



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON ITALY  
UNIT 31401, BOX 42  
APO AE 09630

IMIT-SO

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) Italy Policy Letter #24, Pedestrian, Bicycling, In-Line Skating, Skateboarding, and Roller Shoes Safety

1. References:

- a. Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 6055.04, DoD Traffic Safety Program
- b. Army Regulation (AR) 385-10 The Army Safety Program
- c. IMCOM Regulation 385-10, Safety Program

2. Purpose:

- a. Establish pedestrian safety requirements on post.
- b. Establish the requirements for operating bicycles on or off base.
- c. Establish requirements and restrictions for in-line skating, skateboarding or similar devices and the use of roller shoes on and off post.
- d. Establish restrictions for use of headphones, earphones and other listening devices.
- e. Establish road restrictions for Darby Military Community.

3. Applicability: This policy applies to all personnel assigned or operating within the Vicenza Military Community (VMC) and Darby Military Community (DMC) to include, Military personnel, DoD Civilians, Family members, and contractors within the USAG Italy area of responsibility (AOR).

4. Policy:

- a. Pedestrians.

(1) Pedestrians will use sidewalks when walking along post roads and streets in order to separate pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic to the maximum extent possible.

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(2) Pedestrians will walk facing traffic on/off post when sidewalks are unavailable.

(3) Pedestrians will cross roads and streets at the nearest marked crosswalk. When crosswalks are not available, pedestrians will cross the road at a right angle when traffic is clear in both directions.

(4) Pedestrians are encouraged to wear highly visible or reflective material when walking in periods of darkness or reduced visibility.

(5) Joggers/runners will wear highly visible or reflective material when running in periods of darkness or reduced visibility.

(6) Units conducting organized physical training (PT) will conduct a risk assessment to select routes and useable areas with lowest risk.

(7) Runners should carry their identification cards on them while running on and off post. This is to identify personnel in case of an accident.

b. Bicycles.

(1) Bicycle helmets. All personnel, including Family members, who ride bicycles on Army installations will wear bicycle helmets approved by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Previously purchased bicycle helmets certified by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) may also be worn but when purchasing a new helmet, riders must purchase CPSC certified helmets. Outside CONUS riders may wear HN helmets if the helmet meets or exceeds CPSC standards.

(2) The Advanced Combat Helmet (ACH) and/or hard hat is not approved for use as a bicycle helmet.

(3) Bicycle riders must wear helmets that fit properly and must have the chinstraps fastened. Children/infants riding on the same bicycle or riding in a bicycle trailer must also wear a helmet and use chinstraps.

(4) Bicycles must be maintained in accordance with (IAW) Italian Law (Codice Della Strada). This law requires bicycles to be equipped with a working head lamp (yellow or white), tail light (red), rear reflector (red) below rear light, pedal reflectors (yellow), wheel reflectors (white) and a bell.

(5) High visibility/reflective clothing (PT Belt, Vest, or other clothing having reflective material) is recommended to be worn at night, or during periods of limited visibility. The same type of clothing is recommended during daylight to assist in recognitions from other vehicle traffic.

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(6) The riding of bicycles on any sidewalk within the installation is prohibited. This provision does not apply to parents of young children and children learning to ride bicycles.

(7) Bicyclists will ride in the same direction as vehicular traffic when possible.

c. In-Line Skating (Rollerblading), Skateboarding or Similar Devices On and Off Post.

(1) Community streets and parking lots are not authorized for skateboarding, trick bikes, in-line skating, or similar devices. The Vicenza Community Skate Park is located in Villaggio Housing Area. The Skate Park is the ONLY approved site for skateboarding or similar devices, in-line skating, or trick bikes within the VMC. The Community Skate Park is adjacent to the Villaggio above ground swimming pool, is isolated from street traffic, and contains approximately 5000 square feet of space to conduct various in-line skating, skateboard, and trick bike activities.

(2) Soldiers, DoD civilians, retirees, their dependents, and guests are eligible to use the Skate Park. Skate Park rules and safety requirements must be followed at all times and are posted on the Skate Park entrance.

(3) The use of protective gear is mandatory. Helmets with chin straps fastened, knee pads, wrist guards and elbow guards will be worn by all individuals using the skate park. Head injuries are the number one cause of disabling injuries for skaters.

(4) In-line skating (rollerblading) or skateboarding is not authorized on Italian roads. Italian Law (Article 190/8-9-10) prohibits in-line skating or skateboarding on Italian roads. When conducting these activities at approved locations off post, all traffic signals, signs, and devices must be obeyed. Approved helmets and protective gear must be worn at all times and reflective garments must be worn during periods of reduced visibility.

d. Roller Shoes and Hover Boards. The use of roller shoes such as roller shoes marketed by Heelys, Inc. and hover boards or similar devices in any public or official building within the USAG Italy area of responsibility or the Community Skate Park in Villaggio is prohibited.

e. The road from Camp Darby to Tirrenia (Viale Mezzapiaggia/Via Pisorno) is off-limits during darkness to walking, running, bicycling, in-line skating, skateboarding or similar devices and use of roller shoes. During day light hours the use of motor vehicle to travel this road is highly encouraged.

f. Headphones and Earphones. IAW DoDI 6055.04, the use of portable headphones, earphones, cellular phones, or other listening and entertainment devices

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(other than hearing aids) while walking, jogging, running, bicycling, skating, or skateboarding/similar devices on VMC/DMC roadways is prohibited. These devices impair senses and mask or prevent recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, approaching vehicles, and human speech.

5. Point of contact for this Garrison Policy is the Safety Office at DSN 634-8109/7045 and email at: [usarmy.usag-italy.imcom-europe.mbx.usag-italy-safety-office@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.usag-italy.imcom-europe.mbx.usag-italy-safety-office@mail.mil).

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