

TRA Policy Statement

"Riding on the Sabbath Day" and "Riding on Conference Weekend"

*Issued November 2003
Amended October 2004.*

In recent months, from a variety of sources, the Executive Committee has been asked whether it is appropriate to sponsor TRA rides and activities that include the Sabbath Day and if so, to define what is appropriate for Sunday activities. We have also been asked if it is appropriate to ride on Conference Weekend if we listen to the Conference Speakers on our motorcycle radio as we travel, and if we stop somewhere and attend the Priesthood Session in a Church facility along the way.

It has always been the policy of the TRA to encourage all of its membership to observe LDS Church standards during all TRA activities, including TRA rides and other TRA events, and also to not neglect Church or family responsibilities in favor of participating in TRA rides and events. As in other Church and Family activities and events, some TRA activities and rides may occasionally include the Sabbath Day. It is the opinion of the Executive Committee that it is appropriate for such rides and activities to include the Sabbath Day if any riding or activity during the Sabbath Day is of a spiritual nature that is in harmony with the Spirit of the Sabbath.

In most instances the individuals involved will know if they are properly observing the Sabbath Day. Therefore, the members of the Executive Committee do not feel it is appropriate for the Committee to define specifically what is proper behavior, expecting that each TRA member and sponsor will exercise their own agency to follow the light of the Gospel, and govern themselves accordingly.

However, we urge every TRA member who sponsors or participates in any TRA activity to be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and to plan all activities and/or rides so as to be in harmony with that Spirit. We should keep in mind that we are planning not just for ourselves, but also for brothers and sisters who want to observe Gospel principles, and still participate with the group. Also, we should be sensitive about how our Brothers and Sisters in the Wards and Branches may feel if we attend their services and then get up and walk out before the block of meetings has been completed. Unless there is a very urgent reason to do so, this should not be done during any TRA sponsored ride.

If the ride or activity that we may sponsor or participate in includes the Sabbath Day and/or a Conference weekend, we urge each of us to conduct ourselves so as to be able to abide by the Spirit of the Sabbath as we travel, and to always set a good example.

Joseph Smith said, "We teach them correct principles and they govern themselves."

In summary, we are all encouraged to "govern ourselves" according to the principles of the Gospel and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit at all times while we are planning and/or participating in TRA rides and activities. If we will do this we will become an example to the world and the blessings and benefits will be greater than we can imagine.

*TRA Executive Committee**

* See TRA By-Laws, paragraph 3