

BICYCLE & SKATEBOARDS

IN

VICTORIA

A concise view of legislation concerning people powered transport

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Introduction:

Road Rules 1999

This document has been prepared as a guide to bicycle users, particularly to organisations that use bicycles for transport.

Most movements on our roads are controlled by the Australian wide Road Rules. These replace the old Road Traffic Regulations as of 1st December, 1999.

Printed in this document in the left column are on most occasions, excerpts from the Road Rules with comment by the author in *Italics* on the right column.

A number preceding a word or term indicates the Regulation number in the Road Rules. There are excerpts from other legislation also listed in this document however where other legislation is used the source is indicated.

Of course I have not included the usual regulations that cover all vehicles, Eg. Speed limits, obeying red lights, keeping to the left, etc, etc. Just those that apply or are important to bicycle or skateboard riding.

All Road Rule legislation is Australia wide, therefore this document would be of benefit to other states and territories. Bear in mind that local area By Laws have not been included and may place further limitations on cyclists, roller-bladers and skateboarders.

Indemnity

The comments are based purely on the authors opinion.

Before basing any action or inaction on the information contained herein the reader should consult their local police, legal text or other sources of accurate up to date information.

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Definitions

According to the Dictionary found within the Road Rules are the following definitions:

Bicycle:-

means a vehicle with 1 or more wheels that is built to be propelled by human power through a belt, chain or gears (whether or not it has an auxiliary motor), and includes a pedicab, penny-farthing, scooter, tricycle and unicycle, but does not include a wheelchair, wheeled recreation device, wheeled toy, or any vehicle with an auxiliary motor capable of generating a power output over 200 watts (whether or not motor is operating).

A bicycle is a bicycle, scooter or tricycle with or without a motor.

Footpath:

Means an area open to the public that is designated for, or has as one of its main uses, use by pedestrians.

This would mean areas that are generally used by pedestrians would be regarded as footpaths.

18. Pedestrian:

Includes a person driving a motorised wheelchair capable of no more than 10 km/h and a person in a non motorised wheelchair and a person pushing a wheelchair motorised or not, and a person in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy.

Pedestrian would include a wheelchair occupant, Or a person on rollerblades or skateboard as well as general meaning.

12 Road:

A road is (a) an area that is open to or used by the public and is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; ...

This would refer to the actual area that motor vehicles normally travel (bitumined area).

13 Road related Area:

It includes, median strips, road dividers, footpath, footway, shared footway, "an area that is not a road and that is open to or used by the public for driving, riding or parking motor vehicles"

From building line to building line & areas like bike paths

14 Road User:

Is a driver, rider, passenger or pedestrian.

15. Vehicle

Is a conveyance that is designed to be propelled or drawn by any means, whether or not capable of being so propelled or drawn, and includes:- a motor vehicle, trailer and tram, a bicycle, an air cushioned vehicle, but does not include a train.

Includes an animal that is being ridden or is drawing a vehicle, but doesn't include a wheelchair (capable of no more than 10km/h), a wheeled recreation device or wheeled toy.

This includes a Bicycle

Bicycle Specific Regulations

245. Riding a bicycle

The rider of a bicycle must—

- (a) sit astride the rider's seat facing forwards (except if the bicycle is not built to be ridden astride);
- (b) ride with at least 1 hand on the handlebars;
- (c) if the bicycle is equipped with a seat—not ride the bicycle seated in any other position on the bicycle.

Must sit on the seat face forward and have at least one hand on the handlebars.

This rule would mean that scooting a bike is illegal.

151. Riding a motor bike or bicycle alongside more than 1 other rider

(1) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle must not ride on a road that is not a multi-lane road alongside more than 1 other rider, unless subrule (3) applies to the rider.

(2) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle must not ride in a marked lane alongside more than 1 other rider in the marked lane, unless subrule (3) applies to the rider.

(3) The rider of a motor bike or bicycle may ride alongside more than 1 other rider if the rider is—

- (a) overtaking the other riders; or
- (b) permitted to do so under regulation 403 of the Road Safety (Road Rules) Regulations 1999.

