

WANT TO RIDE SAFELY? HERE'S HOW...

1. At a ride event, there will be a "sign-in". Make sure you sign in before you leave and check-in when you finish the ride. This lets the ride sponsor know you have completed the ride safely.
2. Cyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as other vehicles. And, we are required to adhere to the same laws and regulations.
 - A. Obey all traffic laws because a bicycle is a vehicle.
 - B. Heed all signs because they apply to us as well.
3. Ride to the right, a couple feet from the edge of the road. Take only the room you need.
4. Ride single file except when passing.
5. Pass on the left only.
 - A. Always check behind you to be sure it's clear to pass
 - B. Signal and yell out "on your left" as you pass.
6. Use hand signals and try to make eye contact with drivers before turning.
7. If you stop, move yourself and your bike off the road.
8. Leave plenty of space between you and the next rider, especially at the start. If your front wheel overlaps the wheel in front of you, you will be the one to go down.
9. Avoid sudden movements and quick stops because they distract the rider behind you and can cause a crash. If a sudden action is necessary, make sure you let the other cyclists know what you are doing such as "slowing" when you are reducing your speed.
10. Ride at your own pace because this is a tour and not a race.
11. In case of rain the roads will be slick and your braking ability reduced.
 - A. You may need 2 to 3 times the normal distance to stop
 - B. Brake lightly, using the front brake less than the rear.
 - C. Pay special attention to manhole covers, painted markings and wet leaves. Don't brake, turn or accelerate on these surfaces because you can slide out of control.
12. When riding in groups try to be your own lookout.
 - A. Watch for cars or other cyclists approaching from the rear just the same as when you ride alone.
 - B. Don't blindly follow the rider ahead of you into an intersection.
13. Talk to your fellow cyclists. Let them know what's happening around you, around the group or an action you are planning to make.
14. Do not get into an altercation with a driver. If provoked, harassed or threatened in any manner please refrain from responding in a way that might worsen the situation.
 - A. Try to distance yourself from the offensive individual.
 - B. If possible get a license tag number.
 - C. If you have a cell phone, call 911 for a law enforcement officer to come right away.
15. Please make sure you have a properly inspected and operating bicycle. This will be the best way to have a safe, fun and trouble-free cycling event.
16. Drink plenty of fluids. Drink plenty of fluids. Drink PLENTY of fluids.