

Media Release



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Motorcycle safety lessons for Taupō District

With summer fast approaching, motorcyclists will be keen to hit the roads, so Taupō District Council is holding training sessions to help keep them safe.

Rider training days will give motorcyclists the opportunity to learn how to maintain their bike, develop safe riding skills and practise riding in a safe environment.

Motorcyclists need to be aware of the dangers of riding in the busy summer months. On Taupō District's roads, motorcyclists were involved in 31 crashes (4 deaths, 21 serious injuries and 15 minor injuries) according to a July 2012 NZTA Issues Report.

Council's Road Safety Co-ordinator, Christine Hutchison, says it's great to see an increasing number of motorcyclists enjoying Taupō District's roads but people need to pay careful attention to ensure a safe ride. "This includes wearing correct safety gear, having a well-maintained bike and ensuring you are always visible to others on the road," she says. "It is also crucial that you have the right skills for riding your bike."

The first course will be held at Taupō Motorsport Park on Sunday 23 September and is designed for riders with less than three years of experience and for those who hold learner and restricted driver licences. The course runs from 9.00am to 3.00pm and costs only \$30. The course covers bike control skills in braking, cornering, positioning, low speed manoeuvres and hazard perception. There will also be advice on bike maintenance and safety gear.

In March next year there will be a course for fully licensed riders with more than three years of experience.

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