

Speed River Cycling Club

CLUB RIDE RULES

We have had numerous inquiries regarding the “rules” to be followed during our club rides. This document will hopefully answer those questions.

As part of our affiliation with the Ontario Cycling Association there are numerous requirements that must be met to ensure our insurance coverage and club affiliation remain valid. These requirements, plus the requirements of our club constitution, form the basis for the “rules” to be followed during our club rides.

It is important that **all club members**, and not just the ride coordinators, be aware of and follow these rules.

These rules are summarized as follows, with additional explanation provided below:

RIDE RULE SUMMARY:

1. only SRCC club members can participate in club rides (this rule will be strictly enforced, as it affects our insurance coverage with the OCA)
2. all participants must abide by the SRCC Risk Management Plan and the Highway Traffic Act
3. helmets must be worn at all times
4. members are responsible for bringing enough food, water, tools, and supplies to last for the entire ride
5. all bicycles must be in good working order
6. rides may be cancelled due to inclement weather
7. all club rides must be appropriately planned and reported to the OCA in advance as per the OCA 2006 Insurance Guidelines (i.e. there shall not be impromptu club rides)

EXPLANATION:

1. The OCA requirements dictate that only Speed River Cycling Club members can participate in club activities. This requirement is spelled out clearly in two separate OCA documents (see excerpts below). This means that possessing a valid race licence, citizen's permit, or club membership card from another OCA-affiliated club does not allow someone to automatically participate in our club rides. Someone may only participate if they have paid our annual membership fee and signed the waivers.

As per item 3e below, the club will allow out-of-town riders to participate on an occasional basis **provided that approval is obtained in advance from the SRCC Executive.**

Excerpt #1 from the OCA 2006 Insurance Guidelines:

"3. Club Participation

a. Clubs must adhere to the participation rules for club activities - see attached document - *Guidelines for Club Activities*

b. **All riders participating in a club activity must be a member of the club**

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d. You join a club for various reasons - it could be that another club has activities that are different than the one you belong to. The fact that you are a member of another club does not give you an automatic right to participate in another club's activities without first joining that club.

e. A club is given latitude to determine who can participate in their activities. By all means a visiting rider from out of town should be permitted to participate in the club's

weekly ride - provided it is an occasional basis and they agree to participate under the rules that the club has established for that type of activity. The club may at its discretion charge a fee for this, after all they are receiving a benefit that other club members pay for.

f. Any club found abusing section 3(e) will find their insurance coverage and affiliation status in jeopardy"

Excerpt #2 from the OCA 2006 Guidelines for Club Activities:

"Club Activities

The basic premise for a club activity is that the activity is primarily for the benefit of the members of the club. In other words the majority of the participants must be members of the "host" club. In past years the opportunity existed for a prospective member to try 3 activities before it was required that they joined the club. **This is no longer the case. All participants in a club activity must be club members.** A club cannot modify this rule."

2. As part of our club affiliation and insurance coverage club members are to abide by the club's risk management plan. A copy of the risk management plan, as approved by the Board of Directors, is attached below.

RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

The following risk management plan documents how club activities are to be managed. These policies are to be practiced by club members, and visiting riders from other OCA/CCA/UCI affiliated clubs, during every club ride.

- Bike helmets shall be worn at all times.
- Eyewear and gloves are strongly encouraged.
- Riders must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Highway Traffic Act (Ontario).
- Riders are responsible for ensuring they are sufficiently fit for the activity they are to participate in.
- Riders are responsible for ensuring that their bicycle is in good working order.
- Riders are to ensure they have adequate supply of water, sports drink, and nutritional supplements, as required, for the activity they are to participate in.
- During "night rides" both front and rear lights are required.
- While trail riding be courteous to other trail users, and alert them of your presence before passing.

Before each club ride the designated ride coordinator will make a pre-ride announcement reminding riders of the above policies.

All accidents shall be reported to a Board Member for reporting to the OCA, and recorded on the accident report forms provided by the OCA.

If you have any further questions please let us know.

The SRCC Executive