



Kalamazoo Bicycle Club Group Riding Guidelines

1. **A group ride is not a race:** You shouldn't be attacking off the front (or worse, from the back) or try to show everyone how strong you are. Not everyone in a group ride has the skills of a racer and they shouldn't have to. Race tactics don't belong on most club rides. Don't come up the middle between two riders and don't pass on the right.
2. **Be Predictable:** This may be the most important rule (even for solo riding) and it involves every aspect of riding from changing positions in the group to following the traffic rules. Everyone that rides with you or otherwise sees you on the road expects you to ride straight, at a constant speed, unless you indicate otherwise.
3. **Don't Overlap Wheels:** Sometimes the person in front can recover from a touched wheel, but not the person behind or the others behind them. Assume the person in front of you will have to suddenly veer right or left and make sure your front wheel is not in that space.
4. **Communicate:** This includes pointing out hazards, including warnings of cars, runners, pedestrians or anyone you see about to share your space on the road. Announce any changes in speed and direction such as slowing, stopping, turning & etc.
5. **Don't stand up** on your pedals without making your intention known to those behind you, standing will throw your bike back and you may hit the rider behind you. Either call out "Standing", or wave your hand behind you.
6. **Share the pull as you're able:** Maintain pace (don't speed up), stay aware of the type of ride you're on (pace, drop/no drop & etc.), and if you're getting tired head to the back. Know your limitations.
7. **Coexist:** Follow the rules of the road, avoid unpredictable movements, and ride as far to the right as is practicable, be courteous towards all other road users even if that means holding up at a stop sign for a few extra seconds. A little courtesy goes a long way.

