

MINISTRY GUIDE

2016



ChristianCycling
.com

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MINISTRY GUIDE

SECTION ONE – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP



VISION STATEMENT

Building the Body through Cycling

MISSION STATEMENT

To *unite* Christian cyclists for a worldwide testimony in lifestyle, training, and sportsmanship and to *expose* each cyclist we encounter to the love and grace of Jesus Christ, so they may want to have a relationship with Him.

VALUES



ChristianCycling exists to inspire and produce positive change in cyclists and cycling communities to honor God. We have members all over the world and organized rides all over the United States.

Through our local spokes we sponsor many activities for all sorts of cyclists, including mountain and road riders, from beginner recreational pedal pushers to elite racing programs.



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!

ChristianCycling is an interdenominational organization representing riders from a variety of Christian traditions. This means we properly respect and honor diverse expressions of Christian faith. All members agree to a common statement of faith.



Our bold ChristianCycling jerseys serve as a visible reminder that God is the ultimate Authority, as we seek to honor the King.

*ChristianCycling
exists to inspire
and produce
positive change
in cyclists and
cycling communities
to honor God.*

VALUES

As a result of being an interdenominational ministry, we will share the Good News with the greater cycling community by boldly striving:

1. To express unity in Jesus Christ.

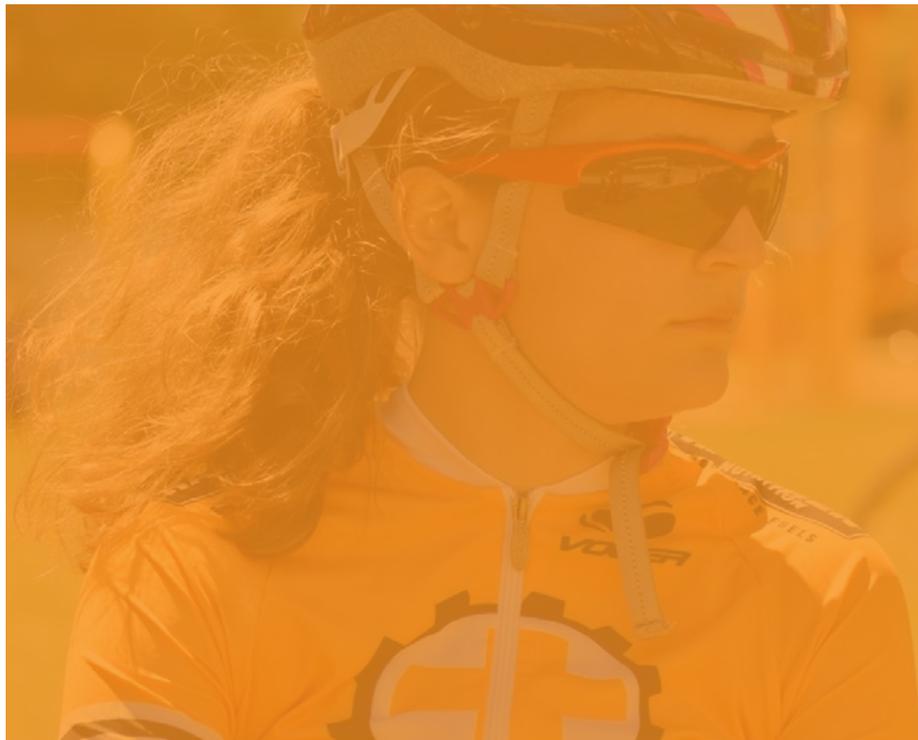
- We respond with extraordinary friendliness while we ride
- We extend compassionate outreach to other riders
- We initiate interaction with other cyclists
- We seek authentic relationships with fellow riders

2. To express liberty through Jesus Christ.

- We encourage all types and level of cyclists
- We embrace different cycling interests
- We pursue personal life impact for ourselves and other riders
- We share our unique stories while we share rides

3. To express the love of Jesus Christ.

- We nurture growth in other cyclists
- We cherish family and friendship with other riders
- We recognize God's grace before and during every ride
- We celebrate His progress in ourselves and other cyclists



*We will share the
Good News.*





STATEMENT OF FAITH

ChristianCycling sees the Bible as central to our understanding of God, His plan for us, and as the basis for our understanding of who we are.

