SC State Laws for Bicyclists

SECTION 56-5-3420. Rights and duties of bicyclists generally.
A person riding a bicycle upon a roadway must be granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except as to special provisions in this article and except as to those provisions of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

SECTION 56-5-3425. Bicycle lanes.
(A) For purposes of this section, "bicycle lane" means a portion of the roadway or a paved lane separated from the roadway that has been designated by striping, pavement markings, and signage for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists.

(B) Whenever a bicycle lane has been provided adjacent to a roadway, operators of:
(1) motor vehicles may not block the bicycle lane to oncoming bicycle traffic and shall yield to a bicyclist in the bicycle lane before entering or crossing the lane; and
(2) bicycles are required to ride in the bicycle lane except when necessary to pass another person riding a bicycle or to avoid an obstruction in the bicycle lane. However, bicyclists may ride on the roadway when there is only an adjacent recreational bicycle path available instead of a bicycle lane.

SECTION 56-5-3430. Riding on roadways and bicycle paths.
(A) Except as provided in subsection (B), every bicyclist operating a bicycle upon a roadway shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable. A bicyclist may, but is not required to, ride on the shoulder of the roadway in order to comply with the requirements of this subsection.

(B) A bicyclist may ride in a lane other than the right-hand lane if only one lane is available that permits the bicyclist to continue on his intended route.

(C) When operating a bicycle upon a roadway, a bicyclist must exercise due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

(D) Bicyclists riding bicycles upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

SECTION 56-5-3460. Carrying articles.
A bicyclist operating a bicycle may not carry any package, bundle, or article that prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handle bars.

SECTION 56-5-3480. Signaling turns; penalty.
(A)(1) A bicyclist shall indicate a right turn by extending the left arm upward, by raising the left arm to the square, or by extending the right arm horizontally to the right.

(2) A bicyclist shall indicate a left turn by extending the left arm horizontally.

(3) A bicyclist shall indicate stopping or decreasing speed by extending the left arm or the right arm downward.

(B) A bicyclist is not required to give signals provided for in subsection (A) continuously if the hand or arm is needed to control the bicycle.

(C) A violation of this section is punishable by a fine of twenty-five dollars.

Various Road Signs

City of Myrtle Beach
Police Department
1101 Oak Street
843-918-1000
What You Need to Know

- Bicyclists riding on the roadway must travel in the extreme right lane in the direction of the traffic—not against it!
- Whenever possible, bicyclists should ride on bike paths or designated bicycle lanes, such as those located on Mr. Joe White Avenue or Ocean Boulevard.
- Bicyclists must obey all road signs and traffic signals, and must give turn signals just as motorists do.
- Bicyclists are allowed to ride on multi-use paths 8 feet or wider, designed for a combination of bicycle and pedestrian traffic, such as those parallel to Robert Grissom Parkway.
- Bicyclists should not disregard the rights of pedestrians and motorists—respect them just as you want them to respect you.
- It is illegal to ride through a pedestrian crosswalk. Climb off the bike and walk your bicycle across the road.
- A bicyclist riding in the dark must have a headlight on the front of the bicycle and a red reflector on the rear.
- Never carry additional passengers on a bicycle!
- Watch motorist carefully! They may be talking on a cell phone, texting, or eating. Do not text or talk on the phone, wear head sets or ear buds while riding your bicycle!
- Protect your head. Wear a helmet!

Ride Safely! Go with the Flow!

Motorists turning from driveways and intersections look for a clearing in on-coming traffic before making the turn. Bicyclists riding against the flow of traffic will not be seen, and can cause a deadly crash.

If you are involved in an accident, never leave the scene.

If there is an injury call 911 immediately.

If there is no injury the accident still needs to be reported. Call the police at (843) 918-1367.

Turn Signals

- Left Turn
- Right Turn
- Stop

- LEFT TURN
- RIGHT TURN
- STOP