

Proposal: Members Committee – Ride Programs 2008

Summary:

Let's work together to improve our ride programs for 2008. Presumably we all joined the club because we want to participate in club rides or riding programs – Let's figure out how to do that better next year. The more we as members enjoy and find satisfaction in our ride programs, the more others will find the club worth joining.

Charter: Members Committee – Ride Programs 2008

1. Form a committee of members interested in contributing to improving the club's ride programs for 2008.

Timing: Solicit participation at the annual membership meeting and during the following week via email. Form a core group, then accept participation as it is offered.

2. Assess the current state of the club's ride programs. Involve (potentially by different channels) the committee, the club leadership, and the membership at large. Specifically, one session with each of the former groups, and a short online survey to the latter.

Timing: Complete by 31 Dec.

Deliverable:

Publish to the club:

- Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats to our ride programs
- What do members value in our ride programs?
- What aspirations do our members have for their riding, and how can our ride programs help?

3. Make specific recommendations to improve the clubs 2008 ride programs. Each recommendation must have a champion or committee willing to be accountable for implementing the recommendation.

Timing complete by 28 Feb, for discussion/decisions at the March and or April club meeting.

Possible outcomes:

From the club email chatter and ride chatter, I would expect recommendations in these areas to be considered (though only a FEW recommendations to be made):

- How to make club riding less intimidating and more welcoming?
- How do we recruit, coach, and recognize ride leaders?
- Whether and how the club can foster more weekly rides?
- How can we better celebrate each others achievements?
- Given we are geographically diverse, how can we give members a better sense of belonging?
- How can we provide leadership in the Pittsburgh recreational road riding community?
- How do we spread the work load of our ride programs among more members?
- Can we better leverage the many supported charity rides to do any/all of:
 - o Augment our own ride calendar?
 - o Provide more visibility of the club in the riding community?
- Alternate organizing principles for rides:
 - o Can we help members connect to form ride groups? What ride groups are of interest to members? Or should we find a way for ad hoc groups to form? How can we form such groups and sustain them? Do such groups need coaches or ride leaders?
 - o Are there any events that capture the imagination and excitement of the membership?
 - o Does our annual ride calendar need more structure?
- Ways we can serve others while still riding our bicycles:
 - o Charity ride training rides?
 - o Rider development programs?
 - o Youth development programs?
 - o Supportive road riding experience for cross-over athletes?
- A randonneuring ride program, with a goal of RUSA sanctioned brevets in Pittsburgh (a member's committee is already forming on this one).