

## **CONREP Instructor Training Outline for Using Scooters in the BRC**

Scooter riders will ride the same exercises and participate in the same activities. They will receive the same recognition and benefits offered to any other Basic Rider Course (BRC) Graduate. The only difference will be in how the Instructors address specific skill components. The information below is a summary of the differences, additional information is located in the MSF BRC Rider Coach Guide;

With a few adjustments, scooter riders can be incorporated into a regular BRC class. Scooters and small motorcycles are both single-track vehicles and have comparable weights. These adjustments come from experience with sites that allow scooter riders to take the BRC. Scooter riders can co-function quite well with those riding motorcycles in the BRC, if you make these adjustments.

### **Shifting**

Even though there is no need to shift manually, exercises that involve shifting should be ridden by the scooter rider. The more riding time they get, the better their overall skills become. Every exercise should be ridden. Scooterists ride the path of travel, but obviously your evaluation and coaching does not relate to shifting, friction-zone use, etc.

### **Brakes**

On some models, the front and rear brake applicators are located as levers on each of the scooters handgrips. On these machines, there is no pedal brake applicator.

### **Mounting**

This can be done by either swinging the leg across the seat, as in mounting a motorcycle, or by "stepping through," as specified in many scooter owner manuals. Don't get hung up on this: just have them mount the machine. The important factor is that they **squeeze the front brake** (to prevent rolling) as they mount.

### **Posture**

The knees should be tucked in comfortably. There is **no** requirement to "cover the clutch". The right foot should be near the brake pedal. The left foot placed on the floorboard. Coach scooter riders to ride with their left foot forward, this will help the rider brace themselves while riding.

### **Throttle Application and Automatic Clutches**

When moving slowly, the clutch actually becomes disengaged and no power is transmitted to the rear wheel. This also creates a lag between rolling on the throttle and when power actually gets to the rear wheel for drive.

### **Turning**

The scooter rider should enter sharp turns at a slightly higher speed than a motorcycle. Scooters will be coasting longer than motorcycles through these low-speed, sharp turns. Remember the roll on is delayed by the throttle lag time

## **Front Forks**

Compression of the front fork is not always useful as an indicator of brake-application intensity for scooters. Watch the actual lever squeeze and shorter stopping distances as measures of the intensity of the application.

## **Scooter Response to the “Press on the Handgrip”**

A scooter responds more quickly than a motorcycle to a press on the handgrip. Instructors should tell scooter riders that the press on the handgrip need not be as strong as the press desired in a motorcycle.

## **Demonstrations**

Scooters are **not allowed to be used for Demonstration Rides!!** All Instructor Demonstrations must be ridden on a motorcycle.

## **Other Points to Consider**

### Instructor Practice Rides

Instructors are encouraged to practice riding scooters. **But, do not practice riding the scooters when students are present!** Be careful, riding a scooter for the first time can be a challenge especially for someone accustomed to riding a motorcycle.

### License Requirements

Instructors should be aware, and inform their scooter riders, of the precise classification and licensing requirements for scooters. Scooters greater than 50cc are considered a motorcycle and must follow the same traffic regulations. This includes a motorcycle endorsement on their operator's license.

### Reversals

For the Exercise 2 reversals scooters engines should be turned off.

### Staging

A scooter is always in gear! Remember, never “Rev” the throttle.

Scooters do not have a side stand only a center stand.

### Curriculum Details

Additional information is located in the BRC RiderCoach Guide pages 103-105

### Scooter Requirements

Students may ride their own scooter during any CONREP course. Providing the scooter is in safety operating condition with an engine of 250 cc or less and registered as a motorcycle with the Connecticut DMV. Students who ride their own scooter must show proof that the scooter is insured before it can be used in the BRC.