



Club Handbook – Part 1

General Information

August 2025

We have tried to keep “rules” to a minimum but, as with any organisation, there are ways of doing things that have been developed over time and through experience that will help to keep things running smoothly. Everyone must read *Part 2* on group riding and, if applicable, *Part 3* on leading a ride. If you have any questions, or if there is anything that you do not understand, please speak to a ride leader.

The majority of our rides start at the Parson Woodforde. **Please**, park at the far end of the rear car park and be respectful with regards to their clientele.

We are a social club and not a business. The Club is run by its members for the benefit of its members. The Club accepts no responsibility for injury, damage or loss during any ride or activity associated with the Club. Those riding do so entirely at their own risk and undertake to ride with due regard for their own safety and that of other riders and road users.

INSURANCE

We are affiliated with British Cycling which provides third-party liability insurance for club officials and ride leaders. Potential new members, that have **a genuine view to joining**, may be invited to participate in **one or two club activities** and be covered by the Club’s insurance during those specific activities.

This insurance **does not** cover individual ride participants. Riders are strongly urged to join British Cycling or Cycling UK, which includes third-party insurance. Some home insurance policies **may** include cover for third-party liability during sporting activities but please check the policy wording very carefully.

COMMUNICATIONS

Our primary means of day-to-day communications is via WhatsApp, and the *WVC Chat Group* in particular. Additionally, each activity has its own group, which publishes the likes of ride details and last-minute changes. Not all members are on the chat group, just some of the activity groups. It’s the reason why information is sometimes posted on every group. Our website has an up-to-date list, and links to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

ROUTE PLANNING

Ride with GPS is our go-to app for route planning (free sign-up at www.ridewithgps.com). *Part 3* has details on how to plan and download a route.

RIDES

We focus on providing year-round group rides, on-road, using road bikes and try to cater for riders of different levels of experience and ability (average speed). The number of groups depends on ability and numbers attending. All riders **must** wear a properly adjusted cycling helmet and acquaint themselves with *Part 2* on group riding. Members are also requested to purchase and wear a Club jersey. Our website provides a list of rides, with details posted on the relevant WhatsApp group.

This is a requirement of British Cycling. We require riders to register for each ride, so that ride leaders have their phone number and up to date next of kin details. The online form must be completed on the day of a ride by all riders, including guests. A link is published with the ride details and can be completed from any web-enabled device. For those without web access, another rider will be able to register you when you arrive for the ride. This information has been used to ascertain someone's safety when they have gone missing during a ride and is necessary should there be significant injury, and also for bike recovery.

Groups

Splitting into groups makes for an enjoyable ride for everyone, so it is important to try and be in the most appropriate group. The fastest could average 20 mph (32 km/h), whilst the "social" group generally averages around 15 mph (24 km/h), with others in between. You will be asked which group you would prefer to ride in; please be realistic in assessing your own capabilities!

It is important that you understand *Part 2* on group riding. If you have any questions, or if there is anything that you do not understand, please speak to a ride leader.

Leaders

The majority of rides are planned and organised by experienced Club members. We would really appreciate it if you would give it a go; you would get plenty of help. Information for ride leaders is contained in *Part 3*.

GUESTS

Visiting family and friends (who are capable of riding both the distance and speed) are welcome to join our rides; we will be pleased to meet them. It is important that they are made aware of the benefits of having their own third-party liability insurance and must acquaint themselves with *Part 2* on group riding.