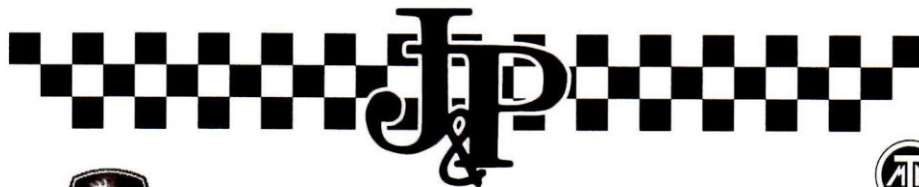


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ATV Safety Submission from John Dalla at J&P Motorcycles in Griffith NSW 2680 10/06/2019

I have been involved in the motorcycle retail business since 1975, selling the early model Kawasaki 3 wheeler ATVs and then later Suzuki & Kawasaki 4 wheeler ATVs to farmers.

From my 40+ years of experience, I would make the following points regarding ATV safety:

1. The majority of accidents are caused by minimal riding skills due to lack of training in riding an ATV or due to stupidity, often by people who have no experience in riding ATVs and see them as a toy.
2. Educating users in safe riding techniques is the most important way to reduce accidents. The NSW WorkSafe program had a great opportunity to do this but it was largely squandered by the use of a very poorly produced online webinar that did not even show safe riding techniques.
3. The fitting of ROPS bars improves safety in rollovers. This is easily done at point of sale. For the Australian regulators to consider requiring all ATVs entering the country to be fitted with ROPS bars from the factory is a misunderstanding of the market: we are only a tiny part of the world market. Hence the threat by Honda and Yamaha to pull out of the Australian ATV market if factory fitted ROPS bars are enforced. The loss of these 2 high quality Japanese brands from our ATV market would mean much less choice for farmers and many motorcycle business closures in country areas.
4. The NSW WorkSafe subsidy of ROPS bars and helmets has seen a high uptake in safety equipment. It could be done in other states and linked with the mandatory completion of a well produced safety ATV online short course before purchasing an ATV. With this program only the buyer would be doing the online short course, not other potential users, but it is a start.
5. Obviously children should not ride adult ATVs and 1 rider per ATV (unless the vehicle is set up for a passenger) with a helmet on, needs to be emphasized. Japanese ATV manufacturers issue Point of Sale material under their '5 Star Program' with purchase, usage and safety recommendations and a safety video.
6. ATVs are smaller and more nimble than UTVs and thus cannot be replaced by UTVs in many farming situations. ATVs cannot be replaced by 2 wheeler agricultural bikes because of the load limitations of 2 wheelers and the higher skill level required to ride a 2 wheeler.

It is difficult to legislate against stupidity. What needs to be remembered is that the farming community need access to high quality ATVs to get their farm work done efficiently.

Kind regards,

John Dalla

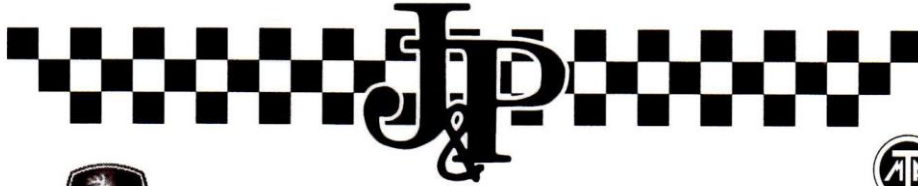
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