

**1.10-2**

**DAYTON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
GENERAL ORDER 1.10-2  
BICYCLE PATROL**



**RICHARD S. BIEHL – DIRECTOR AND CHIEF OF POLICE**

Rev. 6/17

**POLICY STATEMENT**

Bicycle patrol is primarily a method of policing relatively small geographic areas that motorized patrol is less suited to due to congestion, lack of stealth, or physical barriers. This policy establishes basic guidelines for Bicycle Patrol in the Dayton Police Department by describing the duties of bicycle patrol officers, proper use of bicycle officers as an enforcement tool, approved uniforms, and investigation protocol for incidents involving bicycles.

**I. GENERAL DUTIES**

- A. Only persons who have successfully completed Bicycle Patrol Training and are properly certified may be assigned to bicycle patrol duties or use bicycle patrol equipment. Each division commander and sergeant may utilize bicycle officers in whatever capacity they feel is best within the guidelines of this policy.
- B. Bicycle officers have the same duties as other patrol personnel except they are not to be used to handle traffic accident investigations on the highway and transport prisoners. Bicycle officers may request a vehicle with emergency lighting if needed. If a dispatched call is out of the bicycle officer's range, they will advise the dispatcher of that fact.

**II. IMPLEMENTATION**

- A. Prior to the start of patrolling on a bicycle, the bicycle officer will advise the Regional Dispatch Center (RDC) of the general area they will be patrolling.
- B. The bicycles used by the Department are designed to operate in almost any type of weather. In the interest of safety, bicycle patrol officers need to evaluate current and pending weather/road conditions. The decision of whether or not to ride will be determined by the bicycle patrol officer.

**III. EQUIPMENT**

- A. It is mandatory that an approved bicycle helmet (black in color) and protective eyewear will be worn whenever using the bicycle. Hairstyles must not compromise the integral safety of the helmet. Female officers may wear their hair in a ponytail for proper helmet fit. Helmets will be inspected yearly for damage and need for replacement. Any impact on the helmet will require inspection and if needed replacement. All helmets will be replaced after five years of issue date, regardless of damage or use.
- B. A police bicycle is a police vehicle and should be maintained with the same care as a police cruiser. An officer will not make any alterations to the issued equipment or add personal equipment to the bicycle without permission from the Bicycle Unit Supervisor.
- C. The bicycle will be maintained in a clean and orderly fashion. With the exception of "POLICE", decals and logos not affixed to the bike by the manufacture or equipment brand will not be placed on the bicycle.

**IV. UNIFORM**

- A. All Dayton Police Officers patrolling on a bicycle will wear the current bicycle patrol uniform without alterations. Bicycle uniforms and/or equipment will not be worn when performing any other duties such as when assigned to a cruiser without prior authorization from the division commander. Bicycle Patrol Officers will keep a spare uniform of the day, which is appropriate for use in a cruiser, in their division's headquarters.



## B. Uniform Specifications

Approved Bicycle Patrol uniform shirt and jacket manufacturer is Mocean, whose products are made specifically for bicycle riding. Pants and shorts will be black and manufactured for patrol or bicycle riding. Rank insignia will be worn in accordance with general uniform policy.

### 1. Summer Uniform

- A royal-blue, short-sleeve *Vapor Pique Polo Shirts M#0352*, with appropriate Dayton Police shoulder patches, an embroidered nametape on the right breast and an embroidered Badge on the left breast. "POLICE" in reflective, silver lettering will be centered across the upper back portion of the Polo.
- Black cargo pants or shorts with or without zip-off legs.
- Black ankle length socks, no logos. "POLICE" on socks are acceptable.

### 2. Winter Uniform

- A royal-blue, long-sleeve *Vapor Pique Polo Shirts M#0353*, with appropriate Dayton Police shoulder patches, an embroidered nametape on the right breast and an embroidered Badge on the left breast. "POLICE" in reflective, silver lettering will be centered across the upper back portion of the Polo.
- Black cargo pants with or without zip-off legs.
- Approved Bicycle Patrol Jackets will be two-toned black and royal-blue, with appropriate Dayton Police shoulder patches, an embroidered nametape on the right breast and an embroidered Badge on the left breast. "POLICE" in reflective, silver lettering will be centered across the upper back portion of the Jacket.

