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The Street Legal Question

By Ted Belfour

One of the most common questions to pop up from people looking to purchase a pocket bike for the first time is whether or not they are street legal. The general answer is no, and pocket bike racers point out that pocket bikes were never designed for street use, they were designed for track racing. Because of the diminutive size of pocket bikes, they are dangerous to use on public roads because many drivers can not see the bikes. Yet, because of the speed they can reach, too many people either assume they are legal to use on public streets, or just ignore the rules.

Pocket bikes are legal to own and race, but they are designed for private property or race tracks. Some states have gone to extreme measures to reinforce this point. Pocket bikes became major political issues in both Utah and Pennsylvania after individuals were badly hurt after an accident on a public street. Both states passed laws specifically banning those vehicles from public streets. Sections of California have taken the same steps.

Part of this response is due to the large increase in pocket bike sales. There are so many more pocket bikes around then even a few years back. Unfortunately, with the increase in pocket bikes, there is also a rise in the improper use of pocket bikes. These were designed for private property, and for racing, and are perfectly acceptable for both, but public streets were meant for basic transportation.

So the long and short of the street legal question is that pocket bikes are not street legal. Even in states where the rules are not specifically stated, pocket bikes are still technically not street legal because they are not designed for license plates, turn signals, and lights. Even if your state has not specifically passed laws banning their use on public streets, it is still a good idea to use the pocket bikes properly. Because of their small size and large speed, the pocket bikes can lead to bad accidents if used improperly, or even if there are used properly, accidents happen and it's better to be with the ground than with a car. Play it safe, and pocket bikes can be a fun, accident-free fun.

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<http://super-pocket-bike-sale.info>

a website that provides information on pocket

bike racing

Racing and the Street– A Deadly Combination

By Chris Alexander

Street Racing seems like the most affordable way to get the automotive adrenaline rush all us enthusiasts crave. What member of America's youth doesn't get off to hot girls, fast cars, and free rides? What seems like fun and games to some, however, is serious business to others. Not only is racing on public streets illegal in all 50 states, it is the most dangerous and selfish act the youth of today is getting involved in.

Taking off after WWII when the youth returning from war had extra money and a need for speed to go with their new mechanical know-how, street racing quickly evolved into one of America's top killers in today's society. Inspired and revived by the Fast and the Furious movies, street racing has contributed to a frightening level of fatal crashes. Fatal crashes related to street racing has increased by more than 85% every year for the past 6 years. From 1999 to 2000, San Diego, CA has seen an increase of 97% of fatal crashes caused by street racing. Still sound like fun and games?

In the state of Florida, pedestrian injuries related to street racing has increased by 222% from 1999 to 2001. The leading cause of death for people ages 16–20 is automobile accidents. National averages show that for every 1000 street racers, there are 49 innocent by-standers who are injured or killed. So why do kids street race?

In the state of Florida, pedestrian injuries related to street racing has increased by 222% from 1999 to 2001. The leading cause of death for people ages 16–20 is automobile accidents. National averages show that for every 1000 street racers, there are 49 innocent by-standers who are injured or killed. So why do kids street race?

The average consequences for street racing are:

You will be arrested and have your car impounded for 30 days.

You will be arrested and have your car (or your parent's car!) permanently confiscated.

You can be imprisoned for up to three months and fined up to \$1,000.

Your driver's license will be revoked.

Your car insurance rates will increase or you can be cancelled.

So America's youth still thinks drag racing is a more simple way to get the automotive high? All you need to race on an NHRA track is:

Valid driver's license

Valid vehicle registration and insurance

DOT-approved street legal tires

Seat belts

Muffler

You need this stuff to ride on the street too! So the hard-ass, ignorant street racers out there need to save up 20 bucks and enjoy the legal and exciting atmosphere at their local drag strip.

This article was written by Chris Alexander of

<http://www.moddedmustangs.com/>

Modded Mustangs. If

you have any further questions about Mustangs you can ask in their

<http://www.moddedmustangs.com/forums/>

Mustang Forums. As always, be safe and courteous to those

you share the road with.



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