



# Rain and wet weather riding

No matter how prepared you are or how much you try to avoid riding in it, in the end: Rain happens. You need not fear it, or run for cover at the first sight of little dark clouds. But you should respect how rain changes the game and adjust your riding accordingly. While it's no fun riding through the wet sometimes you just get stuck in it. The best thing to do is slow down, pay attention and be safe.

Any time you find yourself riding in questionable road conditions, the first thing you can do to improve your chances of arriving to your

destination safely is to slow down and create more cushion between you and any surrounding vehicles or obstacles. Riding fundamentals really come into play during challenging riding conditions as rain riding tends to amplify any mistakes. Stay calm, be alert and try to look as far ahead as possible.

## Braking Tips

When braking in wet conditions, use both brakes but apply lighter pressure to the front brake than you normally would in the dry. Ease into it, slowing down without being abrupt is important in the

dry but critical in the wet. When wheels and roads get wet and scary it's easier to lock up the wheel if you aren't making a conscious effort to be smooth. If you grab a handful of front brake when the street is slick it almost always leads to you and your bike going down.

## Cornering

Give yourself more distance to slow down, apply your brakes well before entering corners and turn-in more slowly and deliberately. This is not the time for aggressive riding. This isn't to say you should creep along so slow you can barely keep the

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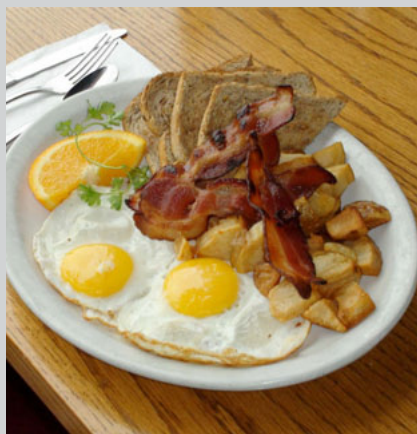
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## Next Breakfast/Brunch

### Saturday, May 2



### WHERE:

Olympic View Golf Course  
643 Latoria Road  
Langford

### WHEN:

9:30 am



# Planning key to riding in the rain

bike vertical and cause car traffic to run up behind you, but when traction goes liquid, caution should be your first concern.

## Tires

Any time we talk about cornering we have to discuss tires. Motorcycle tires are often a forgotten part of any bike. Since your safety depends on them, it's a good habit to check your tires frequently for wear, proper inflation and any defects or damage. A tire in proper riding condition will help you survive the ride when the elements are against you. For those of us who like big, fat rear tires, remember the broader the contact patch increases your chance to hydroplane. Knuckles go white when water floats your rubber and you feel your front end getting lighter and harder to steer while the rear end fishtails. If this happens, try not to brake or make any dramatic changes, but you should back off the throttle a little and ride it out.

The best defense to hydroplaning is to see it coming. If you are approaching a deep puddle and can recognize it in advance, safely slow down to allow the weight of your bike to keep the tires in contact with the road. Most tires these days are designed to dissipate water through the rain grooves or tread. Some tires are better than others and there are some tires that are not well suited for rain at all. Like we mentioned earlier, wide

tires are prone to hydroplane more so than a thinner tire. Sport bikes generally run a 180-to-190 series tire with very little tread so if you ride a sport bike, ride with extreme caution in the rain. Cruisers these days have wide rear tires too. If you have a big one on back, take it easy. On the flip side of the coin you can do yourself a favor and know the area you plan to ride in. If you live in a wet weather climate you should equip your bike with tires that offer good wet weather performance.

## Accelerating

That lack of traction associated with a wet street applies to acceleration as well as braking. Moisture allows the road grime and oil to rise to the surface of the street which can amplify the slippery nature of an already wet surface. This is especially true at intersections. Stay off to the center of the lane and ease on the throttle when pulling away from the stop light. Out on the open road, the rule is the same. Be easy on the gas, accelerate smoothly and don't be ham-fisted. This is a real concern on the higher-horsepower bikes.

## Plan Ahead

It might be best to avoid riding in the rain if you can. If you cannot avoid it and it's obvious you're going to get doused, then pull over and put your raingear on before you get wet. Wind chill factors increase exponentially when you're wet, so

do all you can to stay dry. Cheap Tricks: It's also a good idea to line your saddlebags with heavy-duty trash bags so all your other gear doesn't get soaked.

## Lightning

Don't screw around with lightning. You might figure your rubber tires will insulate you from electric shocks traveling through the ground, or ground you if zapped with a direct hit, but you would be wrong. Water is an excellent conductor and if you're virtually dipped in it, bad things happen when electricity fill the air. Reports of motorcyclists getting killed by lightning are rare, but it does happen. Don't risk your wellbeing if lightning becomes a factor. Find a safe place to take refuge and wait it out.

## Wrap-Up

Motorcyclists usually don't find much joy in getting soaked. In most cases our dyed leather jackets and gloves will stain our skin and it is not pleasant at all to be swimming in our boots either. But if you're prepared, use some common sense and sound riding techniques, you'll get home with yet another crazy story to tell. Then again, if it's too bad out there, then let discretion be the better part of valor. Pull over, dry off, grab a coffee or a bowl of soup and embrace your watery fate as just another part of the adventurous biker lifestyle.



# Cardo Scala Rider G9x Bulk Order



This will be a onetime bulk order for the CARDO SCALA RIDER G9x. The more orders which can be obtained the less expensive the final cost will be. Through my search for the best price I have been able to field the price anywhere between approx. \$240 to 260 for the single unit and for the dual system approx. \$ 460 , but this is only an initial price quote without any confirmed number of orders. It is difficult to provide a firm price until I know what the positive interest is.

