



## Swindon Wheelers Cycling Club (SWCC)

### Supplemental Ride Etiquette and guidance for E (Electric) bike riders

As their use increases the inclusivity of a sport we love, SWCC recognises and embraces the increase in e bike use.

This document should be read in conjunction with other SWCC guidance and policies which are in place to ensure members have a safe and enjoyable experience whilst participating in activities and rides organised by SWCC. These can be found at:

<https://swindonwheelers.org/>.

**E bike definition:** To comply with UK law and the requirements of British Cycling for third party insurance (BC members) the following apply to any e bike participating in SWCC rides:

- a. the bike must have pedals that can be used to propel it
- b. the electric motor should not be able to propel the bike when it is travelling more than 15.5mph; and
- c. the motor should not have a maximum power output of more than 250 watts.

It must also display one item from each of the following:

- a. the power output or manufacturer of the motor; and
- b. the battery's voltage or maximum speed of the bike

- E bike riders are welcome on Nova group rides, all participants should have a knowledge of group riding, the highway code and always follow instructions from the ride leader.
- E bikes which are either modified post market (i.e., deregulated) or additionally powered for off road use (750w) are not permitted on SWCC group rides.
- E bike riders need to be confident before joining a ride that their battery will last the duration of the ride. In the event of loss of assisted power, the rider needs to decide whether they can ride home in unassisted mode or arrange to be rescued (similar to car recovery, there are cycle rescue services available)
- As with any rider, e bike riders should carry the essentials to deal with a mechanical such as a puncture (a full list of suggested equipment is on the SWCC website)
- In the event of electrical/mechanical failure the rider needs to discuss the best way to get home with the ride leader, this may be riding in unassisted mode or arranging to be collected.
- On flat terrain: e bike riders should stay in the group and not use their power to "surge" ahead putting undue pressure on the rest of the ride group.
- On hills: e bike riders may pass the group; letting riders ahead know that they are doing so, then wait in a safe place at the top of the climb.

**As a cycling club we recommend membership of British Cycling (or similar) for all members as this provides 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurance and legal assistance in the event of an incident**