



## Safe Riding - More Important Than Ever This Spring!



Last month saw a nice stretch of sunny days, and I saw many riders out there on the roads taking advantage of the beautiful Pacific Northwest weather. With the Stay at Home mandate still in effect, roads continue to be less congested. Ideal riding conditions we motorcyclists just love. While it is nice for riders to take advantage of these open roads, we are seeing something that is quite alarming... a **recent 35% increase** in the number of motorcycle fatalities.

You may have seen the article I shared on the MaxPower Law Facebook page last month about this very concern. There were several fatal motorcycle crashes over one weekend in early May, and people are worried this may continue if riders are not careful. Washington state had 92 motorcycle related deaths in 2019,

the most since 1982. This year it looks like we will surpass that number in a big way!

What's the cause of this spike in fatal accidents? One of the biggest causes year after year is speed. Lately I have seen reports of riders going well over 100 mph on a regular basis. Fewer cars on the roadways has allowed for motorcycle open roads in Western Washington not seen in decades. The urge to twist the throttle is great, but it can come at a massive cost if something goes wrong. It is important that riders have the necessary training needed to stay safe, ride within your limits, and follow the rules of the road. Save the crazy stuff for track days when they're available again.

Right now might be a great time to brush up on your motorcycle handling skills. Safety schools are currently closed due to

COVID-19, but we strongly recommend getting enrolled in a safety training class (if you haven't already taken one) once safety schools reopen. You can always go to a local vacant parking lot, perhaps a nearby school, and practice low speed skills. Find a YouTube video on low speed drills, then go practice yourself. Skills learned at low speeds often equal improved handling, body control, and connection to the bike, which can translate to improved handling at higher speeds.

Just because the traffic congestion is currently down doesn't mean it is ok to drive at super high speeds! If you ride, just know that **speed is the #1 killer in motorcycle crashes.**

**Be smart, have fun and ride safe!**



The MPL team has a bunch of local motorcycle events we are hoping to be at this year... but we are still seeing everything getting canceled due to COVID-19.

Please check our website at [www.maxpowerlaw.com](http://www.maxpowerlaw.com) and our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/maxpowerlaw/](https://www.facebook.com/maxpowerlaw/) as we receive updates about local events over the next few months.

## Donate Blood Today

Have you been asking yourself how you can help during the COVID-19 pandemic? At the top of the list of things we can do to help... **DONATE BLOOD.**

The Washington State Department of Health is encouraging all eligible donors to continue to give blood. There has been an increased number of canceled blood drives due to concerns about COVID-19. This has impacted the amount of blood available for those in need and creates a public health risk by putting our local blood supply in danger.

You can find out more about donating blood from **Bloodworks Northwest** at [www.bloodworksnw.org/coronavirus](http://www.bloodworksnw.org/coronavirus).

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## NEW - MaxPower Law TV Commercials!

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Give us your feedback by sending an email to [info@maxpowerlaw.com](mailto:info@maxpowerlaw.com) or posting a comment on our MaxPower Law Facebook page. We are open for business during the COVID-19 crisis and are here if you or another rider you know has questions or needs help with a motorcycle accident.



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