One of the features I like about this product, it can be switched to any helmet. I have spoken with owners of the G9x and they are very satisfied with the features

and especially the clarity of the speakers. I do not have the G9x, but looking forward to owning this device.

Basically to make it simple for everyone including myself the G9x has the following:

- Intercom between rider and passenger;
- External music (ie. MP3) with either Bluetooth or direct wire connection to the device (music shared by rider and passenger);
- Communications between riders of up to 9 riders;
- Choice of 6 FM stations at any time;
- Bluetooth with audio voice command connection to smart phone;
- Bluetooth audio connection to GPS;
- Personal ear phone speakers can be connected to this device;
- Choice of boom mike or a

second mike to fit inside a flip helmet (your choice);

- The G9x system is compatible with the Schubert communication system.

Website [www.cardosystems.com](http://www.cardosystems.com) will provide further in depth information of the G9x allowing you to make your decision. Contact 1-800 – 488-0363 for the Cardo USA representative who will answer all your questions.

When you are interested in making a purchase of the CARDO SCALA RIDER G9x, please contact me by May 6 at [bwreddog@gmail.com](mailto:bwreddog@gmail.com) or ph # 250.652.0214 so that I may confirm the final firm price with the source, whereby you will be informed and you can make your final decision and make your purchase with plastic.

**NOTE:** I would like to have this order made by May 15 at the latest with all transactions completed by May 23 which will be the cutoff date.

## 2015 BMW Club bulk tire purchase

*by Bill Wallace*

I would like to thank all the members who participated in the tire sale this year. This year we sold over 30 tires which is the best we've done since starting. Island BMW who sponsored the tire order this year had some very good prices as quoted by some of

the members and the prices which included mounting/balancing in most cases beat Canada Motorcycle Warehouse .

In future if members are expecting to be away during January/ February and are interested in purchasing tires, please let me know and I can include your

purchase in the tire order to ensure you get the best prices, so you won't miss out.

If club members know of a good tire source, please contact me, the club would like to know for future purchases.

See you on the road this summer.



# The BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern California presents annual '49er Rally



The '49er is NorCal's annual rally with 40 plus years of tradition and predates BWM Motorcycle Owners of America's (MOA) National Rally. Come to Mariposa for grassy camping, hot showers, fantastic rides, cold drinks, and great food.

As a bonus, this year we celebrate two great anniversaries: BMW Motorcycle Club of Northern CA's 50th and Yosemite National Park's 125th.

**Dates:** May 21st at 12 PM through the 25th.

**Location:** Mariposa, California

## Registration Information:

- Adult Preregistration with BBQ or Vegetarian dinner: \$61
- Adult Preregistration NO MEAL: \$45
- Child Preregistration with BBQ or Vegetarian dinner: \$36
- Child Preregistration NO MEAL: \$20

## Rally Events

English Trials

Asphalt Trials

Slow Race

Vendor Exhibits

**Seminars:** GPS, Asphalt Riding Skills, and more

GS Beginner and Intermediate seminars and guided rides

GS Ladies only ride and seminar

Poker run with Gold as the Grand Prize

Evening Entertainment including



live music, beer garden, and nightly movies

Children's Events

Vendors confirmed at the Rally so far:

Adventure Designs

BMS Saddles. Get a custom seat made during the Rally.

BurnsMoto

Cycle Specialties

Sound Devices custom ear plugs

## BMW Clubs International Council Facebook Page

*Prof. Philip Abrami, President  
BMW Clubs Canada*

I wanted to draw your attention and ask you to notify your club members about the new and improved BMW Clubs

International Council Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/BMW-Clubs-International-Council/212234552122701?fref=ts>

(Or just go to Facebook and look for the International Council.)

Even better than visiting, please feel free to post stuff there.



## For Sale...



**F800 Tank Bag**  
**\$88 obo**  
 Please Phone  
**250-507-2884**



**Rare models of BMW R1200C**  
 red, white - **Reduced to Only \$5 each**  
 See Chris Jones at meeting or call 250-592-4311

## Join BMW RVI on Facebook

With the goal of better, faster and flexible communication, BMW RVI has launched a members-only Facebook Group in the new year. The URL will be: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/bmwrvi/>

Here are a few points to consider

- Posts will only visible to group members, namely, members of BMW RVI.
- BMW RVI will require members to be approved or added by an administrator before they can access the group. As the membership list evolves, access to the

group will be adjusted.

- The BMW RVI Facebook page will not be used for commercial purposes.
- Members receive notifications by default when any member posts in the group. Group members can participate in chats, upload photos to shared albums, collaborate on group documents and invite members who are friends to group events.

Members who are familiar with Facebook will need only to request

to join the page by entering the URL in the search box and then click <Join Group> in the top right-hand corner. Approval will occur in a day or two.

If you do not have a Facebook account you can create one. For step-by-step instructions go to

- <https://www.facebook.com/help/>
- There are numerous websites that provide advice on security when setting up and using a Facebook account. Do a web search using "Facebook security."

## Club 2014/15 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location
TBD May	Annual BCCOM MLA Ride	Victoria
Saturday, May 2, 2015	Monthly Gathering	Olympic View Golf Course
TBD May	BMW Demo Ride	Island BMW
Sunday, May 17, 2015	Monthly Ride	Saltaire Pub / Ladysmith
Friday-Monday, May 22-25, 2015	49er Rally	Mariposa, California