

Hike and Bike Ride Classifications

Hikes and bike rides are rated based on type of terrain and pace. It is important that you select physical activities based on your personal abilities.

Terrain Classification	Hikes	Rides
Class 1	Easy, mostly flat.	Easy, flat. Mostly on bike paths, gravel or paved. Occasionally on roads that will have a small amount of traffic
Class 2	Intermediate, rolling hills, some stone or rocks on trail.	Easy, some moderate hills (ascended slowly). Mainly on quiet roads, sometimes on busier county roads. May include some unpaved, gravel sections.
Class 3	More difficult, steep ups and downs, trail rocky but stable.	Intermediate, includes hills. Primarily roads (quiet as well as busier county); but may include some unpaved sections.
Class 4	Most difficult, very steep ups and downs, unstable footing, hand holds may be necessary.	Intermediate, including hills, some steep and long. Primarily roads (quiet as well as busy). Bike paths, if involved, must be paved.
Pace Classifications	Hikes	Rides
Class A	Leisure pace, accommodates the leisure hiker Amble, unhurried, with frequent stops	Leisurely pace, cruise on flat 7 to 12 mph; Overall average 7 to 8 mph; frequent stops
Class B	Amble, unhurried, with frequent stops	Steady but leisurely pace. Cruise on flat 9 to 13 mph; Overall moving average 9 to 10 mph
Class C	Moderate, energetic to cover a proposed distance.	Moderate. Cruise on flat 11 to 14 mph, Overall moving average 10 to 11 mph.
Class D	Brisk, capable of walking at a quick pace for prolonged periods	Cruise on flat 12 to 16 mph; Overall moving average 11 to 12 mph.

Hiking Guidelines

1. Questions about a hike should be directed to the hike leader prior to day of the hike.
2. Hiking boots are required for all hikes other than those classified as 1A. Sneakers may be appropriate for a Class 1A hike. Check with hike leader.
3. Many find that hiking sticks increase stability on steep and/or rocky trails. Consider bringing one!
4. Remember to contribute towards gas when you are a passenger in a carpool.
5. What to Bring on a Hike:
 - a. adequate drinking water, especially during hot weather.
 - b. your own snacks, as needed. If lunch is planned following the hike, it may be later than a normal lunch time meal.
 - c. your own basic first-aid kit. Leaders are not trained in first aid and are not expected to provide first-aid supplies.
 - d. weather-appropriate clothing items to layer as conditions change.

Bicycle Ride Guidelines

1. On all rides, leader will wait at intervals for all riders to catch up.
2. Questions about a ride should be directed to the ride leader prior to day of the ride.
3. **A suitable bicycle, helmet, extra inner tube and water are required for ALL rides.**
4. For most HHC rides a hybrid bicycle is very suitable. For longer faster rides a road bicycle might be considered. Note that hybrids with their wider tires excel on all types of surfaces and are sturdy and reliable. Road bikes with their narrow high-pressure tires roll easier but are not good on gravel.
5. Your bicycle must be in good operating condition, especially the brakes and gears.
6. Tires should be fully inflated and wheels securely fastened.
7. A cell phone is recommended. A spare inner tube, levers and a multi-tool are useful items to carry. Also a small first aid kit for treating cuts, grazes etc. Leaders are not trained in first aid and are not expected to provide first aid supplies.