Benefits to Joining a Cycling Club



11 Reasons - from Cycling Weekly

- 1. **Wealth of knowledge** The accumulated years of know-how and expertise within any given cycling club can be huge.
- 2. **Find new routes** Another subject in which the combined wisdom of the group will prove its worth, especially if you have recently moved to a new area, is the geography of the region.
- 3. **Camaraderie and new friendships** Unlike with friends from school or work, where you are thrown together by circumstance and have to make the best of it, joining a cycling club due to a specific interest in cycling means you've already got one big thing in common.
- 4. **Shiny new club kit** Further to the friendships you will form is the sense of belonging that comes with lining out in the same kit as your clubmates, especially when you're new to a club.
- 5. **Expensive bikes and equipment aren't necessary** Budget needn't be a worry. Riding in a club will show you that the bling on display at most sportives is neither necessary nor particularly common on club rides.
- 6. **Improve your Strava segment times** You might still not get the KOM but you'll definitely improve your segment times with a bit of club assistance.
- 7. **Train better** When cycling, there can always be a temptation to stay in your comfort zone. Get out on the bike with a faster group on a club run and you'll soon find you can push yourself much further than you thought.
- 8. **Get into racing** Once you've improved your general riding and training, the next step for many club riders is to get into racing.
- 9. **Motivation** Sometimes, riding on your own is bliss. Go where you want, as fast (or slow) as you want, for as long as you want. But the inverse of this is wondering if you can be bothered to go out at all.



- 10. **See the world and ride in the tire tracks of the pros** Much with cycling in general, riding abroad can obviously be done without joining a club first. But ascending Mont Ventoux around the time of the Tour de France or taking on the Paris-Roubaix Challenge sportive will be a lot more fun with friends.
- 11. **It's not just about the cycling** At the very least there are the cafe stops during the rides, but beyond that many clubs do a lot of off the bike socializing. Club nights in the local pub and an annual awards dinner are just some of the times you get to see your cycling friends wearing something other than lycra.

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Here are some reasons for joining the BBC

- 1. Weekly coffee ride. We hold this ride year-round, when weather permits. It is a no-drop ride where any level of cyclist are welcome to join us for a ride to an area coffee shop. We enjoy each other's company and like to get to know you.
- 2. Advocacy. We participate in <u>Bike Walk Nebraska</u>.

 This organization gives a voice on the state and local Bellevue Bicycle Club level to improve biking and walking trails/opportunities in Nebraska. The BBC works with local governments to represent all cyclists. Joining the club gives it a larger voice.
- 3. **Group Rides**. We have members that love gravel rides, some that do trails, and others that will do road rides. The Club participates in <u>BRAN</u>, <u>RAGBRI</u>, <u>Wear Yellow</u>, <u>OWL</u>, <u>Corporate Cycling Challenge</u>, and many other rides.
- 4. **Learning Opportunities**. The BBC often promotes and attends bike maintenance classes at local bike shops. Several times a year, after a coffee ride or at a club meeting, the club will allow you to get your hands-on experience at bike maintenance, instructions on bike safety, and learning more about difference in bikes.