

E-bikes on Revolve Road Rides (February 2018)

Revolve is a fun cycling club for women of all abilities and skills levels. Our objectives are to:

- **Help beginners break into the sport** and enjoy biking, as well as facilitate the continued improvement of riding skills and confidence of all levels of participants.
- **Encourage participation** in regular skills clinics and maintenance clinics to improve knowledge of bike handling skills and bike equipment.
- **Help riders gain confidence** for first time races or maintain fitness for races throughout the year.
- **Promote biking to girls and women of all ages** to encourage self-improvement and confidence in themselves and others which can relate to skills used in everyday life.
- **Protect, maintain and assist** with building and maintaining trails in the Wellington area.

E-bikes are a game changing innovation that is rapidly changing cycling. They allow people to keep riding for longer as they age, and in many cases allow those who for health reasons may not otherwise be able to ride, to start or keep riding. The number of e-bikes on the roads and trails has increased exponentially over the last few years and in January 2018 Revolve got its first request from an e-biker wishing to join a ride. It is almost inevitable that this will continue as the number of e-bikes in New Zealand continues to increase, and this policy is in response to that likely increased demand.

The Revolve Committee has considered the case for and against e-bikes on road rides and has sought the opinions of current road ride guides. We have also run a trial with an e-bike on a beginners ride and received feedback from both the e-biker and ride guides.

Based on this Revolve will welcome e-bikes on beginner road rides (Round the Bays and Eastbourne) and ask that e-bike riders abide by the following guidelines.

Guidelines for e-bikers on Revolve Road Rides

- Abide by all normal group ride etiquette including following all road rules.
- No bunch riding/drafting.
- Leave a decent gap between yourself and other riders. Remember you have more power when stopping and starting than other riders.
- Position yourself in the middle or at the back of the group. Let someone on a non e-bike lead and set the pace as they will be more sensitive to changes in pace caused by wind, small inclines etc.
- Be considerate on hills and pass carefully. Wait at the top of bigger hills and be mindful of other riders who might need a breather when they get there!
- Stay with the group. Revolve rides are about riding as a group and enjoying each other's company.

- Have a contingency plan in case you have a mechanical and cannot continue. Your safety is your responsibility.

Revolve does not currently have a policy on e-bikes on mountain bike rides as very few Revolve Rides happen on e-bike permitted trails (e-bikes are currently limited to a small number of trails around the city). This will be reviewed as and when required.

This policy for road rides will be reviewed in late 2018. If you have any feedback from rides you have led or been on, please let the Committee know by sending us an email.