(4) If the rider of a motor bike or bicycle is riding on a road that is not a multi-lane road alongside another rider, or in a marked lane alongside another rider in the marked lane, the rider must ride not over 1.5 metres from the other rider.

(5) In this rule—

road does not include a road related area, but includes a bicycle path, shared path and any shoulder of the road.

Must not have more than 2 bikes alongside each other.

The two riders must be no more than 1.5 metres apart from each other.

Which means the same applies to bike paths and bike lanes on the edge of roads

248. No riding across a road on a crossing

The rider of a bicycle must not ride across a road, or part of a road, on a children's crossing, marked foot crossing, or pedestrian crossing.

Must not ride across pedestrian crossings

247. Riding in a bicycle lane on a road

(1) The rider of a bicycle riding on a length of road with a bicycle lane designed for bicycles travelling in the same direction as the rider must ride in the bicycle lane unless it is impracticable to do so.

If there is a bike lane available where the bike is actually being ridden, then the cyclist must use it.

249. Riding on a separated footpath

The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of pedestrians.

On a footpath that has an area for bikes and one for pedestrians, cyclists must stay in the bike area

251. Riding to the left of oncoming bicycle riders on a path

The rider of a bicycle riding on a bicycle path, footpath, separated footpath or shared path must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider on the path.

Keep to the left on bike paths

246. Carrying people on a bicycle

The rider of a bicycle must not carry more persons on the bicycle than the bicycle is designed to carry.

This means no dinking. It could mean that some attached child seats are illegal, although most children's seats fitted to bikes are quite legal.

Hook Turns

35. Hook turns may be made at any intersection by a rider of a bicycle.

36. Except at a 'no hook turn by bicycles' sign

I have never seen one of these.

Roundabouts

119. Giving way by the rider of a bicycle or animal to a vehicle leaving a roundabout

The rider of a bicycle or animal who is riding in the far left marked lane of a roundabout with 2 or more marked lanes, or the far left line of traffic in a roundabout with 2 or more lines of traffic, must give way to any vehicle leaving the roundabout.

Take the full lane at a roundabout or give way to ALL motor vehicles.

If intending to go straight ahead or turn right, bikes can still travel in the right hand lane just as you would drive a car and this regulation wouldn't apply.

Ride like a car – Be treated like a car.

253. Bicycle riders not to cause a traffic hazard

The rider of a bicycle must not cause a traffic hazard by moving into the path of a driver or pedestrian.

604. Driving in a dangerous manner

A person must not drive on a road a vehicle (other than a motor vehicle) in a careless, dangerous or reckless manner.

This could mean riding on the back wheel, riding too quickly through a high pedestrian area or other such actions.

Overtaking

141. No overtaking etc. to the left of a vehicle

(1) A driver (except the rider of a bicycle) must not overtake a vehicle to the left of the vehicle unless—

- (a) the driver is driving on a multi-lane road and the vehicle can be safely overtaken in a marked lane to the left of the vehicle; or
- (b) the vehicle is turning right, or making a U-turn from the centre of the road, and is giving a right change of direction signal.

(2) The rider of a bicycle must not ride past, or overtake, to the left of a vehicle that is turning left and is giving a left change of direction signal.

Bikes can travel up the inside of cars

except:

If the car is indicating a left turn or turning left

82. Overtaking or passing a vehicle at a children's crossing or pedestrian crossing

A driver approaching a children's crossing, or pedestrian crossing, must not overtake or pass a vehicle that is travelling in the same direction as the driver and is stopping, or has stopped, to give way to a pedestrian at the crossing.

Means if a car has stopped at a crossing then a bike shouldn't pass the car at a crossing and vice versa..

250. Riding on a footpath or shared path

(1) The rider of a bicycle who is 12 years old or older must not ride on a footpath.

(2) Subrule (1) does not apply to a rider in the circumstances specified by the Corporation by notice published in the Government Gazette*. Note **Footpath** is defined in the dictionary. Note 2 For subrule (2), **give way** means the rider must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision

(3) The rider of a bicycle riding on a footpath or shared path must—

- (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
- (b) give way to any pedestrian on the footpath or shared path.

Remember definition of footpath

Footpath: Means an area open to the public that is designated for , or has as one of its main uses, use by pedestrians.

