



Bicycle Wagga Wagga Inc.

Group Ride Guidelines

Version 1.0

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Introduction

Bicycle Wagga Wagga (BWW) group rides are a fantastic way to enjoy the outdoors, meet new people, and improve your fitness. To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all, it's important to follow established guidelines that reflect Australian road rules, cycling etiquette, and local customs.

1. Pre-Ride Preparation

- **Check Your Bike:** Ensure your bike is in good working order. Check tyres, brakes, chain, and lights.
- **Wear a Helmet:** It's mandatory to wear an Australian Standards-approved helmet at all times when riding.
- **Bring Essentials:** Carry water, snacks, a spare tube, tyre levers, pump or CO2 inflator, and a basic tool kit.
- **Dress Appropriately:** Wear visible, weather-appropriate clothing. Bright colours and reflective gear are recommended, especially for early morning or afternoon rides.
- **Lights and Visibility:** Use front and rear lights when riding in low light or at night. Reflectors are required by law after dark.
- **Know the Route:** Familiarise yourself with the planned route, including meeting points, rest stops (like a local service station or cafe), and the expected pace.
- **Rider Capability:** All participants must assess their own suitability to ride given the weather conditions and are responsible for their own safety.

2. Group Riding Etiquette

- **Obey Road Rules:** Cyclists must follow the same rules as motorists. This includes stopping at red lights, giving way where required, and using hand signals.
- **Ride Two Abreast:** Australian law allows riders to travel two abreast, no more than 1.5 metres apart. Be considerate and move to single file on narrow or busy roads.



- **Communicate Clearly:** Use hand signals and call out hazards (e.g., “hole!”, “car back!”, “stopping!”). Pass messages up and down the group.
- **Hold Your Line:** Ride predictably without sudden swerves or braking. Maintain a steady pace and avoid overlapping wheels.
- **Respect Others:** Be courteous to other road users, including motorists, pedestrians, and other cyclists. Give way to walkers on footpaths and shared paths where required.
- **Group Size:** For safety and to avoid obstructing traffic, groups should be manageable—ideally 10–20 riders. Split larger groups, leaving a gap between bunches.
- **Ride Leader:** The ride leader is responsible for making the final decision regarding ride modification, postponement or cancellation.
- **“No Drop”:** All group ride participants will adhere to the “No Drop” etiquette whereby no rider is left behind.

3. Safety and Incident Management

- **Be Prepared:** At least one rider should carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, and emergency contact details.
- **Look Out for Each Other:** If a member has a mechanical issue or feels unwell, the group should stop safely and assist.
- **In Case of Emergency:** Move off the road and call 000 if necessary. Stay with the affected rider until help arrives.
- **Riders departing the Ride:** Riders choosing to leave the ride must advise the Ride Leader and are responsible for their own safety.
- **First Aid Kit(s):** All Rider Leaders (whether the designated Ride Leader for the ride or not) are expected to carry their First Aid Kit on all BWW rides.

4. Environmental and Community Considerations

- **Leave No Trace:** Don’t litter. Take all rubbish with you, including food wrappers and punctured tubes.
- **Respect Local Areas:** Be mindful of noise, especially in residential areas during early morning rides.
- **Give Back:** Support local businesses, such as cafes and service stations, along the route where possible.



5. After the Ride

- **Socialise Safely:** If gathering post-ride, choose venues that are bike-friendly and observe local health guidelines if applicable.
- **Provide Feedback:** Share any concerns or suggestions for future rides with the ride coordinator.

6. Useful Resources

- [Bicycle Network Australia](#)
- [AusCycling](#)
- [State Road Safety Authorities](#)

Conclusion

Following these guidelines will help ensure that Bicycle Wagga Wagga group rides are enjoyable, inclusive, and safe for everyone. By respecting the rules, looking after each other, and being considerate of the broader community, you'll help promote a positive image of cycling and create a better experience for all.