

BICYCLE COALITION OF MAINE



group ride guidelines

safe.

legal.

courteous.

To use as a wallet card, fold in half and fold in half again

Don't Pass on Right

Gather behind the last car in line at an intersection. Although Maine law permits a cyclist to pass cars on the right at an intersection, such behavior is discouraged in group rides as a courtesy to motorists.

Be Courteous at Intersections

Obey traffic signs and signals at intersections. At stop signs, consider moving as a single unit through intersections if all riders feel it is safe to do so. Slow and stop at yellow lights. Consider adopting a policy of stopping or slowing after intersections when the group is split.

Avoid Riding More than Two Abreast

Group riding often requires riding two abreast. While this is not illegal in Maine, please exercise your rights with courtesy.

Choose Proper Lane Positioning

Maine law permits bikes to ride in the travel lane, as far right as is practical. A rider is permitted to use the entire travel lane where hazards exist or where it is unsafe for a car and bike to travel side by side. Never cross yellow center lines. Be courteous and use the shoulder when it is safe to do so.

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Be Predictable

Look before you make a move. Riders and motorists expect you to ride in a straight line and at a consistent speed. Avoid sudden changes in speed or lane position. Scan behind and to the side before changing position.

Communicate

Clearly communicate to other riders changes in speed or direction, road hazards, pedestrians and vehicles. Call out "car back", "slowing" or "stopping" as needed. Communicate calls throughout the group. Coordinate group turns and moves.



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Don't Block Traffic at Regroups

Plan regroup points at locations away from intersections and move as far off the travel lane as possible.

Ride Smart

Be alert. Be aware of riders around you. Avoid overlapping wheels.

Be Visible

Wear bright colors. Maine law requires cyclists use lights in darkness, and they are recommended in reduced visibility conditions.

Don't be a Jerk

Being courteous and obeying traffic laws can set a good example for new group riders, and will improve how the general public views group rides.

Group Ride Guidelines are for all peloton-style training and recreational group rides. The guidelines were created by a committee of group riders including members of:

Community Cycling Club of Portland

Greater Portland Chapter, New England Mountain Bike Association

Merrymeeting Wheelers Cycling Club

Portland Velo Club

Southern Maine Cycling Club

This is YOUR Group!

If you see a person behaving inappropriately, you have the right and responsibility to speak up and talk to that person! If we don't police ourselves, the Police will!

For more information, visit

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