

CYCLOPEDIA

Knowhow



JULIE RAND
Cycling UK volunteer
communications officer

Making sense of commonly
misunderstood subjects

Cycling incidents

What do I do if there's an incident on my group ride?

You're leading a ride, happily pedalling along, when out of nowhere disaster strikes. While such incidents are rare, it's important to know what you, as the person in charge of the ride, should do next.

Firstly, familiarise yourself ahead of time with our recommended incident checklist, which covers the immediate aftermath. This will help you to stay calm, take control of the situation and provide reassurance to everyone else.

If there has been a collision or near miss with someone who is not part of the organised ride, contact the Cycling UK Incident Line on 0330 1071 789 for legal advice. This service is provided free to Cycling UK members; non-members may be offered a free initial consultation.

If you think somebody on your ride (or at an event registered with us) could be held liable for any injury or damage sustained as a result of their negligence, whether as organiser or participant,

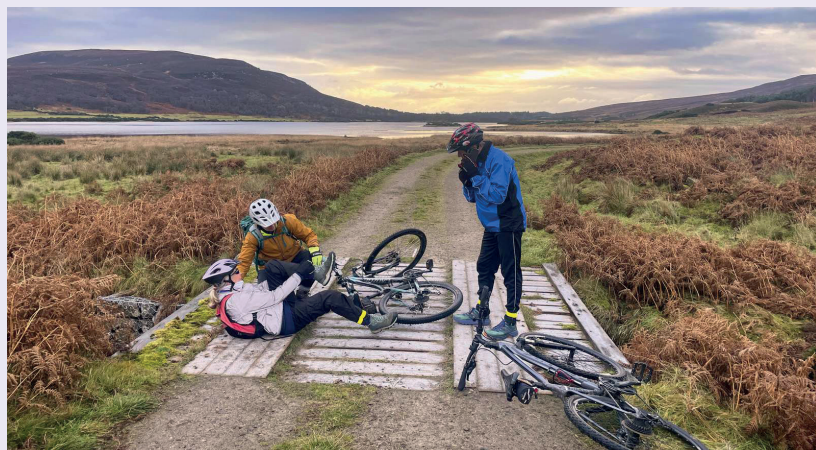


Photo: volunteer photographer Robert Tomlin

call Butterworth Spengler, our insurance brokers, on 0151 494 4400. Note that Cycling UK members are automatically covered for damage or injury caused to other members up to £10m.

You, or another responsible individual, should complete an accident/incident form as soon as possible. This is available via the links below. It goes directly to both Cycling UK and Butterworth Spengler, with a copy sent to you for your records.

If there are safeguarding concerns within a group, whether involving an adult or a child, a separate safeguarding report form will also need to be completed by the safeguarding officer.

Disagreements between riders, or situations where a rider could be deemed a danger to themselves and others, should be resolved by the safeguarding officer in the first instance. But as ride leader you have duty of care to the other riders, so if you think somebody could be a danger to themselves or others, you must request that they leave the ride if need be. Again, an accident/incident report form should be filled in.

We are currently offering a free online training course for our member group ride leaders only. This discusses many of the topics here. Visit cyclinguk.org/ride-leader-training to find out more.

For other resources, follow the links below.

- What to do if there's an incident on a group ride: cyclinguk.org/group-ride-incident
- What to do if you have a cycling crash: cyclinguk.org/crash-advice
- Local groups and cycling clubs: cyclinguk.org/local-groups
- Insurance for cycling: cyclinguk.org/insurance ●

Liability cover

Volunteers registered with Cycling UK – ride leaders, event organisers, marshals, other 'officials' – are covered for up to £10m for injuries or damage that may be attributable to their negligence, as long as the rides or events are run in accordance with our policies.

Such volunteers are also covered if a non-member at their ride/event causes injury or damage, leading to a claim against them. A Cycling UK guideline is that there should not be more than 10 non-members on any one ride, and nor should they participate in a Cycling UK ride more than three times.

Members of Cycling UK are also covered for up to £10m by our third-party insurance against claims for any injury or damage caused by their negligence. Up to 10 non-members or 'guest' riders with Cycling UK member groups (not affiliate groups) are also covered against their negligence for the duration of the ride, but only up to a limit of three rides per guest rider.

Incident checklist

- ✓ Stay calm and make the area safe.
- ✓ Assess any casualties, performing first aid if qualified.
- ✓ If necessary, ring emergency services.
- ✓ Make a note of exactly what happened. Retain any camera footage. Use a phone to photograph road defects or vehicles involved.
- ✓ Report the incident to the relevant authorities.
- ✓ Ensure all participants and their bikes are safe before deciding whether to continue.
- ✓ Direct those involved to sources of support – for example, counselling – where appropriate.