

Uttoxeter Cycling Club: Guidance for Young Persons riding with UCC

Version number	Date	Author
Ver 1.0	November 2015	Mark Thomson/Heather Brundrett (UCC Welfare officers)

Introduction

This version of the Uttoxeter Cycling Club's (UCC) Young Persons guidelines is updated in line with UCC policy. This policy has been reviewed by the UCC Committee in November 2015.

It has been updated in January 2016.

UCC regards riders aged below 18 as important to the future of the sport and club, and it is the club's collective wish that young riders should be able to join UCC rides and events.

1. Terminology

Juniors = 16 and 17 years of age.

Juveniles = under 16 year of age.

Parents = include guardian or nearest adult relative.

Young persons aged under 14 are treated differently to those aged 14 to under 18 for the purpose of this guidance document.

General guidelines

Although UCC wishes to welcome and encourage young riders it is not a cycling club aimed at specifically developing them. UCC does not have the infrastructure to formally support young riders. The majority of the members, ride leaders or event organisers have not undergone specific training or gone through the vetting and barring process. The Vetting and Barring guidelines issued by the Government in 2013 highlight that only a few roles, primarily teaching and coaching, are required to go through the vetting and barring process. The club does have some qualified coaches and some of the members have been vetted due to their employment or previous employment.

However UCC is a supportive and social cycle club that looks to encourage, support and develop all members of the club with regard to their cycling prowess, skills and knowledge.

The parent/guardian should note that the British Cycling Safeguarding policies are on the UCC club website and the club strives to adhere and follow the spirit of these policies and guidance.

It is the parents' or guardians' responsibility to inform the young person of the type of cycle ride/event that is taking place and decide whether the young person is capable of achieving that.

2. Club Rides

2.1 Riders aged 14 to under 18 years.

Any young person riding with the club must have a membership form detailing parental consent signed and sent to the Club's Treasurer. This will give general consent to the named young person undertaking rides or events with UCC. This membership form is on UCC's website.

On a club ride/event; the ride leader or organiser will as far as possible assess whether the young person is properly equipped to undertake and sufficiently able to complete the ride and will make it his or her best endeavour to ensure that:

2.1.1 The rider is never left behind or otherwise allowed to get lost.

2.1.2 The rider should not be left to ride in the company of just one rider.

2.1.3 The rider is returned to Bradley House or a dropping off place from which he or she is happy to make his or her way back home and his/her parent/guardian has authorised it.

All UCC riders should understand that they have a duty of care to a young person and support the ride leader. It is noted that UCC club rides/events are run in a public environment.

Ultimately any committee member in consultation with the ride leader is the decision maker in relation to whether a young person can complete an event or ride with UCC.

Clearly inappropriate relationships with a young person rider of either sex must not be formed, and any inappropriate sexual behaviour towards a young person must immediately be reported to the Club Welfare Officers. All club members have a duty of care towards each other and the young person.

3. Equipment:

3.1.1 If a young person turns up on a bicycle in an unroadworthy condition or clothing/bicycle that is unsuitable for the purpose, then the rider should not be allowed to participate in the ride. It is not recommended that the ride leader attempt to repair the cycle prior to the event unless they are competent to do so. Time spent is also a consideration. Note that although the onus is on a committee member in consultation with the ride leader to make the appropriate decision, if issues arise the Club does not expect the ride leader to make anything else other than a visual

inspection of the rider and his / her bicycle. It is expected that all riders support the ride leader in this.

- 3.1.2** Helmets are compulsory for young persons whilst riding their bicycle on any UCC ride/event.
- 3.1.3** All riders should ensure that they have suitable clothing and equipment for the riding conditions. They also need to have possession of their club membership card, which has emergency contact details on. It should also state any medical conditions and they must be in possession of any medicine/equipment that they may need to use themselves. They must inform the ride leader of any medical condition prior to any ride.
- 3.1.4** Riders under the age of 14 should be accompanied on club rides by a parent/guardian, or coach recognised by the parents or other responsible adult known to and approved by the parents and by UCC. The appropriate signed membership form should also be provided to the Treasurer/event organiser. This adult is to act in “loco parentis”. The club would expect this adult to show reasonable control over the young rider under his or her care.
- 3.1.5** Riders aged 14 to under 16 must also have a signed membership form detailing parental consent form submitted to the Treasurer of UCC. They may ride unaccompanied as long as the ride leader consents to this and is happy they have suitable clothing, emergency contact details and equipment to do so.

4. Summary

To summarise, although UCC wishes to encourage young riders it does not have the infrastructure to formally support them.

The members of the club, committee and ride leaders will continue to support and encourage young people in riding with the club.

The onus of support therefore must fall onto the parent, guardian or designated adult.

For further information contact one of the club officials listed on the UCC website.