longer with the command and make sure new riders have been added. This will go a long way in avoiding confusion and potential misinformation if a mishap occurs.

Thank you,

*Your Motorcycle Safety Analysts*

Remarks: Rider was struck by a vehicle on I-8. The rider was transported to a local hospital and treated for leg fracture and abrasions.

Sept. 4, 4:45 p.m.: 26-year-old E-5

Location: Virginia Beach, Va.

Year, make and model: 2012 Harley Davidson Street Bob (Non-Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: NR

Training: NR

Remarks: Rider was struck by a hit-and-run vehicle. The rider was transported to local hospital and treated for minor injuries to the right foot.

Sept. 2, 7 p.m.: Age: NR; E-7

Location: Cajon, Calif.

Year: NR; make and model: Harley Davidson Road Glide (Non-Sport)

PPE: Yes

License: NR

Training: Level I (April 2010), Level II (November 2019)

Remarks: Rider was stopped at a signal light and was struck from behind. The rider was seen at medical center for minor injuries.

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# NAVAL SAFETY CENTER

PREVENTING MISHAPS, SAVING LIVES AND PRESERVING READINESS

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