

SILVER SPOKES CYCLING CLUB

2016 Risk Management Plan

Approved December 8 2015

General:

Each Club member shall receive a copy, electronic or otherwise, of this Risk Management Plan and a copy shall be available on the Club website.

Club Rides mean rides formally organized by the Club and as described on the Club website. Rides not listed on the Club website are not Club rides.

While on Club rides, all Club members must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. A link will be available on the website that pertains to the section on cycling of the Act.

Any Club member on a Club ride should immediately advise the Ride Leader and other members of the ride should the member feel the group or individuals in the group are riding in an unsafe manner. The member should withdraw from the ride if they feel unsafe.

All participants of the Club rides must provide proof of membership in good standing prior to each ride, if requested by the Ride Leader. If an ineligible rider insists on participating even after being asked not to, then the Club ride may proceed, however, the Ride Leader shall advise the ineligible rider, with a witness present, that he or she is ineligible and is not covered by any Club insurance and is responsible for all his/her actions.

Safety:

Bicycle helmets must be worn at all times while participating in any Club ride and other protective equipment is strongly encouraged (e.g. gloves, eye wear)

Club members are not to be under the influence of any drug or beverage product that could impair their riding judgment while on a Club ride.

Ride Leaders:

A Ride Leader will be appointed for each Club ride. The Ride Leader will identify himself/herself to the group so that everyone is aware of who is coordinating the ride. The Ride Leader may describe the general ride route, and may describe any ride segments that may have a higher level of risk, i.e. steep hills or sections of the road requiring single file riding. A brief safety tip may be provided at the commencement of the ride. Each individual group on a Club ride may not have a Ride Leader.

The Ride Leader has the final decision on all matters pertaining to the Club ride and his/her decisions must be respected by all participants. The Ride Leader may appoint a designate should the Ride Leader be unable to attend a Club ride.

Rides:

Club rides on roads will be planned to use lesser-travelled roads where possible and practical.

Club rides will not run if lightning is present and will be cancelled or shortened if lightning is sighted. Rides may also be cancelled or shortened due to other adverse weather conditions (heavy rain, fog, etc.)

When a large number of riders come out for any given Club ride, the riders will be encouraged by the Ride Leader to break into smaller groups. A size of 6 – 12 is a reasonable group. Groups should be at least 100 meters apart on the road to allow other vehicles to pass safely in two manoeuvres.

Riders must not be left behind during a Club ride unless they first confirm with the Ride Leader that they are detaching from the group. All members of the Club ride are responsible for ensuring they properly notify the Ride Leader if they are detaching from the group.

Club members are responsible for ensuring that their bicycle is in good working order before attending each Club ride.

Any and every accident on a Club ride shall be immediately reported to a Club Executive member to be reported to the Ontario Cycling Association through the proper reporting procedures. A list of Club Executives can be found on the Club website.

For non-Club members wishing to try out a Club ride, extra Provincial waiver forms will be available at the beginning of each Club ride, and the individual will be required to complete, sign, and return the waiver to the Ride Leader prior to participating in the Club ride.

Skills Development:

The Club encourages all riders to be comfortable and proficient with group riding before joining a Club ride.

New or novice members are encouraged to participate in the Learn to Ride program offered by the Club before participating in more challenging or technically advanced rides.