Cannot ride on footpath if you are 12 or more unless: *Over 18 yrs old & supervising a child under 12yrs how to ride or

*Has a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner; and the certificate states that the rider ***has a physical or intellectual disability** which makes it undesirable, impracticable or inexpedient for the rider to ride on the road; and the rider is complying with the conditions (if any) stated on the*

certificate; and if the disability is of a temporary nature, the certificate contains an expiry date and has not expired; and the rider is carrying the certificate; and the rider produces the certificate when requested to do so by a police officer or authorised person.

Parking Bicycles

166. This Part does not apply to a bicycle that is parked at a bicycle rail or in a bicycle rack.

This means a bicycle can park anywhere if it is at a bicycle rack.

Without dissecting the entire section it appears that all parking rules dictate: 'a driver must not...' This would include a bicycle driver. So where ever a car can and cannot park neither can a bicycle.

Animals

301. Leading an animal while driving a vehicle

A person must not lead an animal while driving a motor vehicle or riding a bicycle.

So you cannot take your dog on a lead while riding a bicycle

Riding Too Close

255. Riding too close to the rear of a motor vehicle

The rider of a bicycle must not ride within 2 metres of the rear of a moving motor vehicle continuously for more than 200 metres.

No Bicycle Signs

252. No bicycles signs and markings

(1) The rider of a bicycle must not ride on a length of road or footpath to which a no bicycles sign, or a no bicycles road marking, applies.

(2) A no bicycles sign, or a no bicycles road marking, applies to a length of road or footpath beginning at the sign or marking and ending at the nearest of the following—

- (a) a bicycle path sign or bicycle path road marking;
- (b) a bicycle lane sign;
- (c) a separated footpath sign or separated footpath road marking;
- (d) a shared path sign;
- (e) an end no bicycles sign;
- (f) the next intersection.

Towing of Bicycles

254. Bicycles being towed etc.

(1) A person must not ride on a bicycle that is being towed by another vehicle.

Cannot hold onto a tram/ truck/ car etc.etc.

(2) The rider of a bicycle must not hold onto another vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

This would include a bicycle towing another bicycle

Bicycle Helmets

256. Bicycle helmets

- (1) The rider of a bicycle must wear an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the rider's head.
- (2) Subrule (1) does not apply to a rider who—
 - (a) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (5); and
 - (b) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
 - (c) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised person when asked to do so.
- (3) The rider of a bicycle must not carry a passenger on the bicycle unless—
 - (a) the passenger is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the passenger's head; or
 - (b) the passenger—
 - (i) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (5); and
 - (ii) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
 - (iii) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised person when asked to do so.
- (4) Subrule (3) does not apply to the rider of a three or four-wheeled bicycle who is carrying a paying passenger.
- (5) The Corporation may exempt, in writing, the rider of, or passenger on, a bicycle from subrules (1) or (3).

Mobile Phones and Radios

300. Use of hand-held mobile phones

- (1) The driver of a vehicle (except an emergency vehicle or police vehicle) must not use a hand-held mobile phone while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked, unless the driver is exempt from this rule under subrule (3).
- (2) In this rule—*mobile phone* does not include a CB radio or any other two-way radio.
- (3) This rule does not apply to a driver if the Corporation has, by notice in writing, exempted the driver from subrule (1).

Applies to a bicycle ridden on a road or road related area. An approved helmet is one which complies with Australian Standard 2063.2 and will have a small silver and red sticker with '5 ticks'

Securely fitted and fastened means it must fit and the straps secure and the catch or buckle connected.

This applies to a passenger on a bicycle

Exemptions for Bicycle Helmets

Exemptions are only issued for an individual.

The exemption is obtained by the individual approaching Vic Roads with their reason for exemption. Vic Roads then investigates the reason. If it is medical they assign their own Medical Doctor to investigate.

If granted the individual will be issued with an exemption which is the size of a credit card and sealed. It has the individuals personal details and the signature of an executive of Vic Roads.

Cannot use a mobile phone on a bicycle.

