

CSBG RIDE PROTOCOL AND SAFETY

CSBG RIDE PROTOCOL:

- All CSBG riders must wear helmets, obey traffic laws and ride in a safe manner. This includes following the general rules in the paragraph below, titled “Ride Safety and Courtesy for All Road Users.”
- We ride in groups but each rider must ride as an individual and follow the rules of the road as spelled out in the DMV Driver Handbook.
- Each CSBG ride group of more than about 4 bikes is to have designated leader and sweep persons.
- All riders in a CSBG group are responsible for the safety and well-being of all other group members, although this primary responsibility is with the ride leader and sweep.
- The leader usually rides at or near the front of the group and takes primary responsibility for proper ride behavior and safety of all group riders.
- For rides that have unique routes, the leader assures that all riders have route slips and know emergency routines – including knowledge of key cell phone numbers as a backup for voice communication. In the event of a flat tire or mechanical problem, the sweep person informs the ride leader usually with a recommendation to stop or to continue, thereby breaking into 2 groups.
- Before a rider leaves the group he/she should notify the leader or sweep to avoid delays and worry for the group.
- During rides where there are alternative routes taken by subgroups, each member of the subgroup is to ensure that no one is dropped.
- Route slips are normally provided for routes that are new or used infrequently.
- Each rider is expected to carry a working pump, tools and repair kits (at least one spare tube) for flat tires, because there are a variety of non-interchangeable tubes.
- Each rider is to carry accessible identification including emergency contact and medical information.
- Transportation of bikes, when they are ferried to and from a ride, is to be arranged by each Individual. Similarly, room reservations for overnight stays are arranged by each participant, although often a trip coordinator may negotiate a discount and have rooms “block held” for CSBG member reservations.
- All CSBG riders should participate in the 6 or 8 hour version of the LAB Street Smarts 101.

RIDE SAFETY AND COURTESY FOR ALL ROAD USERS:

- The cardinal ride rule is to be safe for yourself and all road users.
- Second: Be courteous to others in the group and all other road users.

- By law, bicycles are vehicles subject to all rules of road users, including stop and yield signs, construction zone caution, signaling for turns and stops, etc.
- Do not pass or ride on another cyclist's right side.
- If you pass another cyclist, call out a warning such as "on your left" so they know you are passing.
- Maintain at least a five foot distance (door zone) when passing parked cars.
- The California vehicle code states that bicycles ride "as far to the right as practicable". This is the basis for police citations against riding two or more abreast. At a minimum, never impede traffic by riding two or more abreast unless the travel lane in your direction leaves sufficient space for a vehicle to pass on the left.
- Point out road hazards such as glass, debris, severe bumps and potholes to following riders.
- Call out "Car back" when an auto is passing so that forward riders are aware and can move to the right as far as is safe. This signals all riders to form a single file unless you are riding on a road with wide lanes.
- Proper and safe use of traffic lanes under most road circumstances is explained in the booklet "Street Smarts" and at the web site <http://www.bikexpert.com/streetsmarts/usa/>

**For overall safety: Be Visible, Be Predictable, Be Courteous,
Communicate and Follow the Rules."**