



What does “Rules of the Road” mean?

It means you are subject to the traffic laws set forth by the great state of Oklahoma! You must stop at traffic lights and stop signs; ride single or double as allowed. Here’s a summary of some of the Rules of the Road applicable to cyclists in Oklahoma. ¹

A bicyclist is granted all the rights and subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle [with some exceptions]. 47 Okla. Stat. § 11-1202.

Bicyclists may lawfully ride two abreast. 47 Okla. Stat. § 11-1205

When overtaking and passing a bicycle proceeding in the same direction, a person driving a motor vehicle shall exercise due care by leaving a safe distance between the motor vehicle and the bicycle of not less than three (3) feet until the motor vehicle is safely past the overtaken bicycle. 47 Okla. Stat. § 11-1208

Every person operating a bicycle or motorized scooter upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as is safe to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except under any of the following situations:

1. When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction;
2. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;
3. When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions and while exercising due care, including but not limited to:
 - a. fixed or moving objects,
 - b. parked or moving vehicles,
 - c. pedestrians or animals,
 - d. surface hazards, or
 - e. any time it is unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway.
4. When riding in the right-turn-only lane.

Any person riding a bicycle . . . upon a one-way street . . . with two or more marked lanes of travel may ride as close as is safe to the left-hand curb or edge of the street or highway. 47 Okla. Stat. § 11-1205

47 Okla. Stat. § 11-1205 applies to bicycles and says, “Persons riding two abreast shall not impede the normal and reasonable flow of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane.” (The phrase “normal and reasonable flow of traffic” has not been defined by the Oklahoma legislature).

¹ This is a summary only. It is not a verbatim or complete listing. For exact language go to Okla. Statutes, Title 47, Chapter 11, <http://tinyurl.com/mdgkerz>