Excludes two way radios so couriers etc, are legally able to use these while riding although it could be construed as being CARELESS RIDING (see rule 604)

Bicycle Equipment

258. Equipment on a bicycle

A person must not ride a bicycle that does not have—

- (a) at least 1 effective brake; and
- (b) a bell, horn, or similar warning device, in working order.

259. Riding at night

The rider of a bicycle must not ride at night, or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility, unless the bicycle, or the rider, displays—

- (a) a flashing or steady white light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the front of the bicycle; and
- (b) a flashing or steady red light that is clearly visible for at least 200 metres from the rear of the bicycle; and
- (c) a red reflector that is clearly visible for at least 50 metres from the rear of the bicycle when light is projected onto it by a vehicle's headlight on low-beam.

During dark or maybe when there is heavy rain or cloud cover lights that can be seen from 200 metres away must be on a bicycle

White to the front and red to the rear

Or,

Lights can be fitted to the rider – on the helmet or clothing, etc.

& a red reflector to the rear that reflects light 50 metres away

224. Using horns and similar warning devices

A driver must not use, or allow to be used, a horn, or similar warning device, fitted to or in the driver's vehicle unless—

- (a) it is necessary to use the horn, or warning device, to warn other road users or animals of the approach or position of the vehicle; or
- (b) the horn, or warning device, is being used as part of an anti-theft device fitted to the vehicle.

So when you get frustrated at someone tooting you from behind they are quite entitled to warn you of their approach.

257. Riding with a person on a bicycle trailer

(1) The rider of a bicycle must not tow a bicycle trailer with a person in or on the bicycle trailer, unless—

- (a) the rider is 16 years old, or older; and
- (b) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is under 10 years old; and
- (c) the bicycle trailer can safely carry the person; and
- (d) the person in or on the bicycle trailer is wearing an approved bicycle helmet securely fitted and fastened on the person's head, unless the person—
 - (i) is exempt from wearing a bicycle helmet under subrule (3); and
 - (ii) is carrying written evidence of that exemption; and
 - (iii) produces that evidence to a police officer or authorised officer when asked to do so.

(2) In this rule—***bicycle trailer*** means a vehicle that is built to be towed, or is towed, by a bicycle.

(3) The Corporation may exempt, in writing the rider of a bicycle from subrule (1)(d).

Bike trailers are the acceptable way to transport children under 10 yrs old, on a bike providing these conditions are met:

- The rider is 16 years or more,*
- The trailer is safe*
- The child is wearing a helmet*

603. Bicycle Racks on Vehicles

A person must not drive on a road a motor vehicle that has an empty bicycle carrier attached to the rear of the vehicle.

If empty the bike rack must be taken off the motor vehicle

Bicycle carrier must have number plate lamp fitted and operable if vehicle driven at night
Road Safety (vehicles) regulations 1999, Reg 814.2

If a vehicle is fitted with a bicycle carrier, the number plate otherwise required to be fitted to the rear of the vehicle may instead be securely affixed to the bicycle carrier.
Road Safety (vehicles) regulations 1999, Reg 222.2

Riding Bicycles in Prohibited Areas

Riding on PTC Property

Transport
301- Behavior offences
(Public Transport Corporation) Regulations
1994

(2) A person must not-a) ride a bicycle pedal cycle, scooter, skate board, in-line skates, roller skates or Similar device on any rail premises, in any rail or road vehicle or on any railway platform.

This would include, train station platforms & concourse areas and train carriages

Riding Prohibited in Parklands

Parks Victoria Regulations Reg.25 vehicles

(1) A person must not bring a vehicle into or leave a vehicle standing in, a park or part of a park which has a notice or sign post indicating that the park or part of the park is closed to vehicles generally or to vehicle of that particular class

Drunk in Charge of Bicycle

Offence no longer exists

General Regulations

125. Unreasonably obstructing drivers or pedestrians

(1) A driver must not unreasonably obstruct the path of another driver or a pedestrian.

(2) For this rule, a driver does not unreasonably obstruct the path of another driver or a pedestrian only because—

(a) the driver is stopped in traffic; or
(b) the driver is driving more slowly than other vehicles (unless the driver is driving abnormally slowly in the circumstances).

Example of a driver driving abnormally slowly
A driver driving at a speed of 20 kilometres per hour on a length of road to which a speed-limit of 80 kilometres per hour applies when there is no reason for the driver to drive at that speed on the length of road.

