



Bikers 4 Macmillan

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

Ride Etiquette

Riding in a group is different to being on your own, sounds obvious I know but it is one of the reasons we join clubs and organise rides in the first place. So here are a few sensible pointers which will help to ensure that everyone enjoys the ride and gets back home safely

Getting to the start

Please ensure that you arrive at South Stack Car Park in plenty of time, you don't want to be riding in to the place as the rest of us are leaving!

Ensure you have enough fuel to make it to the first fuel stop which is 65 miles away from the start. There is a petrol station at the supermarket in Holyhead.

On the road

This is not a race! Please stay with your pod, the sooner you get to Skegness the more time you will have to wait around for the rest of us. Speed limits in Towns and villages are strictly adhered to. All the Police Forces for the areas we pass through have been advised of this event.

Give your fellow riders plenty of room on the road. Ride defensively. Not everyone's bike performs the same and not all riders ride the same way so take it easy and enjoy the ride. We are riding on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support, discourteous riding will not only reflect badly on them and us but on all 'bikers'!

A word of warning: DO NOT get involved in 'road rage' incidents with other motorists. We are riding late at night and the person who wants to race you may have just left the Pub and may not be as good a driver/rider as they think they are!

Sports bikes, Tourers and Cruisers

Strangely enough the ride works best if the slower bikes are towards the front. This is because there will always be delays between the front and the back of the ride, due to traffic at junctions, lights and general traffic conditions. If fast bikes are at the front those behind them have no chance of catching up.

The Ride

The ride is split into groups of 10 riders and a Marshal who will try to ensure that the ride stays together particularly in Towns! They will have Hi-Viz bibs with 'MARSHAL' and a Group number on the back. Please stay with your group Marshal

If anyone stops along the way only the tailender stops with them to find out what is going on. If there is a problem the tailender will get in touch with the leader (radio or phone). If it's a minor problem the tailender will leave them to catch up at the next stop. If it's a major problem the tailender will ensure that you are safe and will then leave you to make your own recovery arrangements. Unfortunately – due to the nature of the ride, we cannot afford the time to wait for you. If you can get it repaired and meet us at Skegness that's great.



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Overtaking / Making progress

Overtaking is encouraged, it's what bikers do, but **please be courteous!**

However, If anyone sees someone in the group/ pod making dangerous overtakes (OK, we all make mistakes sometimes but not repeatedly) point it out to a Ride Marshal, who will have a quiet word. Faster bikes shouldn't take unnecessary risks to get past, especially by undertaking. Faster riders should give plenty of room when passing and only go for a safe, clean pass. Note: Overtaking within pods is not permitted.

Motorways and Dual Carriageways

Staying together, or at least in sight of one another, is quite important on Motorways, dual carriageways and long straight main roads.

The group can compress by riding in a staggered formation –if the bike in front of you is to the right of the carriageway, you move to the left a short distance behind. If for some reason the bike in front swaps to the left, you move out to the right. You should see in your mirrors the rest of the group swapping sides behind you - strangely entertaining!

By using this method you can maintain the two-second rule spacing between you and the bike directly in front whilst still being able to maintain good all-round observations.

Riding in Towns and Heavy Traffic situations

Staggered riding positions can be achieved in Towns if traffic conditions allow.

At Traffic Lights and Junctions the group closes up further and stops two-abreast. Moving off alternately (starting with the rider on the outside) when the opportunity arises.

Wherever possible, filtering through heavier traffic will be attempted if it is safe to do so. Lights / Horns/ Waving to pedestrians is acceptable and will help to promote our visit (if done safely). And if someone pulls over to let us through – really thank them!

Personal Safety

Next to people's own personal safety, should come consideration towards others in the group. No sudden moves, signal early, warn the rest of the group/pod if you see a hazard etc.

Take it easy, have a nice day and enjoy your riding.

Some Common Hand Signals that should be used throughout the ride.

Fuel - arm out to side pointing to tank with finger extended



Hazard in Roadway - on the right, point with right foot; on the left, point with left hand



Turn Signal On - open and close hand with fingers and thumb extended



Highbeam - tap on top of helmet with open palm down

