

ACU approved protective helmets and visors

The only indication that a helmet is suitable for immediate use in motorcycle sport is the ACU gold or silver sticker firmly affixed, displayed below.



GOLD APPROVAL The minimum standard for Road Racing, Sprints, Drag Racing, Hill Climb and any speed events held wholly or part on bound metalled surfaces. The ACU Gold sticker will supersede all standards with the exception of those detailed in the 'Exemption' paragraph below.

SILVER APPROVAL The minimum standard for Motocross, Grass Track, Enduro, Speedway, Grass Hill Climb and all speed events held entirely off road.

YOUTH SPORT: The choice of helmet type 'full face' (integral) or 'open face' with or without detachable chin guard, is at the discretion of the licence holder AND the parent or legal guardian of the licence holder. Great care must always be exercised in choosing a full face helmet for a young person, too large a size must not be selected in order to ease head entry or to allow for head growth. Packing must not be used to improve the fit of a helmet too large in original size.

TRIALS: Trials riders must wear a suitable road legal helmet.

It is considered that any person selling a helmet for competition use as "ACU Approved" without an approval sticker firmly affixed IS making a false trade description.

EXEMPTION

A rider or passenger from another Country holding a licence endorsed by his/her FMN and carrying proof of insurance issued by his/her FMN, may wear a helmet without an ACU Approval sticker but complying with FIM Art. 01.67 (displaying a recognised International Helmet Standard).

HELMET MODIFICATIONS

Please note that any modification to a helmet structure immediately invalidates ACU approval. Any helmet modified by the cutting, drilling or puncturing of the shell in any way subsequent to its leaving the manufacturer, will be rejected at technical inspection and the ACU approval sticker will be removed.

HELMET PAINTING

Painting of helmets of laminated composite construction (glass fibre, Kevlar etc.) is permitted. However, parts bonded on, such as the visor aperture surround or the energy absorbing lining must not be removed even by professional customisers. The removal of the visor pivots, vents and controls should only be done if attached by screws etc. "sprung in parts" should be carefully masked around before painting, as bonded items. Moulded plastic helmets of polycarbonate, ABS etc must not be painted.

Vinyl wraps as customisation of helmets is permitted in a similar manner to painting. Competitors should make sure the adhesive used is compatible with the helmet material.

HELMET SECURITY

Many helmets have a type of buckle (Double 'D' Ring or Sliding Bar) requiring strap tension to maintain security. Riders should be aware that strap slip can occur through this type of buckle even on new helmets, be sure to maintain some strap tension at all times.

Even during the relatively short period of a race, strap slip can be sufficient to increase the risk of helmet loss in the event of an accident. It can be minimised by securing the flapping strap end by some means such as a rubber band.

HELMET PROJECTIONS

(Fins, stabilisers, cameras etc.)

Attachments to the shell surface exceeding 20mm height are not permitted in Road Racing.

VISORS/GOGGLES

For Road Racing, visors to the highest British Standards Institution grade of impact and abrasion resistance are recommended.

TECHNICAL INSPECTION OF HELMETS

Helmets are examined at technical inspection in order to assess wear and tear, general deterioration and to ensure that an ACU Approval sticker is displayed.

The Senior Technical Officer of an event has the power to impound for the day, any helmet he considers is not in a fit condition to be used. He is authorised to remove the ACU approval sticker, which remains the property of the Auto Cycle Union. The helmet may be submitted for a second opinion to the Technical Secretary, but in any case may not be used without being re-checked.

Competitors with long hair – Long hair must be contained within the helmet or clothing.

MOULDED PLASTIC HELMETS

Many helmets with moulded plastic shells of thermoplastic material meet with ACU requirements and bear the Union's mark of approval. However, it must

be stressed that helmets manufactured from this material may be seriously damaged by substances such as petrol, paint, adhesives, cleaning agents and decorative stickers.

TEN FITTING TESTS FOR HELMETS

1. Obtain correct size by measuring the circumference of the head immediately above the eyes in cm.
2. Check there is no side to side movement.
3. Tighten strap securely.
4. With head forward attempt to pull up back of helmet to ensure helmet cannot be removed in this way.
5. Check ability to see clearly over shoulder.
6. Make sure nothing impedes your breathing in the helmet and never cover nose or mouth.
7. Never wind scarf around neck so that air is stopped from entering the helmet. Never wear a scarf under the retention strap.
8. Ensure that visor can be opened with one gloved hand.
9. Satisfy yourself that the back of your helmet is designed to protect your neck.
10. Always buy the best you can afford.

Make sure that the helmet has an ACU Approval Sticker affixed.

Never buy from mail-order unless you are satisfied with the above tests.

Do not hesitate to return the helmet unused if it does not fit you.

HELMET STAMPING

Manufacturers and importers of helmets may seek approval for their products and a licence to affix relevant Gold or Silver approval stickers to their helmets by providing helmets for the Independent testing in addition to other type approval documentation as part of the approval process. Please contact the Technical Department for further information.

Exceptionally, helmets may be individually approved, (often after painting etc.) They can be mailed for approval and the affixing of a relevant sticker. They should be sent to:

ACU, ACU House, Wood Street, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 2YX. Tel: 01788 566400

A fee of £15.00 should also be enclosed which covers return post and packing charges.



▲ WARNING

SOME REASONABLY FORESEEABLE IMPACTS
MAY EXCEED THIS HELMET'S CAPABILITY TO
PROTECT AGAINST SEVERE INJURY OR
DEATH.



SAMPLE

SAMPLE OF THIS HELMET
MODEL HAS PASSED THE
SNELL STANDARD AND IS
SO CERTIFIED.

CERTIFIED BY
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