

Motorcycle Rider Mentor Program

A Low Tech, Targeted Approach to Reducing Motorcycle Accident Causal Factors

USAF

49th Fighter Wing, Holloman AFB, NM

Presented by Dick Garrett



MRM PROGRAM GOAL

Reduce motorcycle accidents by modifying the high risk motorcyclist's behavior through a sustainable program utilizing competent volunteer mentors



The Pitch

- Predicated on the innate intelligence and qualities of our Air Force personnel
- Presents a clear picture of the threats and the consequences of failing to understand them
- More emphasis on mental (vs. physical) skills
- MRM Program offers continual reinforcement
- Will not be a series of attacks on negative aspects of motorcycling

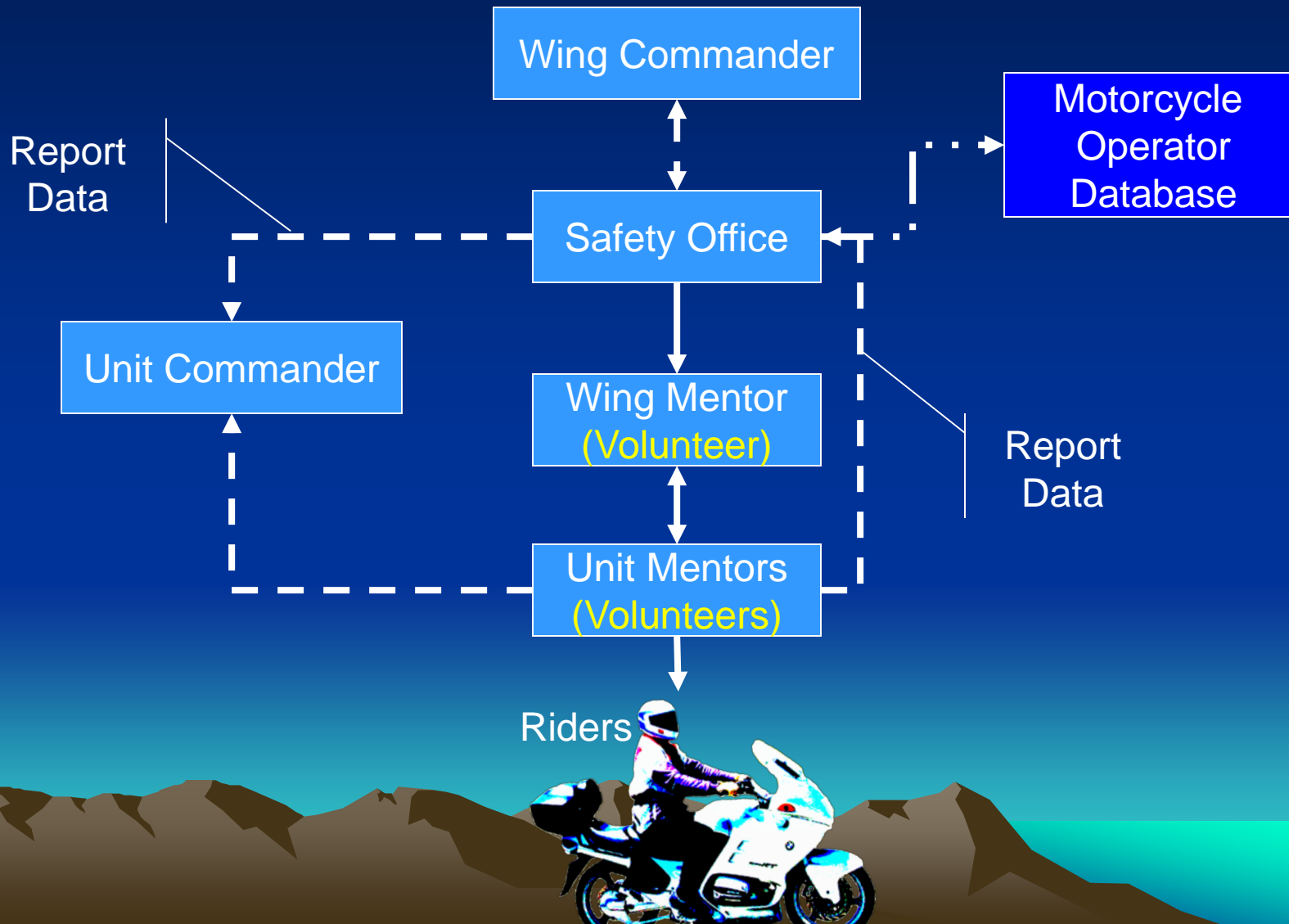


Administrative Considerations

- Evaluation criteria for program's success not tied solely to short term accident statistics
- Participation in MRM Program is mandatory for target riders (< 26 years old), encouraged for others
- Feedback system for mentor reports to commanders
- Mentor position turnovers must be accommodated



MRM Program Organization



THE MENTOR'S GOAL

Lead other riders to an understanding of how to avoid accident situations using an approved series of topics, combined with personal experience.



USAF Considerations

- Mentor concept supported by USAF Chief of Staff
- COMACC directs squadron CC and mentors' involvement
 - Squadron CC will interview every motorcyclist in the unit
 - “Novice riders will not be allowed to ride solo on base until their mentors report back to the squadron commander recommending they be allowed to ride alone.”
- Wing commander establishes local policies
 - Mentor's duties will comply with ACC policies
 - Requirements for RiderCourse and MRM Program



Instructional Materials

- Written guides for mentors covering topics identified as either **core** or **helpful**
- Directed toward the MRM Program's goal
- Mandated use but allows mentor's inputs
- Based on sound rider education concepts
- Useable in an informal environment
- Designed to encourage interactive discussion



Unit Mentor's Duties

- Conducts quarterly Motorcycle Rider Forum for all unit riders
- Contacts riders <26 years old on a monthly basis
- Recommends to commander whether novice riders should be approved for riding solo on-base after actually riding with them
- Updates base-level motorcycle rider database
- Sends quarterly Motorcycle Rider Forum reports to Safety Office
- Keeps unit commander informed of motorcycle riders' status
- Participates in base-level Motorcycle Safety Council
- Stays proficient in conducting all Motorcycle Rider Forum topics
- Maintains exemplary riding and mentoring skills
- Assists in training his/her replacement



Wing Mentor's Duties

- Conducts quarterly mentor training
- Spot checks unit level MRM Program
- Advises Safety Office on motorcycle issues
- Monitors base-level motorcycle rider database
- Updates Mentor Discussion Guides as needed
- Participates in Motorcycle Safety Council
- Maintains exemplary riding and mentoring skills
- Assists in training his/her replacement



Mentor Discussion Guide Topics

Braking dynamics and techniques *	Stopping distance to avoid impacts *
Strategy for intersections *	Strategy for curves *
Are you different from the stats? *	Common accident situations *
The Traction Pie – Slice by Slice *	Group rides – dynamics and pitfalls
Your learning curve - perceptions	Sharing the ride & your motorcycle
Where's the threat?	Night riding problems
Mental preparation for the ride	Maintenance tips for motorcycles
Is a little bit of beer okay?	Legal ramifications for the rider
Who's at fault in your accident?	Rider clothing – traditional vs. hi tech

* Core topics (7)



QUESTIONS
Thank You



DickGarrett@yahoo.com