We understand the divine inspiration, inerrancy, and consequent authority of the Old and New Testaments (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

ChristianCycling recognizes the One living and true God, creator of everything, co-existent eternally in three equal persons-Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who are all fully God. In addition, we hold to Jesus' virgin birth, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, making him fully man in addition to being fully God. Jesus' bodily resurrection, ascension, and future visible return are central to us, as is His present high priestly ministry. ***Not only did Jesus die, but he arose from the dead, defeating death, while his ascension means he can be at the Father's right hand on our behalf now, as we await his second coming.*** (Gen 1:1, John 4:24, 10:30 Luke 1:34-35, Luke 24:36-43,51; Heb 4:14, Acts 1:11).

We believe in the rebellion and fall of humanity, and our consequent moral depravity and death. From Adam on, all people have sinned, cutting all of us off from God and resulting in our death. Even as we are sinful, the Holy Spirit is convicting the world of its sin, and the need of personal regeneration (Gen 3:1-19, Job 1:6, Rom 3:9-18, Gal 5:16, John 3:3, John 16:8).

Not only is the Holy Spirit reminding us we are sinful, but because Jesus died and was resurrected, we can repent of sin and be declared "not guilty" by faith in Him. This will lead to a life surrendered to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and his consequent provision of abundant, blessed, and changed life through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We also believe in the physical resurrection of everyone, both of the just and the unjust, and that there is eternal life in heaven for God's children, and eternal punishment in hell for those who have rejected Christ (John 16:8, Acts 13:38, 39; Rom 5:9, 18-19; 1 Cor 3:16, Gal 5:16; Rev. 20:11-15, 1 Cor 15:42-58).

ChristianCycling recognizes the importance of the local Church, including the practices of communion and baptism, as well as the need for Christian fellowship, communal worship and teaching. We also believe in a life dedicated to the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ with both words and actions (Heb 10:25, 1Cor 11:23-32, Matt 28:18-20; James 4:4, Rom. 12:1,2, 1 John 2:15-17, Gal 5:22-26; 2 Cor. 6:14-18, Acts 1:8, 2 Cor. 5:19, 20; Matt 28:18-20).

CODE OF CONDUCT



Rationale

The Code of Conduct bolsters personal integrity and responsibility among ChristianCycling ministry members who seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. ChristianCycling is committed to providing a welcoming, Christian environment to all riders. An essential mission of each ministry member is to be an ambassador of Jesus Christ. The ministry seeks to enhance strong ethical and moral values in our members.

General Expectations

ChristianCycling members shall not engage in activities in conflict with the Gospel message, especially those that are illegal, immoral or unethical. Members shall avoid activities detrimental to themselves, or that cause another member to stumble into a sinful act. Members shall not misrepresent, embarrass or defame the ChristianCycling ministry, the name of Jesus Christ, or the general community. Members shall not do things to diminish the effective witness of Christ in the general community.

All official member activities should seek to fulfill the stated mission of the ministry: to unite Christian cyclists for a worldwide testimony in lifestyle, training and sportsmanship; and to expose each cyclist we encounter to the love and grace of Jesus Christ, so they want to have a relationship with Him.

ChristianCycling Biblical and Moral Agreement.

ChristianCycling is ministry for cycling enthusiasts, expected to uphold Biblical and moral lifestyle standards as governed by the National Board. The ministry extends membership, in good standing, to those who espouse those standards. At the same time, anyone is welcome to participate in most ministry activities. Membership and leadership positions, at the spoke or national level, are reserved for those who affirm the ministry's statement of faith and membership agreement. The national board may forfeit the membership of any member who fails to uphold the standards of the ministry.

Drugs.

ChristianCycling members shall not be under the influence of illegal narcotics (as defined by federal law) or possess, use, sell or supply illegal drugs or drug-related products.

Alcoholic Beverages.

During ChristianCycling-sanction events and official member activities, members shall not be under the influence of alcoholic beverages. Further, members shall not cause minors to possess, use or sell alcoholic beverages.

Sexual Activity.

ChristianCycling honors the Biblical definition of marriage and sanctity of sexual relations in that context. ChristianCycling members shall refrain from sexual activities outside of the marriage relationship.

Respect of one another.

ChristianCycling members are expected to represent Christ at all times and show respect for themselves and all other persons. Our love and extension of grace to others strengthens our witness and forms a central part of our Christian life.

