

Horsham Cycling - Frequently Asked Questions

Before joining Horsham Cycling on a Club ride for the first time or indeed before becoming a member, there will inevitably be a number of questions asked. With that in mind, we hope that the following information answers those questions. If this is not the case, please contact the Club via one of the following e-mail addresses:

horshamcyclingenquiries1@gmail.com or horshamcyclingmembership1@gmail.com

Rides

Q. Is there a number I can call before coming along for the first time?

A. Email: horshamcyclingmembership1@gmail.com

Q. I only have a hybrid bike. Can I come on Club rides?

A. Not a problem, some of our members riding with Social One also ride hybrids.

Q. Can I turn up on a mountain bike?

A. This would not be suitable for the rides that the Club do on the road. However, there is an off-road group on the first Sunday of the month. See the Club Calendar on our website alternatively, contact us via horshamcyclingenquiries1@gmail.com

Q. Is there a beginners' group?

A. On the rides page you will see that the first group in the club is Social One. The group will ride between 25-30 miles at an average of 10-12 mph on a mix of flat and undulating terrain.

Q. I am not very fit. Should I try a ride?

A. We would hope that anyone joining us on a club ride would have the level of fitness required to be able to stay with the group that they choose to ride with.

Q. What if I get a puncture?

A. You should carry a spare inner tube and a pump to repair the puncture. The group waits for people with punctures and often others help with the repair.

Q. Where and when do Club rides start?

A. Most Sunday rides start from the bandstand in the Carfax, Horsham on Sundays at 09.10-09.20. We suggest you arrive around 09.00 for your first ride so you can find your group and introduce yourself to the ride leader.

Most Saturday rides start from the Conservatory Cafe in Horsham Park at 8.30 except during the winter months when they start at 9.00.

See the "Rides" section and the Club calendar on the website for full details.

Q. Do rides have a café stop?

A. Some groups stop at a café while others have a road side 'banana break' half-way round. Check the 'Rides' section on the website.

Q. Can I just turn up on a Saturday or Sunday for a ride?

A. We welcome guest riders, however we would expect them to join after three rides. Anyone under 18 needs to have provided written parental consent in advance and juniors under 16 must be accompanied on the ride by a designated guardian.

Q. Which group should I join?

A. Look at the “Rides” page and choose which group suits you best.

Q. Does the Club ride just on a Saturday and Sunday?

A. The official rides are on these two days, however once you become a member you will find that there are a number of small groups that ride other than the weekend. This might be a week day, weekday evenings and in some cases longer rides. Belonging to a wider cycling community offers ideas and encouragement.

Q. I am under 18. Can I still join a Club ride?

A. Please contact horshamcyclingmembership1@gmail.com. Guidance will be given.

Membership

Q. How much is the membership?

A. £15.00 a year for an adult member or £40 for three years. Junior and Family rates are available.

Q. Does the Club cover me for personal injury or third-party liability?

A. No. Our Club insurance only covers ride leaders for liability. Riders are advised to make their own arrangements

General

For information about riding in a group, please take a look at the Group Ride Safety and Etiquette document which can be found on the Club website under the “Club” tab, Rules and Roles

All riders must be able to ride safely and confidently on the road before they come out with the Club.

Don't overestimate your ability. If you think you can keep up with a group but then find you are unable to, you will not enjoy the ride. Much better to join a slower group. If you then feel that this is too slow there is always a quicker group to move up to on the next ride.

All riders must come equipped with a road-worthy bicycle, suitable clothing, plus tools and know-how to fix a puncture. If you are unsure whether your bike is fully roadworthy, we suggest you take it to a bike-shop for a check.

A cycling helmet is strongly recommended.

Bring sufficient snacks and drink to keep your body fuelled for your chosen ride, and arrive at least 10 minutes before the group departure time.

We hope that you enjoy your first outing with the Club and look forward to welcoming you as a member