

Guide to zigzag column driving

Police have not authorised convoy driving

Traffic rules must be observed - e.g. when exiting, at traffic lights and signage

Column driving requires discipline, awareness and respect for the common rules. The following guidelines must always be followed to ensure safe and secure driving for all participants.

Formation and location



1. **The front driver always drives in front**
2. **Sidecar machines then follow** - in single file - in the centre of the carriageway
3. **Solo machines at the end of the column in zig-zag formation:** From the start of the journey, a zig-zag formation is adopted and maintained throughout the journey.
4. **Fixed place:** Find your place in the column and keep it until the next stop.
5. **Left and right hand riders:** If you are driving on the left, keep the left lane; if you are driving on the right, keep the right. Always hold your line - also in bends, junctions and roundabouts.
6. **No overtaking:** Never overtake the rider in front of you in your row.

Distance and line-up

1. **Distance:** Keep braking distance - about half the speed in metres - longer at higher speed.
2. **Drop-off:** If a rider drops out, the row moves up to fill the gap - left and right riders stay in their respective rows.
3. **No row changes:** Never change rows while driving, as it creates unrest and can lead to

dangerous situations.

4. **Roundabouts:** Keep your place in line - drive in the same part of the roadway as on straight



sections.

5. **Intersections and stops:** When the column stops at intersections, the solo machines move together 2 by 2. At start-up, the zig-zag formation resumes.
6. **Narrow roads:** Drive in single column. Left-hand drivers pull in front of right-hand drivers travelling behind. When space allows, the zig-zag formation is restored.

Roles and responsibilities

1. **The front rider decides:** The front driver (far left) determines the speed and route. However, rules and traffic laws must always be respected.
2. **Attention to rear drivers:** Each driver keeps an eye on the person behind them and slows down if necessary. However, if a driver drops out, it is the last man in the column who makes contact.
3. **Emergency vehicles:** The rear left driver pulls in to the right. The movement is carried forward through the entire column.

Placement according to experience

1. **Experience and pace:**
 - Front: smoother and calmer ride - recommended for new and inexperienced riders.
 - Rear: more varied and faster driving - suitable for experienced riders.Regardless of placement, increased attention is required as driving in columns involves increased risk.

Safety and security

1. **Animals on the road:** Maintain speed and direction even if small animals run out in front. Evasive manoeuvres can create dangerous situations for the whole column.

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