Code of Conduct verses

Job 2:3 Then the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason.”

Proverbs 10:9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.

Matthew 7:12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 18:15-17 If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

John 13:34-35 A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

Romans 5:3-4 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

Romans 13:1-5 Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God’s servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

1 Corinthians 6:18-20 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.”

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

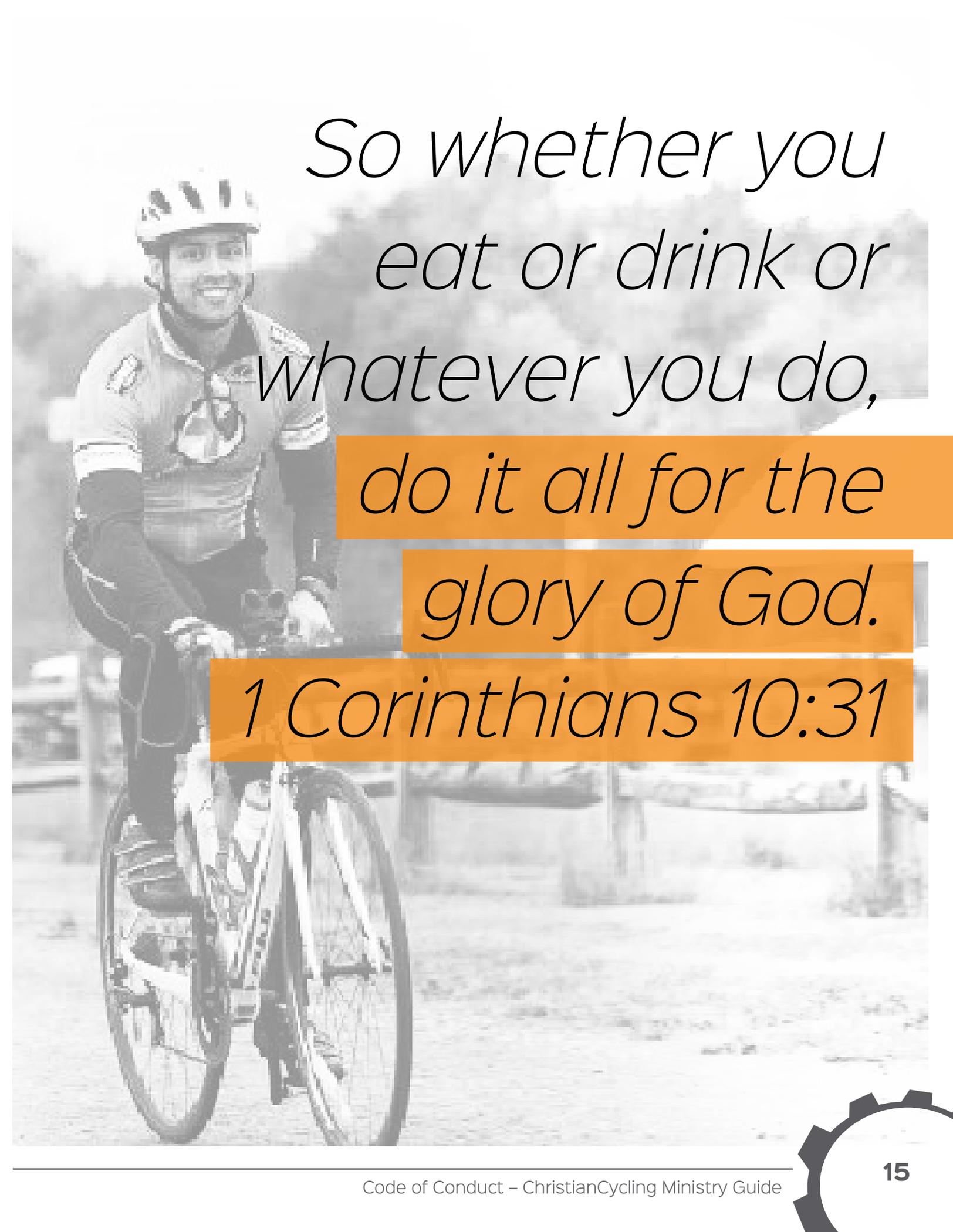
Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Titus 2:7-8 In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

2 Peter 1:5-7 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.



*So whether you
eat or drink or
whatever you do,
do it all for the
glory of God.*

1 Corinthians 10:31

NON PROFIT STATUS

A photograph of two cyclists in a race. The cyclist on the left is wearing a white jersey with an orange cross logo and a yellow helmet. The cyclist on the right is wearing a black jersey with 'atexc' and 'KEY' logos and a black helmet. They are both wearing sunglasses and are riding on a road bike. The background shows a body of water and a hazy sky.

