

Marshalling Tips

Marshals are needed to organize and stage a safe bicycle race event. Marshals are responsible for crowd control and minor traffic control.

Marshals need certain information in order to do their jobs effectively. They should know:

- The time and direction to expect racers moving through their intersection.
- The entire race course, starting times, and estimated ending times, in order to be prepared to answer spectators' and motorists' questions.
- How to direct traffic, the manner in which to stop motorists, the need to act in a professional and commanding manner, using common sense.

A marshal's primary responsibility is to reduce confusion of the drivers, pedestrians, deny access to general motoring public, guide event participants, and keep the general public from the path of the event.

Never assume that a driver sees you. Be sure to make eye contact with the driver. Directions given to a motorist must be clear, firm and courteous. **Always expect the unexpected.** To be visible to approaching traffic you should:

- Wear unique light colored clothing and an orange colored vest, to distinguish yourself from the general public or the event participants.
- Stand in a conspicuous place on the shoulder of the road.
- Stand in a manner and location that both the event route and the traffic can be observed.
- Stand where there is a sharp color contrast between you and your background.
- If possible, do not stand in the shade. Do not sit, lean or lie on or in a vehicle.
- Stand alone so you can be recognized.
- Remain in your position for the duration of the event or until properly relieved.

Basic Rules of Conduct would include:

- Always be aware of traffic
- Do not step into, or turn your back on, approaching traffic
- Stay alert! Be ready to respond to any emergency
- Know where and how to call for medical help
- Record the license number and description of any vehicle that threatens the safety of others.
- Be courteous and professional.
- Keep your mind on your duties. Do not become distracted. Do not involve yourself in unnecessary conversations with participants, spectators or motorists.