

## Road Rules - Victoria

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**PART 15—ADDITIONAL RULES FOR BICYCLE RIDERS**

*Note 1* This Part contains rules that apply only to bicycle riders. Most rules in the Road Rules apply to bicycle riders in the same way as they apply to drivers—see rule 19. There are some other rules that are for bicycle riders only, or that have exceptions for bicycle riders. These include—

- optional hook turn by bicycle riders—rule 35
- bicycle riders making a hook turn contrary to a *no hook turn by bicycles sign*—rule 36
- bicycle riders excepted from giving stop signals—rule 52
- exception for bicycle riders riding in emergency stopping lanes—rule 95
- bicycle riders entering and leaving roundabouts—rules 111 and 119
- bicycle riders overtaking on the left—rule 141
- riding alongside other riders—rule 151
- bicycle lanes—rule 153
- parking at a bicycle rail or in a bicycle rack—rule 166
- stopping on footpaths—rule 197
- stopping on a road with a *bicycle parking sign*—rule 201.

*Note 2* **Bicycle** is defined in the dictionary.

**245. Riding a bicycle**

The rider of a bicycle must—

- (a) sit astride the rider's seat facing forwards (except if the bicycle is not built to be ridden astride); and
- (b) ride with at least 1 hand on the handlebars; and
- (c) if the bicycle is equipped with a seat—not ride the bicycle seated in any other position on the bicycle.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

**246. Carrying people on a bicycle**

The rider of a bicycle must not carry more persons on the bicycle than the bicycle is designed to carry.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

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**247. Riding in a bicycle lane on a road**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle riding on a length of road with a bicycle lane designed for bicycles travelling in the same direction as the rider must ride in the bicycle lane unless it is impracticable to do so.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* Rule 153 defines a **bicycle lane** and deals with the use of bicycle lanes by other vehicles.

- (2) In this rule—

**road** does not include a road related area.

*Note* **Road related area** includes any shoulder of a road—see rule 13.

**248. No riding across a road on a crossing**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride across a road, or part of a road, on a children's crossing, marked foot crossing or pedestrian crossing.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Children's crossing** is defined in rule 80, **marked foot crossing** is defined in the dictionary, and **pedestrian crossing** is defined in rule 81.

**249. Riding on a separated footpath**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of pedestrians.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note 1* **Separated footpath** is defined in rule 239, and **pedestrian** is defined in rule 18.

*Note 2* Rule 336 deals with how parts of a separated footpath are designated for bicycle riders and pedestrians.

**250. Riding on a footpath or shared path**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle who is 12 years old or older must not ride on a footpath.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

- (2) Subrule (1) does not apply to a rider in the circumstances specified by the Corporation by notice published in the Government Gazette.

*Note* **Footpath** is defined in the dictionary.

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- (3) The rider of a bicycle riding on a footpath or shared path must—
- (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
  - (b) give way to any pedestrian on the footpath or shared path.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note 1* **Pedestrian** is defined in rule 18, and **shared path** is defined in rule 242.

*Note 2* For subrule (2), **give way** means the rider must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision—see the definition in the dictionary.

- (4) In this rule—

**footpath** does not include a separated footpath.

*Note* **Separated footpath** is defined in rule 239.

### 251. *Riding to the left of oncoming bicycle riders on a path*

The rider of a bicycle riding on a bicycle path, footpath, separated footpath or shared path must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider on the path.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Bicycle path** and **separated footpath** are defined in rule 239, **footpath** is defined in the dictionary, and **shared path** is defined in rule 242.

### 252. *No bicycles signs and markings*

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a length of road or footpath to which a *no bicycles sign*, or a no bicycles road marking, applies.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Footpath**, **length of road** and **no bicycles road marking** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) A *no bicycles sign*, or a no bicycles road marking, applies to a length of road or footpath beginning at the sign or marking and ending at the nearest of the following—

- (a) a *bicycle path sign* or bicycle path road marking;
- (b) a *bicycle lane sign*;
- (c) a *separated footpath sign* or separated footpath road marking;
- (d) a *shared path sign*;
- (e) an *end no bicycles sign*;
- (f) the next intersection.

*Note* **Intersection** is defined in the dictionary, and **bicycle path road marking** and **separated footpath road marking** are defined in rule 239.

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No bicycles sign



Bicycle path sign



Bicycle lane sign



Separated footpath sign



Shared path sign



End no bicycles sign



*Note 1 for diagrams* There is another permitted version of the *bicycle path sign*, *bicycle lane sign*, *separated footpath sign* and *shared path sign*—see the diagrams in Schedule 3.

*Note 2 for diagrams* A *separated footpath sign* may have the pedestrian symbol and the bicycle symbol reversed—see rule 316(4).

