

EuroBasket 2009 Declaration for Road Safety - *Because a true champion respects the rules of the game*

Could you imagine playing a game of basketball without rules?
Or could you imagine playing a game of basketball with only some people following the rules?
It would hardly be a fair game, would it?

The same goes for the road.
Could you imagine driving without having traffic rules? And what if people didn't follow those rules?
Can you imagine having to pay the price of someone else cheating in traffic? Like becoming disabled for the rest of your life because a drunken person hit you... How fair would that be?

As official representatives of basketball we know that without respect for the rules, there would be chaos.
We know that if people cheat, the game is unfair.

But the consequences of not following the rules on the road are much more severe and sadly, many people do not play by the rules when they get behind the wheel.

As part of a touring operation, the basketball community frequently travels by road and as such we are exposed to varying traffic conditions from country to country.

The legendary basketball player Radivoj Korać died in a car accident in Sarajevo in 1969 at the age of 30. More recently, Dražen Petrović died four months before his 29th birthday when the car he was travelling in crashed on the Autobahn in Germany in 1993.

1.2 million people die in road traffic crashes every year worldwide. Millions more are injured and disabled. But these are not accidents. They are events that can be prevented through daily action and awareness. Our aim is to engage society in this struggle and to encourage respect for the rules of the road.

Regulations exist to help road users avoid loss of life, health and property. Individuals often do not recognize the importance of complying with road rules, thinking that a mistake, a minor "bending" of the rules or a lapse in judgment affects only them. Sadly, this is rarely the case.

What does it mean to respect road safety? Following 7 simple rules!

It has been proved beyond any doubt, time and time again, that these 7 simple rules save lives.

Foul play always ends up hurting someone. Be a champion: respect the rules and respect life!



7 Rules of Road Safety

- X Don't use mobile phones while driving**
- X Don't drive whilst under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs**
- ! Keep to the speed limit**
- ! Share the road safely with pedestrians and cyclists**
- ✓ Wear seatbelts - every day, every time, both in the front and back of the car**
- ✓ Use approved child restraint systems**
- ✓ Wear approved helmets while riding two-wheelers**



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