2b indicates that bicycles do not unreasonably obstruct other vehicles just because they are driving slowly.

Driving in Bicycle Lanes

153. Bicycle lanes

(1) A driver (except the rider of a bicycle) must not drive in a bicycle lane, unless the driver is permitted to drive in the bicycle lane under this rule or rule 158.

Note 2 Rule 158 provides additional exceptions applying to this rule, and also provides a defence to the prosecution of a driver for an offence against this rule.

(2) If stopping or parking is not prohibited at a place in a bicycle lane, a driver may drive for up to 50 metres in the bicycle lane to stop or park at that place.

(3) A driver may drive for up to 50 metres in a bicycle lane if the driver is driving a public bus, public minibus, or taxi, and is dropping off or picking up, passengers.

Note **Public bus**, **public minibus** and **taxi** are defined in the dictionary.

(4) A **bicycle lane** is a marked lane, or the part of a marked lane—

(a) beginning at a *bicycle lane sign* applying to the lane; and

(b) ending at the nearest of the following—(i) an *end bicycle lane sign* applying to the lane;

(ii) an intersection (unless the lane is at the unbroken side of the continuing road at a T-intersection or continued across the intersection by broken lines);

(iii) if the road ends at a dead end—the end of the road.

158. Exceptions to driving in special purpose lanes etc.

Merging Traffic

149. Giving way when lines of traffic merge into a single line of traffic

A driver in a line of traffic that is merging with one or more lines of traffic travelling in the same direction as the driver must give way to a vehicle in another line of traffic if any part of the vehicle is ahead of the driver's vehicle.

Note 2 For this rule, **give way** means the driver must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision .

This is a long regulation but in short if you are overtaking a turning vehicle, or turning left, or parking then you can drive in a bike and other lanes. But for no more than 50 metres

Exemptions include:

When entering or leaving a property;

When moving from a service lane onto the main road;

When overtaking a right turning vehicle;

To enter traffic from the side of the road;

To avoid an accident;

A sign allows a vehicle to drive on the lane

When two lanes merge, without road markings then whom ever is in the lead has right of way.

Bicycle Paths

239. Pedestrians on a bicycle path or separated footpath

(1) A pedestrian must not be on a bicycle path, or a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles, unless the pedestrian—

(a) is crossing the bicycle path or separated footpath by the shortest safe route; and

(b) does not stay on the bicycle path or separated footpath for longer than necessary to cross the bicycle path or separated footpath safely.

(2) However, a pedestrian may be on a bicycle path, or a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles, if—

(a) the pedestrian is—

(i) in or pushing a wheelchair; or

(ii) on rollerblades, rollerskates or a similar wheeled recreational device; and

(b) there is no traffic control device, or information on or with a traffic control device, applying to the bicycle path or separated footpath that indicates that the pedestrian is not permitted to be on the bicycle path or the part of the separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles.

Note 2 Rule 243(2) provides that a person travelling on rollerblades, rollerskates, or a similar wheeled recreational device, on a bicycle path, or a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles, must keep out of the path of any bicycle.

(3) A pedestrian who is crossing a bicycle path, or a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles, must keep out of the path of any bicycle, or any pedestrian who is permitted under subrule (2) to be on the bicycle path, or the part of the separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles.

288. Driving on a path

(1) A driver (except the rider of a bicycle) must not drive on a path, unless subrule (2) or (3) applies to the driver.

(2) A driver may drive on a path if the driver is—

(a) driving on a part of the path indicated by information on or with a traffic control device as a part where vehicles may drive; or

(b) driving on the path to enter or leave, by the shortest practicable route, a road related area or adjacent land and there is not a part of the path indicated by information on or with a traffic control device as a part where vehicles may drive; or

(c) engaged in the delivery of postal articles for or on behalf of Australia Post and—

(i) gives way to all pedestrians; and

(ii) takes adequate precautions to avoid collision with or danger or obstruction to any person or thing on or adjacent to the path; and

(iii) the vehicle is a bicycle or a motor cycle with an engine capacity not exceeding 110cc; and

(iv) the vehicle does not exceed a speed of 7 kilometres per hour while ridden on a path; and

(v) the vehicle is not ridden on a path within 5 metres of a shop, elderly citizens' or disabled persons' centre or a kindergarten or centre for pre-school children.

