

Coaching Guide 9

Safety around 2-Wheeler Vehicles (Motorbikes)

Aim: To make clear the rules about motorbike use and the consequences for not following the rules

The policy on use of motorbikes is in place to ensure that they are operated without risk to operators or others. Rules include authorised use only and safe use (e.g. observing speed limits, 'no go' zones, and wearing PPE). There are significant consequences for employees if they do not follow these rules. At the end of the coaching session, employees will be able to recall the rules on-farm and describe the reasoning behind why the rule is in place.

As an employer or person conducting a business on the farm, you have a legal responsibility to ensure that everyone who uses vehicles is safe.

Note: this coaching guide is about the rules on the farm. It is NOT designed to assist with training your employee to use a 2-wheeler vehicle (motorbike).

Before coaching starts

Does the employee have prior training, knowledge or experience using motorbikes?

Will your new employee need to use a motorbike to do their farm tasks?

If yes, you will need to plan the required training, supervision and induction.

Prepare yourself to discuss the safety concerns of using a motorbike on your farm.

- Common causes of motorbike incidents are: not riding to the conditions, not paying attention to the terrain, speeding, showing off.
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) describe the following for safe use of side-by-sides
 - Always wear a helmet which meets Australian standards (AS-1698). It must be clipped on firmly.
 - Wear suitable clothing and boots.
 - Never carry a passenger.
 - Observe speed limits and no-go areas. Ride at a speed slow enough to keep control over unexpected hazards.
 - Advise your supervisor of any mechanical problems and do not use a motorbike that is not in good repair, including tyres in poor condition.

Be clear about the rules in your policy. For example: 'We are absolutely committed to reducing the risk of injury associated with the use of vehicles on this farm and the following rules apply in all circumstances'

- Only authorised tasks involve the use of motorbikes
- All authorised operators are to be trained, inducted and competent in the vehicle to be used.
- Road use is limited to registered motorbikes and current vehicle licence holders.
- The Safe Operating Procedures (SOPs) must be followed

Make sure your employee has access to your side-by-side vehicle policy and use it to talk to your new employee about the rules.

Be clear about the consequences of not following the policy and the rules on-farm. Disciplinary action, dismissal, or termination of contract.

Farm rules about 2-wheeler (motorbike) use

- Discuss common causes of motorbike incidents: not riding to the conditions, not paying attention to the terrain, speeding, showing off. It is therefore important to follow the policy of the farm in their use to ensure everyone is kept safe.
- Clearly outline the rules to the new employee, as based on your farm policy. Suggestions for your policy and what rules to cover are given above on page one.
- Remind the employee that the SOP has requirements for PPE (helmets and boots) must always be worn, speed limits observed, no show-off riding etc
- Get the employee to repeat the rules to you, to ensure understanding. Use the questions below to also support this discussion.
- Role model safe behaviour at all times as a coach - as per your farm's SOP

Show your new employee where to find policies and SOPs on Dairy Passport, or on the farm.	Can you find the SOP/policy on 2-wheeler motorbikes on Dairy Passport? Let's do that together now.
Explain who is an 'authorised person'	How do you know if you are allowed to use the 2-wheelers / motorbikes?
Discuss common causes of accidents	Why is it important to adhere to the speed limits on farm? Why is wearing a helmet mandatory?
Reinforce the consequences if the rules are not followed	What could happen if you don't follow these rules?

Discuss next steps of training, if the employee is to become an authorised user and re-affirm side-by-side vehicles are NOT to be used until competency is confirmed