



Bicycle Wagga Wagga Inc.

Weather Policy

Version 1.0

15th January 2026

Purpose

This policy sets out the guidelines for safe participation in Bicycle Wagga Wagga road rides in relation to varying weather conditions. It aims to protect the wellbeing of all riders, volunteers, and organisers, ensuring rides are conducted responsibly and with due regard for changing environmental factors.

Scope

This policy applies to all organised group road rides facilitated by Bicycle Wagga Wagga, including regular weekly rides and special events.

Policy Statement

The safety of participants is the foremost priority of Bicycle Wagga Wagga. Rides will be subject to assessment and potential modification or cancellation in response to adverse weather conditions.

Weather Assessment

- **Pre-Ride Assessment:** Ride leaders will review local weather forecasts (Bureau of Meteorology or other reliable sources) at least two hours prior to the scheduled start time.
- **During-Ride Monitoring:** Ride leaders and participants should remain alert to changing weather conditions throughout the ride and be prepared to modify or abandon the ride if conditions deteriorate.



Adverse Weather Conditions

The following weather conditions may prompt modification, postponement, or cancellation of group rides:

- **Rain:** Rides will be cancelled if sustained rain is forecast or occurring during the ride period, as it increases the risk of reduced visibility and slippery surfaces.
- **Thunderstorms and Lightning:** All rides will be cancelled or postponed if thunderstorms or lightning are present or forecast during the ride period.
- **Extreme Temperatures:** Rides will be cancelled if the forecast temperature exceeds 35°C or is less than 0°C during the ride period, or at the discretion of the ride leader if heat stress is likely.
- **High Winds:** Rides may be modified or cancelled if sustained winds exceed 30 km/h during the ride period, especially if gusts are strong enough to pose safety risks to riders.
- **Flooding:** Any route affected by flooding or water over the road will be avoided. Rides will be cancelled if safe alternate routes are unavailable.
- **Low Visibility:** Rides may be cancelled if fog or other factors reduce visibility to unsafe levels during the ride period.
- **Air Quality:** Rides may be cancelled if air quality (eg. dust, smoke) or other factors are likely to pose safety risks to riders.

Decision-Making and Communication

- The ride leader is responsible for making the final decision regarding ride modification, postponement or cancellation.
- All changes to ride status will be communicated to participants via WhatsApp at the earliest opportunity.
- Participants are encouraged to check WhatsApp before leaving for the ride.

Participant Responsibilities

- All participants must assess their own suitability to ride given the weather conditions and are responsible for their own safety.
- Riders are expected to wear appropriate clothing for the weather, carry sufficient water, and bring suitable equipment (e.g., rain jackets, sun protection).
- Riders should notify the ride leader if they feel unsafe at any time due to weather conditions.
- Riders choosing to make alternate arrangements in the event of ride cancellation, postponement or modification are responsible for their own safety.



Review and Amendments

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as required to reflect best practice and feedback from members.

Contact

For further information or to report a weather-related concern, please contact Bicycle Wagga Wagga via WhatsApp or email.