Hi everyone,

After last weekend’s wash out, we were unable to test out the groups on our rides. No problem, we roll forward to this weekend and try again. To hopefully accommodate three groups (speeds) – please read the information below to ensure you don’t miss out.

In this week’s newsflash (#03):

* Membership renewals
* Club rides – new groups
* Club rides for the weekend
* Audax 200Km
* L’EtapeSA

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Please note that membership renewals are now due, and **should be paid by 31 January 2017** in order to remain on the email distribution list and WhatsApp chat groups, as well as the other club benefits (backup vehicle on club rides, adhoc subsidies for events, clothing, etc.). The updated renewal form is attached, and the costs are as follows:

* R300 (adults);
* R200 (pensioners and scholars, i.e. members that have retired/studying and don’t earn a salary anymore/yet);
* R50 once off admin fee for new members.

To the members that have already submitted, thank you – Noelene and I are working through the emails to tick off the names one by one. If you have a query about membership, please let us know.

Please note that the CyclingSA Membership is not included – it has to be done online at [www.cyclingsa.com](http://www.cyclingsa.com). They have changed their system (again) which requires re-registration. It you need assistance, please let us know.

**CLUB RIDES – New groups**

**Please remember that we have a dress code** – black shorts with all kit (club and race kit). **Sunday = CLUB KIT ONLY** for all members (black and yellow/pink or the older paintball kit). **NO RACE TEAM kit** on a Sunday, unless you are taking part in a race. If you only have one set of club kit, we do sell both the older paintball kit as well as the new black/yellow shirt.

The groups for each club ride are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Speed** | **Distance** | **Group Captains** |
| Slower | <25km/h | 60-80 Km | Joe and Merv |
| Medium | 25-28 km/h | 80-100Km | Aphro, Xanthe and Malcolm |
| Fast | >30 km/h | 80-100Km | TBC |

Other important information:

* All rides start and finish at Merv’s Hardware – unless otherwise announced (special ride/event);
* The map (attached) shows the areas we will ride for each week, i.e. Week 01 will always be Springs/Midrand area. The planned route will be available online (with the link posted in the weekly newsflash);

**CLUB RIDES**

**SATURDAY**

We have introduced a second early bird ride, for the slower/medium group that want to get some more distance above the normal 70Km ride on a Saturday. The routes are available to view on the website, as well as the weekly schedule. If it rains on that particular day’s route, it is forfeited and we carry on as per the schedule.

* 05:00 – Early bird, 32Km, route 02, +/- 32Km/h average speed
* 05:00 – Early bird, 22Km, route 02, +/- 20-22Km/h average speed
* 06:15 – Club ride, 70Km, 90Km and 98Km

There are three options, all riding out and back on the same route – the group captains will communicate which distance the group is doing.

* 70Km – Merv’s, Swartkoppies, Lido, Walkerville Hill (70Km turns around at the left turn towards Bosco);
* 90Km – Merv’s, Swartkoppies, Lido, Walkerville Hill, Cheese Factory loop and back;
* 98Km – Merv’s, Swartkoppies, Lido, Walkerville Hill, Bosco, Circus, Cheese Factory, Walkerville hill and back.

**SUNDAY**

Refer to the attached map, to see which area the club rides will take place in. The route may vary each time, but the area will always be the same for that particular week on each month.

06:30 – 60 Km, 80-100 Km distances. All routes follow the same route to Carnival City, straight over to Brakpan/Springs. Slower group turns around at the t-junction in Springs (next to the golf course) and rides back to Merv’s.

* **65Km** – Merv’s, Wadeville, Osborn, Carnival City, R23, R550, Diana Road, turn right onto R103, right on Osborn and return to Merv’s the same way through Wadeville;
* **85Km** – Merv’s, Wadeville, Osborn, Carnival City, R23, R550, Diana Road, turn left onto R103 and complete a lap of the club champs loop, Right on R103 after completing lap, right on Osborn and return to Merv’s the same way through Wadeville;
* **100Km** - Merv’s, Wadeville, Osborn, Carnival City, R23, R550, Diana Road, turn left onto R103, left on R550 and back to Merv’s on the same route (left on R23, left at Carnival City, Right on Osborn and back through Wadeville).

The routes, maps and other information for these routes are all on the website - <http://germistonwheelers.co.za/what-we-do/club-rides/>, as is a copy of this newsflash.

**AUDUX 200Km**

Simon will be riding the 200Km Audax starting and finishing at the Lido hotel – the details are attached.

If you are interested in attending, please communicate with Simon.

**L’ETAPE SOUTH AFRICA**

As previously mentioned, the club is supporting this event by contributing R300 to the entry fee. There are some conditions:

* **Club fees** need to be paid by 31 January 2017;
* **Commitment** - Online entries need to be paid in full, with the refund coming after the event (easier to manage based on those that took part);
* **Team entries** need to be finalised, and accommodation booked, as soon as possible – it is on the same weekend that schools close for the April holidays, so accommodation may be limited close to the start (Lions River);
* Members can make up their own teams (of 6-10 people) that they think are capable of finishing together. It is a 160Km long event, so not your average race distance.

If there are any queries, please contact us.