

TOUR DE ROCKS – TEAM BRIEFING INFORMATION 2024



This document contains important information about the event that is important for ensuring safety of riders and supporters and smooth running of the event.

As the ride is following a new route in 2024, these are important logistical notes that all teams must ensure they understand and that they are able to comply with organisational directions given. Please read it carefully and share it with your team.

For all updates about the ride, visit the [Tour de Rocks website](#).

Important dates:

- **TDR Briefing session** Thursday 11 April, 6:00 pm, Armidale Ex-services Club
- **Pre-ride dinner** Wednesday 17 April, 6:00 pm (doors open 5:00 pm), Armidale Ex-services Club. Please drop any **cakes and slices** to the Ex-Services Club foyer by 5:30 pm (prior to the dinner).

Ride briefings will also be held at the start, and then each evening on the ride. Please ensure as team captain that you and all your team members attend. These are essential sessions for ensuring the safety of all on the ride and for sharing additional updates.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Team captains will be identified with an armband and will be the contact person for team communications. These are to be worn on the outside of any clothing.
- All teams are asked to assist at different times during the event. If your team is rostered on to a task, please make sure you have members that turn up to support. You can find the Supporters Roster on the [Information packages](#) page on the TDR website.
- We are trying to ensure that we reduce the impact of this event on the environment, particularly in relation to rubbish. Please ensure that each team member has their own plate, bowl, cup, eating utensils, tea towels etc. Washing up stations will be provided. All teams must transport their own campsite rubbish (including bottles and cans) to the finish.
- We will be travelling through private property on some sections of the ride. Please ensure that all rubbish is taken with you and that you stay on the track marked.
- Teams are encouraged to bring their own camping showers as there is very limited availability at Ebor and Ulong.

Daily awards jerseys – processes in 2024. Each day, we will be looking for nominations for our daily award jerseys. The jersey categories are “Inspiration, guts, and the GOOSE jersey. If you or your team see something crazy, funny, heroic, helpful that is in the spirit of the TdR, please collect the nominations from your team and pass them to Dane O’Conner. Dane will be introduced to all at the start of the ride. Announcements of jersey winners will be made at the briefing sessions each evening.

REGISTRATION AND START INFORMATION

Teams will meet in Dangar St, between Civic Park and Armidale Ex-Services Club. Registration and pre-ride briefing will be held in the Ex-Services Club Car Park in Dangar Street.

- Bikes to be left in Civic Park prior to start.
- **5:30 am:** Registration commences – all riders and supporters must register.
- **6:30 am:** Pre-ride briefing for all riders – this is compulsory to attend.
- **7:00 am (SHARP):** Teams will leave in pelotons from Dangar St according to the order posted prior to the event and with a police escort to the top of Marsh St.

Ride details (distance, elevations, map) are provided on the website. The route is signposted, and there will be marshalls at all key points. There will be a support vehicle at the front of the first peloton, and at the rear. First aid and support buses will follow at the rear and will pick up riders and their bikes as needed. Motorbikes will also be used for marshalling and mechanical support.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL RIDERS

Please exercise care and caution throughout the ride and follow these guidelines:

- On all tarred roads, riders should not ride more than 2 abreast.
- Exercise extreme caution when passing other riders, particularly on crests or corners.
- Use calls to alert other riders to cars and other potential dangers.
- Use bike lights at all times.
- Follow directions of marshalls and motorbike guides
- Allow photography vehicle to pass by moving to the left.

SUPPORT VEHICLES

Support vehicles will leave BEFORE the riders at the commencement of the ride. At NO time are support vehicles to follow the route of the riders. There are separate maps for supporters' vehicles on the [Information packages](#) page on the TDR website. Teams are advised to print and carry these in the support vehicles and follow the designated routes.

E BIKES

There will be a dedicated ute with small portable generators in the back of it at the rest stops at Wollomombi, Wongwibinda, Ebor, Dangars Falls at Dorrigo, and Ulong. We suggest that, as soon as they stop, all E-Bike riders put additional charge into their batteries, especially the first day. **It is the responsibility of all E-bike riders to make sure their batteries are charged.**

SPECIFIC NOTES

Day 1 Armidale to Ebor (114 kms, +1,882m / -1,566m)

This is a big day, with considerable elevation. Riders are encouraged to ensure they have adequate nutrition and hydration and follow all directions from ride directors and marshalls.

