

BCC Club News



May - July 2018

TOURING NEWS

Steve Juniper, VP Touring

Finger Lakes Tour another success

Our BCC rides on the June 23/24 weekend were all cancelled because of rain. However a large group of our members were away participating in the BCC's annual "Finger Lakes Tour" enjoying three days of cycling through the scenic Fingers Lakes region of central New York State. Riders had multiple route options on all three days including some with epic climbs. Feedback from the participants included breath taking vistas, ultra-conscientious local drivers, great post-ride meals ... and recovery beverages. Many thanks to Allen McGregor for again organizing our BCC annual Finger Lakes Tour.

Annual family picnic

I'd like to remind everyone of our annual BCC picnic ride coming up on Saturday, July 14th. Rides will be starting at 8:30 am from Terra Cotta and tour leaders will be selecting routes that give their groups plenty of time to make it back before the 1:00 pm start of the picnic at Forge Park in Terra Cotta. Members planning to attend the picnic must register for their ride by Wednesday July 11 so we know how much food & drinks to purchase. You're welcome to bring family members but make sure to add the additional numbers to your ride registration.

Blue Mountain Tour

The BCC is currently organizing our second (hopefully) annual Blue Mountains Tour for the weekend of September 8th and 9th with all rides starting from the parking lot entrance to Blue Mountain Village. Watch the website for further information on route and accommodation options for the tour.

Blowing through stop signs can be expensive

Finally I want to remind all members of our guidelines for approaching stop signs. The first sentence in section C.4 of our BCC Group Riding Techniques states "Lead rider(s) will **come to an effective complete stop**, behind the white line if one is present, at all Stop Signs in both urban and rural areas." Many of you have probably heard me or one of your tour leaders politely reminding riders of this guideline. I was recently riding with the Collingwood Cycling Club and learned that one of their touring groups was stopped by police after they were apparently captured on aerial drone surveillance failing to stop at a rural intersection.

The police recorded the names and addresses of all group riders indicating they'd all receive mailed tickets. Our local police are generally becoming more understanding and cooperative with the BCC and other GTA based cycling clubs. However they are often called about cyclists "blowing through stop signs" and remain insistent that we obey the Highway Traffic Act regarding stop signs.

WEBSITE NEWS

Steve Maxwell, BCC Webmaster

Streamlined registration process coming soon

Registering with the club as a new member is currently a two-step process. It begins with the member registering on CCN to pay the fees, followed by another registration on the forum to use the club's website as a member. The double registration is very confusing to new members, most of which are interacting with the club for the very first time. We plan to streamline this process over the winter break and improve the registration and initial interaction for our new members. Starting with the 2019 season, there will only be a single registration process with CCN.

RIDE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Steve Maxwell, BCC Webmaster

Your distances are now recorded automatically

There was one major change for the ride achievement program in 2018 that is making a big impact. In previous years, members had to register and claim every ride to accumulate kilometers. This year, they are only required to register for rides. This single change has resulted in a 100% increase in the number of participants. As a result, our forecasted club target of 80,000 KM will be met in August, and at the current rate, we are projected to surpass 150,000 KM by the end of October.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Bachmann, President

Are we doing something wrong?

Last week a BCC member who also happens to be a member of the Oakville CC forwarded me an email to the Oakville membership that contained some interesting information, including:

- Their membership last year (2017) was 500 members; this year they capped it at 450 members and next year "in an attempt to address safety concerns, parking issues and lack of volunteers" the cap will be reduced to 350.
- They apparently have been riding in pretty large groups and as a result are immediately instituting a 15-riders-per-group maximum, contingent on there being enough riders ready to lead each group as a "Ride Marshal" – if there aren't enough riders willing to step forward to marshal then the ride is cancelled.

Meanwhile, the BCC's membership numbers have done the following:

2014	-	224
2015	-	240
2016	-	241
2017	-	224
2018 YTD	-	204

Personally, I wouldn't want to see our club up at 350 members. When our membership numbers were in the 240 range we had more complaints about "large group sizes" than we do today. I think most of us are finding riding in groups of 12 or less much more enjoyable. Also, with Steve Juniper's recruiting and oversight, we have a sufficiently large group of experienced riders ready to serve as tour leaders.

Still, we wouldn't want to see our membership drop much below the 220 mark and perhaps there are things we could be doing to attract a few more members. Any ideas?

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Family Picnic

Saturday, July 14th

Blue Mountain Tour

Saturday, Sunday, September 8th and 9th

WEBSITE UPDATE

Steve Maxwell, BCC Webmaster

The recent login issue where people were sometimes redirected to the forum for login has been addressed and members should be able to login from any page on the website.

The European Union is preparing to implement its new **General Data Protection Regulation** (GDPR) on May 25th. We will be affected by this even though we do not get many European visitors to our site. Consent to the collection of data must be very clear, and EU citizens will have the right to access any data we collect on them, as well as the right to be forgotten. At our next executive meeting we will be discussing how this will be implemented, not just for EU citizens, but all visitors to our site including Canadians. The Brampton Cycling Club does not share our membership data with any external parties. As with most web sites, we do use Google Analytics to track and report how the site is being used.

BCC RIDE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Steve Maxwell, BCC Webmaster

We had a slow start to the season due to the weather, however we are still on track to meet or surpass our club goal of 80,000 KM. The first-claim-claim-for-all system seems to be working well so far with no complaints. However there is one caveat, if you register for a ride and did not attend the ride, please either cancel your registration or adjust your claims to zero if you were credited for the ride. The awarding of medals and badges will begin next week as April ends and the frequent riders reaching their first 500 KM. We may no longer be a racing club, but the competitive spirit lives on. Safe riding and looking forward to a great season!

2018 CLOTHING PRE-ORDER DEADLINE: May 14th

John Bachmann, President

The window for pre-ordering club clothing and a few accessory items will be closing on May 14th. We're currently at about 25 total items pre-ordered and we need 50 to proceed with the order. Given Garneau's new quantity policies, we probably won't have enough demand to do a second order later this year, so please get your pre-orders in soon. Details for the pre-order and order process are on the *Club Forum* under "*Clothing*".

Please note that this is probably the last year that we will be offering the current blue, black and white design so if you don't have it already, don't miss this opportunity to order this very popular design.

WATER BOTTLES

John Bachmann, President

Club water bottles will be on sale at most Saturday club rides. They are \$8 each or two for \$15. The person selling them will change from week to week so ask a member of the Executive if you are interested.