

Hoots Riding while Distancing Guidelines

We are fortunate as tandem teams to always have a ride partner for solo riding during this pandemic, however, many of us miss cycling and visiting with our fellow tandem riders. As we carefully and cautiously re-start the Hoots group rides, we've prepared a set of guidelines to maintain the important social distancing while enjoying a Hoots group ride. Please keep in mind that these are very basic guidelines; our expectation is that the Hoots members will act responsibly to protect the health and safety of their fellow tandem riders during this time of continued risk of Covid spread and infection.

Ride Guidelines:

- Strive to maintain a 6' distance between yourself and other tandem teams at all times – before, during and after the ride.
- NO DRAFTING - we cannot maintain adequate social distancing while drafting. Keep 2 – 3 (tandem) bike lengths between your bike and the bike you are riding behind. If you pass another bike on the left, do not move back in front of the bike you are passing until you've reached the 2 – 3 bike length distance.
- While riding next to another bike, maintain as great a distance between the bikes as is safe depending upon vehicular traffic and lane width. In most cases, this will allow a 6' distance between the paired bikes. Be sure to change up the "team pairings" periodically during the ride so that we all have more opportunity for social time, following the guidelines for passing and moving back towards the shoulder.
- Due to the distance between bikes, the total length of the group will be greatly extended. If the length of the group results in excessive obstruction of vehicular traffic, be prepared to carefully drop into a single line, maintaining the gap of 2 – 3 bike lengths or perhaps (horrors,gasp!), momentarily all pulling off into a side lot or street to allow backed-up traffic to clear.
- We suggest you bring a face mask and hand sanitizer on the ride if needed to enter a store or restroom.

Post Ride:

We will maintain our social distancing guidelines during any post ride activities (restaurant, pavilion, etc) by minimizing the number of teams at a table and maintaining adequate distance between tables. The ride leaders will establish specifics for managing the arrangements.