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VA Rider Training Program

February 25, 2015

Suzuki GW 250

Has anyone used the Suzuki GW 250 in their classes and how do they do?

MARYLAND

Bruce,

Is it as cold down there as it is up here? Last weekend I think I saw a Polar Bear in Western MD.

The GW looks like a sport bike? Doesn't seem to be too radical, but until now I never heard of it.

Are you replacing your fleet or just replacing a few bikes with something different?

~Phil Sause

IDAHO

Hi Bruce,

We have not used the GWs in Idaho although we had the opportunity to purchase a couple at a screaming deal. After looking at them, we were concerned about the cost of maintenance - namely repairs after tip-overs or crashes. They have a substantial amount of plastic that would get damaged in a tip-over or crash, the turn signals are hard mounted to the faring, and more significantly, they are water-cooled and without some kind of tip-over protection, we were unsure about how the radiator would fare in a training environment where they could be dropped frequently. The upside is that they are a snazzy looking little bike.

I'd be very curious to hear others' comments if they are using them.

~Sunshine Beer

MISSOURI

I looked at them when they first came out. Like Sunshine my biggest concern was tipover damage. The headlight is a bulging, buggy thing that will likely be the first thing to contact the ground . . . after the clutch/brake lever. Oregon hasn't used headlights on their bikes for ages so I considered removing the light. Alas, the headlight and bezel are molded into the instrument cluster.

If someone does try them I would love to know how they hold up. As

previously said, they're a great looking bike and affordable 250s are getting harder and harder to find.

~Ray Pierce
