

ROYAL PALM CHALLENGE SAFETY BRIEF

Safety is the top priority at Caloosa Riders Bicycle Club Events.

Your behavior on the ride will affect not only your personal safety but also the safety of those around you. The success of this event depends on every one of us behaving responsibly and taking care of ourselves and one another. Please review the following safety information before the ride:

This is a ride and not a race.

- The Royal Palm Challenge is an open course on public roads. Be cautious at all road crossings and obey all traffic signs and signals and police officers. Ride defensively. Don't assume motorists or other cyclists will do the right thing.
- Be courteous to other riders and motorists.
- All riders must wear helmets.
- Ride predictably.
- Obey all traffic laws including all traffic signals and signs. Bicycles on public roadways in Florida are considered vehicles and must follow all the traffic rules common to all drivers.
- Call out and use Florida-approved hand signals when turning left or right, slowing or stopping
- Do not ride more than two abreast. If riding two abreast would impede traffic, please ride single file.
- Call out hazard & dangers to other cyclists.
- Do not overlap wheels. Ride no closer than a bicycle wheel-length to the rider in front of you. Think feet, not inches between bikes.
- Be cautious about joining a paceline with riders you are unfamiliar with.
- Pass other cyclists on the left, calling out "On your left" before you overtake another cyclist.
- Do not wear headphone while bicycling or text or answer cell phones.
- Do not use aerobars while riding in a paceline.
- Follow directions from all ride support personnel including police, SAG drivers and ride marshals.
- Eat before you're hungry and drink before you're thirsty, especially on the longer routes. Avail yourself of our well-stocked rest stops.

In case of injury or other situations:

- Call 911 immediately in case of significant injury.
- If it is safe, move a downed rider off the road or out of the bike lane. If not, direct traffic around them.
- Call for SAG support and less urgent situations. The phone number is on your Cue Sheet.
- Get off the road or out of the bike lane to attend to mechanical issues such as a flat tire.
- Report all incidents to event staff.

Weather advisory

- The ride will proceed rain or shine.
- We are hopeful for a beautiful day but weather can change quickly in Florida.
- In case of thunderstorms take cover until the storm passes. If no cover is readily available, get off your bike and crouch as low as possible. Avoid sheltering under tall trees.

Get off the road during heavy rain as bicycles are not clearly visible to traffic under these conditions.

*Thank you North Florida Bicycle Club for this format!