In 1996 ChristianCycling applied to become a non profit, tax exempt organization. In order to remain in good standing as a non profit organization we must abide by all non profit tax laws and file our annual IRS form 990 which, by law is open for the public and membership to view.

An approved 501(c)(3) exemption allows donors to the organization to reduce their own taxable incomes by deducting the amounts of their donations given, and thus to reduce their personal income taxes.

When a new US spoke is formed they are allowed to open a bank account under our federal tax id number and all donations are to be processed through the national headquarters for proper receipting and tax accounting.

MINISTRY STRUCTURE

National Board >> President >>

Executive Team (*President, Board Chairman, Admin Lead*) >>

Regional Directors >> Spoke Directors >> Members

ORGANIZATIONAL DUTIES

NATIONAL BOARD



- Develops Corporate Ministry Vision
- Develops Corporate Business Plans and Long-term Goals
- Financial and Tax Reporting
- Establishes Corporate Governance and Assures Legal/Policy Compliance
- Ministry Focus: Spoke Development
- Approves and Terminates Spoke Directors
- Establishes Permanent and Ad Hoc Committees
- Selects and Removes NB Members
- Decides Questions of Policy, Governance, Doctrine or Ministry Partnerships
- Terminates Memberships of Individuals Found in Non-compliance
- Establishes Corporate Officers
- Signs All Corporate Contracts/Agreements of More than a Year in Length or \$5,000

PRESIDENT



- Implements National Boards Ministry Vision
- Recruits, Manages, Trains and Equips Regional Directors
- Develops Sponsor Relationships
- Develops Regional Director Goals and Strategies
- Represents Ministry as Spokesperson
- Communicates with membership via monthly newsletter messages and online content

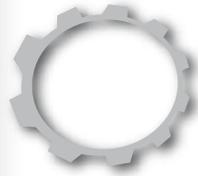
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President,
Board Chairman,
Admin Lead



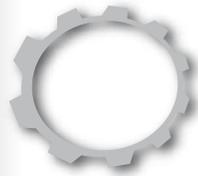
- Discusses High-Level Decisions and Makes Recommendations to NB
- Brings Key Items to NB for Decisions
- Communicates with Christian Cycling Members and Communities
- Makes Routine Decisions (below a set threshold) Without NB Direction

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF LEAD*



- Reports to NB
- Manages Daily Ministry Operations
- Prepares and Distributes Newsletters
- Prepares and Distributes Ministry Vendor Orders
- Processes General Inquiries from Membership, Prospects and Sponsors
- Handles Basic Ministry Bookkeeping and Banking
- Assists In Financial and Tax Reporting
- Maintains Ministry Records, Membership Rosters and NB Minutes
- Maintains ministry website and manages online content

REGIONAL DIRECTORS



- Operates under direction of President
- Serves as Spoke Director Liaison to President
- Mentors New Spoke Directors
- Shepherds Spoke Director Candidates
- Serves as New Member Liaison
- Establishes Regional Camps
- Establishes Regional Ministry Events

SPOKE DIRECTORS



- Shepherds Local Members
- Expands Ministry Through Local Activities and Outreach
- Facilitates Local Ministry Opportunities, Service Projects and Events
- Works With Regional Director on Goal Planning

WHAT NEW MEMBERS CAN EXPECT

Sponsorship When you join ChristianCycling you will be set up with a login and password for our website which allows you to access the members only section of the website. This allows you to view sponsorship information and to obtain discount codes which are given to members only. We ask that you respect our sponsors and not share these codes with non-members. Be sure to take advantage of these great discounts from some quality companies!

Clothing Order Process Our greatest ministry tool is our jersey on your back! It is the best way to make connections with others and to spread the word about ChristianCycling and even open doors to share your faith.

