

I am a daily commuter on multi-lane roads. A recurring problem is that motorists are unaware that they must, under the Australian Road Rules, move completely into the adjoining lane when overtaking a cyclist. Refer to Australian Road Rule 144. Perhaps you could email the below to the prosecuting police officers, or if not, to the athletes affected who can themselves approach the police?

#### MOTORISTS MUST OVERTAKE CYCLISTS IN THE ADJOINING LANE

Sharing the roads with motorists means that they often fly past at 60 kmh plus only a few centimetres from your elbow. This is unlawful. Motorists must move to the adjacent lane to overtake.

The dictionary to the Australian Road Rules makes it clear that overtaking means moving into an adjacent marked lane or line of traffic and passing the other driver while travelling in the adjacent marked lane or line of traffic.

Road Rule 144 prohibits overtaking motorists from returning to the marked lane or line of traffic where a cyclist is travelling until the driver is a sufficient distance past the cyclist to avoid a collision or obstructing the cyclist's path.

Relevant extracts from the Road Rules are below.

#### *Australian Road Rules*

Keeping left, overtaking and other driving rules Part 11  
Overtaking Division 3

#### **144 Keeping a safe distance when overtaking**

A driver overtaking a vehicle:

(a) must pass the vehicle at a sufficient distance to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle; and

(b) must not return to the marked lane or line of traffic where the vehicle is travelling until the driver is a sufficient distance past the vehicle to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle.

Offence provision.

*Note* **Marked lane** and **overtake** are defined in the dictionary.

**overtake**, for a driver, means the action of:

(a) approaching from behind another driver travelling in the same marked lane or line of traffic; and

(b) moving into an adjacent marked lane or line of traffic (whether or not the lane or line of traffic is for drivers travelling in the same direction); and

(c) passing the other driver while travelling in the adjacent marked lane or line of traffic.

Kind regards

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