

# UTRR Risk Management Plan

Cycling can be a dangerous activity. University of Toronto Road Racing (UTRR) has developed this Risk Management Plan to document how UTRR rides are to be managed to reduce risks associated with cycling activities. These policies are to be practiced by UTRR members, and any permitted visiting riders as permitted by Ontario Cycling Association rules, during every UTRR ride. All UTRR members, and any permitted visiting riders, share the responsibility for making UTRR rides as safe as possible.

Each UTRR member shall receive a copy, electronic or otherwise of this Risk Management Plan and a copy shall be available on the UTRR website at:

<http://utrr.sa.utoronto.ca/resources.html>, where additional information regarding UTRR rules and programs can also be found.

## ***Definitions***

- UTRR rides means rides formally organized by UTRR and as described on the UTRR website. Rides not listed on the UTRR website are not UTRR rides.
- UTRR Insurance: Through the member registration process, each member purchases General Liability Insurance coverage through the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA). General Liability Insurance is designed to protect a person (member) or any entity (Province, Club, Canadian Cycling Association) against any legal responsibility arising out of a negligent act or failure to act as a prudent person would have acted, which results in bodily injury or property damage to another party. UTRR members should familiarize themselves with the terms of the insurance coverage. The coverage details may be accessed at <http://www.cyclinginsurance.ca/>. UTRR must receive signed insurance waivers from each UTRR member; membership is not assigned or granted until a signed waiver is received by the UTRR. This is part of the online member registration process.

## ***Standards of Care***

This Risk Management Plan and all UTRR programs and rides shall adhere to the following, as applicable:

- UCI, CCA, OCA rules and regulations as they pertain to Club rides.
- Ontario Highway Traffic Act

While on UTRR rides, all UTRR members must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. The Ontario Highway Traffic Act is available here: [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_90h08\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90h08_e.htm)

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## **COVID-19 Notice**

UTRR is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all its members during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic our group rides will have additional restrictions. We are monitoring the situation and will be following all “return to sport” advisories posted by the OCA. All current updates from the OCA as well as provincial guidelines can be found at the following link: <https://www.ontariocycling.org/covid-19-information/>

In general, our group rides will require riders to be physically distanced instead of riding as a typical group, with pre/post-ride gatherings limited by provincial guidelines and requiring masks and distancing.

Prior to each ride we will distribute a signup form to club members via our members-only slack workspace to ensure our total attendance number is within the provincial group size gathering restrictions. These practices will remain in effect until further notice.

## **Risk Management**

### **General:**

- All members of UTRR are responsible for bringing forward to the UTRR board of directors any safety issues related to UTRR rides which present themselves throughout the riding season.
- While on UTRR rides, all UTRR members must adhere to and obey all rules of the road as per the Ontario Highway Traffic Act.
- Any UTRR member on a UTRR ride should immediately notify the ride leader(s) and other members of the ride should the member feel the group or individuals in the group are riding in an unsafe manner. The member should withdraw from the ride if they feel unsafe.
- All participants of UTRR rides must provide proof of membership in good standing prior to each ride, if requested by the ride marshal.
- Each UTRR ride participant will conduct themselves in a responsible manner and retains liability for their own actions.

### **Safety**

- Helmets must be worn at all times on UTRR rides. Members are expected to operate both competitive and noncompetitive events within their own abilities and proficiencies and according to the established risk management procedures. All participants need to be informed that the ultimate responsibility for safety rests with the individuals.
- All members attending UTRR rides which will take place (in part or in whole) outside of daylight hours (*i.e.* before sunrise or after sunset) are required to have working front and rear lights on their bicycles.

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## *Ride Leaders*

- A ride leader may be appointed by the UTRR board of directors for each UTRR ride. The ride leader will identify themselves to the group so that everyone is aware of who is leading the ride.
- The ride leader is responsible for ensuring that all attendees are UTRR members or permitted visiting OCA members, and are equipped with helmets and lights (if parts of the ride will take place outside of daylight hours)
- The ride leader will describe the general ride route provide a brief safety overview at the commencement of the ride. Each individual group on a UTRR ride may or may not have a leader/coordinator.
- The ride leader has the final decision on all matters pertaining to the UTRR ride and their decisions must be respected by all participants. The ride leader will carry a cell phone for emergency use on all UTRR Rides. All participants are recommended to carry a personal cell phone in case of emergencies.
- If no ride leader is present, and members wish to proceed with the ride, members should continue to follow the Risk Management Plan and Ride Policies accordingly on a ride that is thereby deemed unsanctioned. Alternately, if no ride leader is available, the UTRR Board might cancel the ride entirely.

## *Rides*

- UTRR rides on roads will be planned to use lesser-traveled roads where possible and practical.
- UTRR rides will not run if lightning is present and will be cancelled if lightning is sighted.
- When a large number of riders come out for any given UTRR ride, the riders will be encouraged by the ride coordinator to break into smaller groups. A size of 6-12 is a reasonable group. Groups should be at least 100 metres apart on the road to allow other vehicles to pass safely in two maneuvers.
- UTRR members are responsible for ensuring that their bicycle is in good working order before attending each UTRR ride.
- Bicycle helmets must be worn at all times while participating in any UTRR ride and other protective equipment is strongly encouraged (e.g., gloves, eye wear).
- Ear buds or earphones are not permitted on UTRR rides.
- Front and rear lights are required during any UTRR ride which takes place one half hour before sunset and/or which may extend into darkness.
- UTRR members are responsible for bringing sufficient liquids and food, as required, for each UTRR ride, as well as appropriate tools/spare tubes, etc.
- UTRR members are not to be under the influence of any drug or beverage product that could impair their riding judgment while on a UTRR ride.
- Any and every accident on a UTRR ride shall be immediately reported to a UTRR Board member to be reported to the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA) through the proper reporting procedures and forms provided by the OCA. The list of Board members can be found on the UTRR website.
- For non-OCA members wishing to try-out a UTRR ride, the UTRR will have designated try-out dates where an individual can try out the UTRR on a one-time basis. Prior notification is required and a

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waiver and sign-in form will be required prior to participation. All non-members participating in the program are asked to bring any emergency medical information and a health card.

## ***Club Try-Out Waivers***

- All UTRR members must complete the OCA waiver prior to participating in a club ride. Physical waivers may be approved with prior consent. Physical waivers for participants under the age of 19 are required to be sent in to the OCA office, completed by a parent or legal guardian prior to a try-out ride being attended.
- Do not alter the waiver in any way, specifically the language or spacing. Paper waivers must be submitted on the appropriate sized paper (8.5 x 11).
- UTRR members under the age of 18 when joining the UTRR must have an adult (18 years or older) complete the waivers. It can be signed by someone other than the parent or legal guardian but they may find themselves in an awkward position in the event of litigation, since they are accepting responsibility for the youth's participation.
- Waivers will be stored at the Provincial office for a minimum of seven years, to ensure that they can be accessed if legal action is taken against UTRR. Waivers are crucial in defending UTRR and the OCA and CCA during litigation.
- Failure to obtain waivers from all try-out participants of the UTRR will place UTRRs insurance coverage at risk.

Note: This document was last updated February 2021