### 3. Foot Wear

Officers assigned to Bicycle Patrol are authorized to wear an athletic-type shoe or police bike patrol shoe (one that is specifically manufactured for police bike patrol) for Bicycle Patrol use only when wearing the authorized Bicycle Patrol uniform. The type and style of permissible shoe as follows:

- Shoes must be mostly leather/faux leather, with canvas or mesh in smaller proportion of construction
- Shoes must be all black
- Socks must be all black
- Logo must be inconspicuous unless designed as a reflective safety feature
- May incorporate hook-and-loop or buckle closures in addition to, or in place of lacing
- Shoe style may depend upon orthopedic needs of the officer (e.g. enhanced arch support, last stiffness, etc.)

### 4. Ball Cap

Officers assigned to Bicycle Patrol are authorized to wear an optional hat only while in their respective specialized unit uniform. This hat will NOT replace the authorized helmet which is required at all times while riding a bicycle/motorcycle. The hat will be worn only when the officer is off of the bicycle. Designated officers may purchase at their own expense a ball cap with the following specifications:

- Richardson Pro 585 "flexfit" ball cap
- Solid Navy color
- Embroidered Dayton Police Badge (2.5" x 2") centered in the middle front of the hat above the bill – Gold for Sergeants, Silver for officers.

## C. Sworn personnel certified as a Bike Patrol Officer are authorized to wear the approved insignia (Pewter Mountain Bike with BIKE PATROL under it) on their uniform. The insignia will be worn centered on the right 1/8 – inch above the nametag (or above VPFT Award if worn) of all uniforms, except raincoats.



## V. MAINTENANCE

Bicycles will be maintained in accordance with Dayton Police Department and International Police Mountain Bike Association standards. Officers will inspect their assigned bicycle at the beginning and end of each shift and perform basic operator maintenance on their assigned bicycle. No maintenance of any type will be performed on the electric bicycles without permission from the Bike Patrol Supervisor or certified IPMBA Maintenance Officer. Officers will notify the division bicycle supervisor if they discover a bicycle has damaged or missing parts.

## VI. TRAINING / CERTIFICATION

Bicycles, equipment and laws associated with Police Bike Patrol are continually changing. As these changes come into effect, personnel will be notified via training bulletins. Personnel are encouraged to attend any in-service training that pertains to the operation and care of the Police Bike. Individual unit supervisors should monitor the frequency of bicycle use by personnel under their command. Officers are responsible to remain proficient and skilled on police bicycle patrol techniques.

## VII. INVESTIGATING INCIDENTS INVOLVING BICYCLES

The procedures for investigating most incidents involving bicycles are explained in other parts of the Manual of Procedure and/or the Rules of Conduct. There are several aspects of using a bicycle for law enforcement, which are unique and require a deviation from normal procedures.

- A. It is not uncommon for a police cyclist to lose control of a bicycle and crash. If a crash occurs, and no damage or injury is involved, there is no need for any verbal or written reports.
- B. If a bicycle is damaged in a crash and no damage to other property or injury is involved; a supervisor will be called to the scene immediately. No investigation will be needed if the supervisor determines "horseplay" or recklessness was not involved. These incidents will occur in the normal and appropriate operation of a bicycle under the demands of law enforcement.
- C. Incidents involving motor vehicles, damaged property, or injuries to officers or citizens will be handled in accordance with current policy.

## VIII. BIKE-MOUNTED MOBILE FIELD FORCE

Bike-Mounted Mobile Field Force teams can be utilized for maintaining order and dispersing crowds. The Crowd Control Team will be familiar with the unique circumstances surrounding the formation, training and deployment of a Bike-Mounted Mobile Field Force. Members of the Bike-Mounted Mobile Field Force will complete the Bicycle Response Team Training.

## IX. SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Central Patrol Operations Division will assign the Bike Patrol Supervisor who will handle all inventory, training, and matters relating to Bike Patrol. Each division will have an assigned supervisor in charge of their bicycle inventory and maintenance. The Bike Patrol Supervisor will work with the division supervisors to address any needs. A Crowd Control Team Supervisor will be assigned as the Bike-Mounted Mobile Field Force Supervisor. Supervisors will conduct an annual audit of all bicycles and bicycle related equipment for each division.

## X. BICYCLE COMMITTEE

The bicycle committee will meet twice a year to discuss bicycle patrol issues. This will include, but is not limited to, policy, uniform, and special events. The bicycle committee will consist of the following personnel.

Commander – CPOD Commander  
Bicycle Patrol Supervisor – CPOD Sergeant  
Division Bicycle Supervisors – EPOD/WPOD Sergeant  
Mobile Field Force Supervisor – MFF Sergeant  
Patrol Division Day Lieutenants – EPOD/CPOD/WPOD  
Policy and Research – Sergeant



IPMBA Instructors – All  
IPMBA Maintenance - All