



WHAM!

OBSERVER TRAINING PROGRAMME

All new Prospective Observers (PO) to the Group are to be trained using the following programme in tandem with the IAM Trainee Observer Development Portfolio.

This training programme is progressive and designed to ensure that prospective observers are competent at each part of an observer's responsibilities before moving onto the next phase. By the time they are introduced to a genuine associate, they should be able to satisfactorily run a complete session but obviously may still need additional help and guidance from their accompanying group qualified observer until they are ready to take their assessment.

PRACTICAL TRAINING

SESSION 1

All POs will initially carry out a pursuit ride with the Chief Observer (CO) or Senior Observer (Training) (SOT) and a group-qualified observer (GQO). The purpose is to practice pursuit riding, at effective observing distance, riding at speeds up to and including the speed limit. This will be done by the PO following the GQO whilst the SOT follows behind; ie GQO in P1, the PO in P2 and the SOT in P3. The aim is to ensure that all observers are more than capable of staying with an associate on an observed run.

If successful in the pursuit, the PO will then give a demo ride back down the same route to show the necessary skill level.

Help and guidance to achieve both pursuit and demo standards will be given during this session as appropriate.

SESSION 2

This is carried out ideally with two POs accompanied by a SOT, but a GQO can substitute for one of the POs as necessary.

The aim of Session 2 is to discuss the complexities of observing and then to cover the various aspects as follows:

- 1) How to conduct the Introductory brief;
- 2) How to position on the road to observe, and learn the art of pursuit riding. (Route and directions to be given by SOT).

The SOT will then demonstrate basic observer positioning by acting as the observer to one of the trainees whilst the other follows. The trainees will change over during the demo ride so each gets the opportunity to take note of how the SOT positions himself.



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Each candidate will then in turn act as observer to the other, and have the opportunity to practise observer positioning.

The session will conclude with a discussion on route selection. Each PO will be required to prepare a route for Session 4.

SESSION 3

This is carried out with ideally with two POs accompanied by a SOT, but a GQO can substitute for one of the POs as necessary.

The aim of week 3 is for both POs to:

- 1) Perform the Introductory brief (with help if required);
- 2) Practice pursuit riding (route and directions to be given by SOT);
- 3) Discuss how to debrief the ride (use of dry wipes etc);
- 4) How to introduce a demonstration ride;
- 5) Discuss the Final Debrief (use of Associates Grading Matrix).

SESSION 4

This is carried out with two POs accompanied by a SOT, but a GQO can substitute for one of the POs as necessary.

A complete run by one PO including:

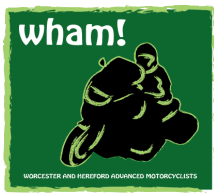
- 1) Introductory Brief (with route);
- 2) Run in P2 and observe “the associate”;
- 3) Debrief “the associate” (with help if required);
- 4) Introduce and perform a demo ride based on debrief points. (If no obvious debrief points then demo ride objectives to be given by SOT);
- 5) Conduct the final debrief.

SESSION 5

As for Session 4 but with role reversal for POs.

WRITTEN TESTS

Theory paper of 20 questions on Highway Code;
Theory paper of 20 questions on Roadcraft;
Theory paper of 10 questions on Documentation and Administration;
Requirement of 80% on all papers to pass.



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SESSION 6 and onwards

Transferred to normal SO/associate teams where the PO will run in P2 and conduct the rides as per Session 4-6 above until ready to take the Group Qualified Observer test. The

PO must accumulate 10 hours of actual associate observation under the guidance of the SO before they are able to take the GQO test.

GQO Test

The test will be conducted by the CO or SOT not involved with the training of the candidate.

The test duration is likely to be in the region of 3 hours. The associate role will be taken by another SO from Red Group/Blue Group. Within the test there are 3 sections, as follows:-

SECTION 1

The Observer Candidate briefs the Associate on the ride, points needed covering are:-

Introductions, check of associate's clothing, machine;

Enquiries into Associate's riding history, previous observed runs, likely areas for development, purpose of the ride, probable duration, type of roads etc;

Daily checks (MPOWDER), moving brake test;

Understanding of the System using open-ended questions and practical demonstration where necessary;

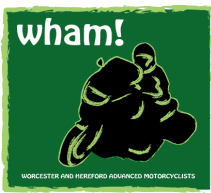
Discussion on overall safety, speed limits, communication, giving of signals, what to do if separated etc;

The disclaimer must be understood - that the Associate acknowledges that they are 100% responsible for their own bike, how and where they ride it – irrespective of any real or imagined instructions from the Observer Candidate (however nothing should be signed, this is a verbal understanding).

If considered appropriate check associate's machine control before venturing out on the road.

The route – where possible to include motorway, city, national & rural roads of a demanding nature.

Slow riding / manoeuvring – in a suitable place (e.g. car park), get the Associate to conduct a simple slow-speed manoeuvre such as a figure of eight or circles etc – using minimum space they feel comfortable with at walking pace, advise re the technique employed and comment on the outcome.



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The de-brief;

Talk Associate through their ride and offer advice, get them to self criticise & encourage two-way dialogue.

Make sure the de-brief ends on a positive note.

Give Associate some future direction and possibly some 'what to do next' advice if appropriate.

SECTION 2

An Observed Ride of approximately 20 miles.

Slow Riding & Manoeuvring – to perform some slow speed manoeuvres such as a figure of eight or circles, at around walking pace to check their ability to demonstrate slow speed machine control to Associates.

The Observer Candidate may be required to demonstrate their knowledge of routine checks and safety issues including:-

Moving Brake Test - Reasons for doing one and how one would be carried out;
MPOWDER checks

SECTION 3

The debrief – CO or SOT will go over all sections of the test.

The test will be written-up by the CO or SOT and saved for future reference. A copy will be made available to the candidate.

Note:

On completion of Section 2 if the CO or SOT does not feel the Candidate is at the required standard for Observer (and provided he is satisfied that it is a worthwhile exercise), the Candidate can be invited to re-apply for testing after a three month delay.