(3) A driver may drive a motorised wheelchair on a path if—

(a) the unladen mass of the wheelchair is not over 110 kilograms; and

(b) the wheelchair is not travelling over 10 kilometres per hour; and

(c) because of the driver's physical condition, the driver has a reasonable need to use a wheelchair.

(4) A driver on a path (except the rider of a bicycle, or a driver driving on the path to enter a road from a road related area or adjacent land, or to enter a road related area or adjacent land from a road) must give way to all other road users, and to animals, on the path.

Note 2 For this subrule, **give way** means the driver must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision—

(5) This rule does not apply to the rider of an animal riding the animal on a footpath.

This section relates to other vehicles and not bicycles:-

Vehicles cannot drive on a path

Unless

A/ there is a sign allowing it

B/ can drive directly from a property across a path onto a road.

289. Driving on a nature strip

(1) A driver must not drive on a nature strip adjacent to a length of road in a built-up area, unless the driver is—

(a) entering or leaving, by the shortest practicable route, an area on the nature strip indicated by information on or with a traffic control device as an area where vehicles may drive; or

(b) driving on a part of the nature strip indicated by information on or with a traffic control device as a part where vehicles may drive; or

(c) driving on the nature strip to enter or leave, by the shortest practicable route, a road related area or adjacent land and there is not a part of the nature strip indicated by information on or with a traffic control device as a part where vehicles may drive; or

(d) riding a bicycle or animal, except if the Council prohibits the riding of bicycles or animals on the nature strip;

(e) driving a ride-on lawnmower that is cutting grass on the nature strip; or

Okay to ride a bike on a naturestrip providing there is no council by-law.

Opening Doors

269. Opening doors and getting out of a vehicle etc.

(3) A person must not cause a hazard to any person or vehicle by opening a door of a vehicle, leaving a door of a vehicle open, or getting off, or out of, a vehicle.

Giving Way to Police Vehicles

r78. Keeping clear of police and emergency vehicles

(1) A driver must not move into the path of an approaching police or emergency vehicle that is displaying a flashing blue or red light (whether or not it is also displaying other lights) or sounding an alarm.

(2) If a driver is in the path of an approaching police or emergency vehicle that is displaying a flashing blue or red light (whether or not it is also displaying other lights) or sounding an alarm, the driver must move out of the path of the vehicle as soon as the driver can do so safely.

79. Giving way to police and emergency vehicles

(1) A driver must give way to a police or emergency vehicle that is displaying a flashing blue or red light (whether or not it is also displaying other lights) or sounding an alarm.

Bicycle Accidents

287. Duties of a driver involved in an accident

(1) If owing to the presence of a vehicle (other than a motor vehicle) an accident occurs whereby any person is injured or any property (including any animal) is damaged or destroyed, the driver of the vehicle—

(a) must immediately stop the vehicle; and
(b) must immediately render such assistance as he or she can; and

(c) must at the scene of the accident as soon as possible give his or her name and address and also the name and address of the owner of the vehicle and the identifying number of the vehicle—

(i) to any person who has been injured or to the owner of any property which has been damaged or destroyed; or

(ii) to a person representing the injured person or the owner of the property; and

(d) must at the scene of the accident as soon as possible give those names and addresses to any police officer who is present; and

(e) if any person is injured and no police officer is present at the scene of the accident, must as soon as possible report in person full particulars of the accident at the police station that is most accessible from the scene of the accident if that station is open and, if it is not open, at the next most accessible station; and

(f) if any property is damaged or destroyed and neither the owner of the property nor any person representing the owner nor any police officer is present at the scene of the accident, must as soon as possible report in person full particulars of the accident at the police station that is most accessible from the scene of the accident if that station is open and, if it is not open, at the next most accessible station.

This is for bicycle accidents where someone else's property is damaged or someone is injured.

If a motor vehicle is involved in an accident, then the duties of the driver are almost identical and is therefore not duplicated. Duties of a motor vehicle driver are found in the Road Safety Act, section 61.

