

Energy Cycling Club

Risk Management Plan

Preamble

Cycling can be a dangerous activity. The Energy Cycling Club (ECC) has developed this Risk Management Plan to document how ECC rides are to be managed to reduce risks associated with cycling activities. These policies are to be practiced by ECC members, and any permitted visiting riders as permitted by Ontario Cycling Association rules, during every ECC ride. All ECC members, and any permitted visiting riders, share the responsibility for making ECC rides as safe as possible.

Each ECC member shall receive a copy, electronic or otherwise of this Risk Management Plan. Any questions should be directed to the President of ECC.

Definitions

ECC Rides means rides formally organized by the ECC and as described on the ECC Facebook site. Rides not listed on the ECC Facebook site are not ECC rides.

ECC Trails means the mountain bike trails in the Regional Municipality of Niagara (including Shorthills Provincial Park).

ECC Incorporation

- As of the creation of this plan, ECC is incorporated.

ECC Insurance

- The ECC annually purchases General Liability Insurance coverage through the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA) for each ECC member. General Liability Insurance is designed to protect a person (member) or any entity (Province, Club, Canadian Cycling Association) against any legal responsibility arising out of a negligent act or failure to act as a prudent person would have acted, which results in bodily injury or property damage to another party. ECC members should familiarize themselves with the terms of the insurance coverage. The coverage details may be accessed through the OCA website.

The ECC must receive signed insurance waivers from each ECC member; membership is not assigned or granted until a signed waiver is received by the ECC.

Standards of Care

This Risk Management Plan and all ECC programs and rides shall adhere to the following, as applicable:

- UCI, CCA, OCA rules and regulations as they pertain to Club Rides.
- Ontario Highway Traffic Act
While on ECC Rides, all ECC members must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. The Ontario Highway Traffic Act is available here:
http://www.elaws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90h08_e.htm

Risk Management

General:

- All members of the ECC are responsible for bringing forward to the ECC Board any safety issues related to ECC Rides or the ECC Trails which present themselves throughout the riding season.
- While on ECC Rides, all ECC members must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Ontario Highway Traffic Act.
- Any ECC member on an ECC Ride should immediately advise the ride coordinator(s) 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 ECC Rides must provide proof of membership in good standing prior to each ride, if requested by the ride coordinator. If an ineligible rider insists on participating even after being asked not to, then the ECC Ride may proceed, however, the ride coordinator shall advise the ineligible rider, with a witness present, that he or she is ineligible and is not covered by any ECC insurance and is responsible for all his/ her actions.
- Each ECC Ride participant will conduct themselves in a responsible manner and retains liability for their own actions.

Ride Coordinators

- A ride coordinator(s) will be appointed by the ECC Board for each ECC Ride. The ride coordinator will identify himself/herself to the group so that everyone is aware of who is coordinating the ride. The ride coordinator may describe the general ride

route, and may provide a brief safety tip at the commencement of the ride. Each individual group on a ECC Ride may not have a coordinator.

- The ride coordinator(s) has the final decision on all matters pertaining to the ECC Ride and his/her decisions must be respected by all participants. The rider coordinator may appoint a designate should the ride coordinator be unable to attend a ECC Ride.
- Ride coordinators will carry cell phones for emergency use on all ECC Rides and, from time to time, will remind riders to carry their own cell phones on ECC Rides. Riders should immediately call 911 in the event of an emergency.

Rides

- ECC Rides on roads will be planned to use lesser- traveled roads where possible and practical.
- ECC Rides will not run if lightning is present and will be cancelled if lightning is sighted.
- When a large number of riders come out for any given ECC ride, the riders will be encouraged by the ride coordinator to break into smaller groups. A size of 6-12 is a reasonable group. Groups should be at least 100 metres apart on the road to allow other vehicles to pass safely in two manoeuvres.
- Riders must not be left behind during an ECC Ride unless they first confirm with the ride coordinator(s) that they are detaching from the group; all members of the ECC Ride are responsible for ensuring they properly notify the ride coordinator(s) if they are detaching from the group.
- ECC members are responsible for ensuring that their bicycle is in good working order before attending each ECC Ride.
- Bicycle helmets must be worn at all times while participating in any ECC ride and other protective equipment is strongly encouraged (e.g., gloves, eye wear).
- Front and rear lights are required during any ECC Ride which takes place one half hour before sunset and/ or which may extend into darkness.
- While trail riding all riders must be courteous and considerate of other trail users and the trail system.
- ECC members are responsible for ensuring they are sufficiently fit for their desired activity.
- ECC members are responsible for bringing sufficient liquids and food, as required, for each ECC Ride, as well as appropriate tools/ spare tubes, etc.

- ECC members are not to be under the influence of any drug or beverage product that could impair their riding judgment while on a ECC Ride.
- Any and every accident on an ECC Ride shall be immediately reported to a ECC Board member to be reported to the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA) through the proper reporting procedures and forms provided by the OCA. The list of Board members can be found on the ECC Facebook site.
- For non-ECC riders wishing to try out a ECC Ride, extra OCA waiver forms will be available at the beginning of each ECC Ride, and the individual will be required to complete, sign, and return the waiver to the ride coordinator(s) prior to participating in the ECC Ride.

Skills Development

- The ECC encourages all riders to be comfortable and proficient with group riding before joining a ECC ride.
- To support rider skills development, the ECC will periodically hold skills development programs for road riding and/ or mountain biking and encourages all ECC members to attend these programs and / or other cycling skills courses.
- Riders may be requested to complete a skills development program before attending or continuing to attend regular scheduled ECC rides. This applies for both road and off-road ECC rides.
- New or novice member are encouraged to participate in the Learn to Ride programs offered by the ECC before participating in more challenging or technically advanced rides.

Review and Approval

This policy is reviewed annually.

This policy was approved by the Energy Cycling Club Executive.

This policy went into effect on February 2017

- Established: February 2017