

# Manningham Bicycle User Group Inc.

## RIDING ETIQUETTE AND WARNING CALLS

### **Purpose:**

When participating on a BUG ride, riders are required to follow the rules of behaviour and techniques to make our group riding safer and more enjoyable for all. Participants are expected to know and abide by the following:

### **Riding Etiquette:**

- Do not pass the Ride Leader unless he or she directs you to do so.
- Stay ahead of the designated "Ride Back Marker or Whip". If you are having difficulties achieving this it is imperative you discuss this with that rider so they can accommodate your requirements.
- Keep a regular check on the rider behind you. If you are concerned that they are not following do not go on further but back track to assist them. In this way the group will retrace back towards you to regroup.
- At intersections and turns it is important that you check that the rider behind you makes the turn also. If they are not visible, wait at the turn to act as 'signpost'. It is ride etiquette to stop and direct other riders.

### **Recommended Warning Calls:**

Riders are required to assist those following by warning them of hazards ahead. Never assume that your fellow cyclists have seen the hazard. Warning calls should be repeated down the riding group to convey the hazard indication. Our standard calls are:

- **"SLOWING"/"STOPPING"** You are slowing or stopping for any reason.
- **"PASSING"** You are planning to pass another cyclist. The call is directed at the cyclist you intend passing.
- **"CAR LEFT" "CAR RIGHT"** You can see a vehicle approaching from the left or right.
- **"CAR UP" "CAR BACK"** You can see a vehicle approaching head-on or are aware of a vehicle approaching from the rear.
- **"BIKE UP" "BIKE BACK"** You can see a cyclist coming towards you or are aware of a cyclist coming from behind who is overtaking.
- **"WALKER UP" "RUNNER UP"** You can see a pedestrian or runner up ahead.
- **"POST"** You can see a post or bollard ahead on a bike path.
- **"HOLE"** You see a hole in the pavement that is best avoided.

**In general:** Point & Call Out all other hazards as appropriate and when approaching pedestrians or other riders use your bell to warn them.

### **General riding style:**

- Be predictable with all your actions. Maintain a steady straight line and avoid braking or changing direction suddenly
- Leave a safe distance between yourself and the rider ahead to maintain a clear view and allow adequate braking distance.
- Turning signals. By law riders must give hand signals when turning right including changing lanes and making a U-turn. Though giving a left hand signal when turning left is not required by road rules the BUG maintains a practice of doing this as a courtesy to other road users.
- Consider using voice commands over hand actions so as to keep both hands on the handlebars provided safety is not compromised.
- Be Seen: Wear bright clothing and we recommend using both front and rear lights both day and night to increase your visibility to others.