Bicycle Registration

Your local Crime Prevention Officer will have engravers. The practice these days is to engrave the owners licence number preceded by a V (If they have a Victorian Licence). If it is a child or other person who does not hold an Australian licence, then that of a parent, good friend should be engraved on the bike beneath the Centre Bracket (Beneath the pedals).

Skateboards & Rollerblades

Wheeled recreational device

means a wheeled device, built to transport a person, propelled by human power or gravity, and ordinarily used for recreation or play, and—

- (a) includes **rollerblades, rollerskates, a skateboard** or similar wheeled device; but
- (b) does not include a golf buggy, pram, stroller or trolley, or a bicycle, wheelchair or wheeled toy.

A wheeled recreation device are roller-blades & skateboards

Wheeled Toy:

Means a child's pedal car, scooter or tricycle or a similar toy, but only when it is being used only by a child who is under 12 years old.

Division 2—Rules for persons travelling in or on wheeled recreational devices and wheeled toys

Note 1 For the Road Rules, a person in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy is a pedestrian, not a rider—see rule 18(d). This Division contains rules that apply only to persons travelling in or on wheeled recreational devices and wheeled toys.

Note 2 **Wheeled recreational device** and **wheeled toy** are defined in the dictionary.

So the rider of a skateboard, roller-blades or childs' toy are classified as PEDESTRIANS.

240. Wheeled recreational devices and toys not to be used on certain roads

(1) A person must not travel in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy on a road with a dividing line or median strip, or on a one-way road with more than 1 marked lane.

(2) A person must not travel in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy on a length of road to which a speed-limit of more than 60 kilometres per hour applies.

Which means cannot ride skateboards/ rollerblades, children on scooters & tricycles on main type road only on roads without white lines and with a speed limit of 60km/h or less. These roads are your typical residential area roads.

241. Travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or toy on a road

(1) A person travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy on a road—

- (a) must keep as far to the left side of the road as is practicable; and
- (b) must not travel alongside more than 1 other pedestrian or vehicle travelling on the road in the same direction as the person, unless the person is overtaking other pedestrians.

242. Travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or toy on a footpath or shared path

(1) A person travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy **on a footpath** or shared path must—

- (a) keep to the left of the footpath or shared path unless it is impracticable to do so; and
- (b) give way to any pedestrian (except a person travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy) who is on the footpath or shared path.

Note 2 For this rule, **give way** means the person must slow down and, if necessary, stop to avoid a collision

Note 3 Bicycle riders on footpaths and shared paths must give way to persons travelling in or on wheeled recreational devices or toys, as well as other pedestrians—see rule 250(2).

(2) A **shared path** is an area open to the public (except a separated footpath) that is designated for, or has as one of its main uses, use by both the riders of bicycles and pedestrians, and includes a length of path for use by both bicycles and pedestrians beginning at a **shared path sign** and ending at the nearest of the following—

- (a) an **end shared path sign**;
- (b) a **no bicycles sign** or no bicycles road marking;
- (c) a **bicycle path sign**;
- (d) a road (except a road related area);
- (e) the end of the path.

243. Travelling on rollerblades etc. on a bicycle path or separated footpath

(1) A person travelling on rollerblades, rollerskates, or a similar wheeled recreational device, must not be on a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of pedestrians unless the person—

- (a) is crossing the separated footpath by the shortest safe route; and
- (b) does not stay on the separated footpath for longer than necessary to cross the separated footpath safely.

(2) A person travelling on rollerblades, rollerskates, or a similar wheeled recreational device, on a bicycle path, or a part of a separated footpath designated for the use of bicycles, **must keep out of the path of any bicycle**.

244. Holding onto a moving vehicle

A person travelling in or on a wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy must not hold onto a vehicle while the vehicle is moving.

Keep to left rule when riding rollerblades, skateboards on a footpath & give way to pedestrians.

Roller-bladers & skateboarders must stay off the pedestrian lane on a path which has bike and Pedestrian lanes marked.

On a bike path, rollerbladers, skateboarders give way to bicycles

Rollerbladers & skateboarders cannot be towed by a bicycle or any other vehicle.