Night 1 - Ebor

No riders are permitted to ride from Ebor to the start of Day 2. ALL bikes and riders will be transported by buses to the start at Hernani.

On arrival in Ebor:

- **all bikes will be transported to Hernani on trailers. Bring bikes to the designated area in the carpark of the Ebor Hotel and please assist with loading.** At Hernani, bikes will be unloaded and stored overnight in a secure and protected venue with security.
- **E bikes** will also be transported. All batteries must be removed and charged at Ebor, stored overnight and carried by the rider to Hernani the next morning.

Camping at Ebor - The carpark of the Ebor Hotel needs to be left clear.

- Larger teams (Faircloth & Reynolds, Coastal Cruisers and Ex-Servies, CWOBbers Blues, Hospedallers, Team ARC, UNE, Dragster boys), approximately 200 campers, will be directed to camp in the grounds of Ebor Public School (RHS of the road).
- All other smaller teams will park in the grounds of the Ebor Hotel. There is limited space here, so all teams are asked to share the space thoughtfully, and to fill the camping area from the back.
- Dinner, briefings, and jersey presentations will be held in the carpark. If camping in the grounds of Ebor Public School, take care when crossing Waterfall Way.

Day 2 Ebor to Ulong (76 kms, +1,283m / -1,956m)

Transport to Hernani

- **6:30 am - riders camped at Ebor Public School:** All teams that have been designated to camp behind the school (again approximately 200 participants) will be transported by bus to Hernani at 6:30 am *and* will have breakfast there. They will be the first teams on the buses.
- **7:15 am - all other riders camped at Ebor Hotel:** Breakfast at Ebor and transported via bus at 7:15 am.

Kids Ride – Start at Hernani on morning of Day 2

All parents to have the children at Hernani Hall by **7:30 am** with their bikes (if they haven't been transported the night before). Kids will be the first to go so make sure they are ready early. The Kids Ride is approx. 12 kms.

- Adult riders are asked to maintain a gap between the main peloton and the children, and no adult riders are to pass the kids ride.

Important note for parents: If you are picking up child riders at the finish of the Kids ride, you must leave Hernani Hall before the ride starts - you cannot leave after and attempt to travel through the riders to get there. If you do not leave before the ride starts, we ask that you wait and follow along behind the happy buses and the official trailing vehicle.

After the Kids Ride finishes, we travel through several private properties. There are several sections where the track is rough, washed out, steep and narrow and caution is required, especially if passing other riders. Follow directions from ride directors and marshalls.

Look out for a beautiful
Tallowood tree after lunch on Day
2 (just before the next drink stop)

Night 2 - Ulong

All teams are able to camp on the sports ground at Ulong. There is limited access, so teams are asked to follow directions. We will have a Marshall present to coordinate and fill from the back of the showground forwards. (If wet, no vehicles will be allowed. We will update you on this the night before.)

- As you arrive in Ulong, and during our time here, please keep the noise down as a courtesy to residents living in and around the Showground. Team members may also wish to visit the café and/or Services club.
- **No campfires are permitted at Ulong.**

Day 3 Ulong to Woolgoolga (73 kms, +1,150m / -1,703m)

- All riders will need to have departed by **7:00 am**.

All riders will be regrouped at Solitary Island Sports ground and re-form into pelotons in preparation for the last few kilometres into Woolgoolga.

Additional Kids Ride on Day 3

All children that completed the ride from Hernani are also welcome to meet all the riders at the Solitary Island Sports Ground, Centenary Drive (Woolgoolga sports ground). They will then lead in all riders to the Woolgoolga Surf Club, a distance of about 3 kms, to the finish of the event.

The 2024 Tour de Rocks ride will terminate in the car park of the Woolgoolga Surf Life Saving Club. There will be a BBQ and final presentation here at around **12:30 pm**.