**253. Bicycle riders not to cause a traffic hazard**

The rider of a bicycle must not cause a traffic hazard by moving into the path of a driver or pedestrian.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

**254. Bicycles being towed etc.**

- (1) A person must not ride on a bicycle that is being towed by another vehicle.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Vehicle** is defined in rule 15.

- (2) The rider of a bicycle must not hold onto another vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

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**255. Riding too close to the rear of a motor vehicle**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride within 2 metres of the rear of a moving motor vehicle continuously for more than 200 metres.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Motor vehicle** is defined in the **Road Safety Act 1986**.

**256. Bicycle helmets**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the rider's head.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Approved bicycle helmet** is defined in the dictionary.

- (2) Subrule (1) does not apply to a rider who—
- (a) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (5); and
  - (b) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
  - (c) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised person when asked to do so.

*Note* **Authorised person** and **police officer** are defined in the dictionary.

- (3) The rider of a bicycle must not carry a passenger on the bicycle unless—
- (a) the passenger is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the passenger's head; or
  - (b) the passenger—
    - (i) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (5); and
    - (ii) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
    - (iii) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised person when asked to do so.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Authorised person** and **police officer** are defined in the dictionary.

- (4) Subrule (3) does not apply to the rider of a three or four-wheeled bicycle who is carrying a paying passenger.
- (5) The Corporation may exempt, in writing, the rider of, or passenger on, a bicycle from subrules (1) or (3).

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**257. Riding with a person on a bicycle trailer**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must not tow a bicycle trailer with a person in or on the bicycle trailer, unless—
- (a) the rider is 16 years old, or older; and
  - (b) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is under 10 years old; and
  - (c) the bicycle trailer can safely carry the person; and
  - (d) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the person's head, unless the person—
    - (i) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (3); and
    - (ii) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
    - (iii) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised officer when asked to do so.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Approved bicycle helmet**, **authorised person** and **police officer** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) In this rule—

**bicycle trailer** means a vehicle that is built to be towed, or is towed, by a bicycle.

*Note* **Vehicle** is defined in rule 15.

- (3) The Corporation may exempt, in writing the rider of a bicycle from subrule (1)(d).

**258. Equipment on a bicycle**

A person must not ride a bicycle that does not have—

- (a) at least 1 effective brake; and
- (b) a bell, horn, or similar warning device, in working order.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

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**259. Riding at night**

The rider of a bicycle must not ride at night, or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility, unless the bicycle, or the rider, displays—

- (a) a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the front of the bicycle; and
- (b) a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the rear of the bicycle; and
- (c) a red reflector that is clearly visible for at least 50 metres from the rear of the bicycle when light is projected onto it by a vehicle's headlight on low-beam.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

Note **Low-beam** and **night** are defined in the dictionary.

**260. Stopping for a red bicycle crossing light**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle approaching or at bicycle crossing lights showing a red bicycle crossing light must stop before reaching the bicycle crossing lights.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

Note **Bicycle crossing lights** and **red bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) The rider must not proceed until—
  - (a) the bicycle crossing lights change to green; or
  - (b) there is no red bicycle crossing light showing.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

Note **Green bicycle crossing light** is defined in the dictionary.

Example

Red bicycle crossing light



Green bicycle crossing light



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**261. Stopping for a yellow bicycle crossing light**

- (1) The rider of a bicycle approaching bicycle crossing lights showing a yellow bicycle crossing light must comply with this rule.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note* **Bicycle crossing lights** and **yellow bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

- (2) If the rider can stop safely before reaching the bicycle crossing lights, the bicycle rider must stop before reaching the lights.
- (3) If the rider stops before reaching the bicycle crossing lights, and the lights change to red, the bicycle rider must not proceed until—
- the bicycle crossing lights change to green; or
  - there is no red or yellow bicycle crossing light showing.

*Note* **Green bicycle crossing light** and **red bicycle crossing light** are defined in the dictionary.

Yellow bicycle crossing light

**262. Proceeding when bicycle crossing lights change to yellow or red**

- (1) If bicycle crossing lights at an intersection change from green to yellow or red while the rider of a bicycle is in the intersection, the rider must finish crossing the intersection as soon as the rider can do so safely.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

*Note 1* **Bicycle crossing lights** is defined in the dictionary.

*Note 2* **Intersection** does not include a road related area—see the definition in the dictionary.

- (2) If bicycle crossing lights at a place on a road where the rider of a bicycle is crossing the road change from green to yellow or red while the rider is on the road, the rider must cross the road as soon as the rider can do so safely.

Penalty: 1 penalty unit.

- (3) In this rule—

**road** does not include a road related area.

*Note* **Road related area** includes the shoulder of a road—see rule 13(2)(b).