We order clothing five times a year directly from Voler's website. You will pay with credit card and the clothing will ship from Voler to your doorstep. When you log into the Voler store you will see our design on the front page. When you start ordering you will see stock photos for each clothing option. We will send out emails and Facebook reminders every time a clothing order comes up so that you are able to order. Make sure to check on the website with order dates for, each year so that you can plan when to order.

How to Get Plugged In When you join your name and contact information are forwarded to our Regional Directors and Spoke Directors so that they can contact you and help you get plugged in to what is going on in your city, state or region. For those who live in an area with a spoke you will be able to connect more often with your spoke for various activities including weekly rides, fellowship times, Bible Studies, races, outreach, etc. If you live in an area without a spoke then you will want to be in touch with your Regional Director so that you know what is happening in your region. We try to plan one event per year for each region to attend in order to fellowship with others and get connected. Some of these regional events include centuries, training camps or other fun events.

Social Media ChristianCycling is very active on Facebook with each spoke having their own Facebook page along with our national Facebook page. We update these pages often with events, pictures, updates on ministry, etc. Facebook is the best way to get the up to date news on what we are doing and how you can get involved.

We also keep our website up to date and we send out monthly e-newsletters.

Resources

We make all of our ministry tools available to our members on our website, through our national office, and in the appendices of this ministry guide. Our marketing tools are a great way for each individual member to help spread the word about ChristianCycling.

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ChristianCycling
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HOW TO LEAD A WEEKLY GROUP RIDE

A great way to support ChristianCycling is to lead a local weekly group ride. This is great for outreach and fellowship and one of the best tools for establishing relationships.

Group rides are where we make friends and memories.

Organizing group rides is easy and a great way to serve the local cycling community. If you want your group ride to be successful and serve people well, you'll need at least two dependable leaders, and to do some planning.



Details for Hosting a Group Ride

Flavor: First, decide what sort of ride you want. Off-road MTB ride? Epic weekend road ride? Fast paced ride after work? Gravel ride? Paved bike trail ride with parents pulling kids behind? Any of these can work. Be sure to pick a flavor of ride that you and at least another member will enjoy leading.

When and where: Timing and route will make or break your ride. Survey all the ongoing local rides of the flavor you're planning. Don't schedule your ride to compete with established rides. Instead, join them, and invite those riders to join your ride. Your route should be fun and safe enough for your target cyclists. Also plan your ride to be a weekly ride in a specific season or seasons. Think about times that will work for people, especially if they have to drive to the start.

Getting the news out: Learn and use all the local online cycling forums and Facebook pages that apply to your flavor of ride. If there are no local Facebook pages for your sort of cycling, start one, and invite your friends to join, like, and share. For example, the St Louis area has STL Mountain Bikers, St. Louis Cyclocross Racers, St. Louis Gravel Riders, and BikeLife STL Facebook

pages that cyclists use to connect, in addition to STLbiking.com, which has a set of cycling forums. It will be important to share a map of your route, information about start time, anticipated pace, what sort of bike or accessories are needed, and how you manage the ride. More about that later.

Building a core: Reach outside of your to other cycling friends who would enjoy the ride. Engage them in planning the route and timing. It's about building community outside our holy huddle, right? Ideally you will line up at least eight riders for your first ride, and half of them will be outside.



HOW TO LEAD A WEEKLY GROUP RIDE

What should a Christian-led ride look and feel like? Remember Jesus' commandment to "Love your neighbor as you love yourself." Make sure you have the posture and heart of a servant-leader. Here are some ways you can live that out on your ride:

- Share your contact info. Folks can call you if running late or confused about where or when it starts.
- Start the ride five minutes after the scheduled time, or after everyone is saddled up, whichever comes last.

Don't pull away leaving somebody in the parking lot scrambling to get ready for your ride.

- At the start, gather people up, introduce yourself, ask folks to introduce themselves, and do a head count.
- Have planned "catch up" spots along the route to gather up any riders who have drifted off the back. Do a head count every time you stop. Make sure those catching up have 2-3 minutes to catch their breath, get a drink, or get a snack before you take off again.
- Riders stoked to make this a breakthrough workout should storm every hill, then if they want some extra work, should ride backwards on the course until they are below and behind the last rider, and then pace him or her up the climb they just finished.
- Regardless of whether people understand or follow your rules, be sure you follow them consistently. People will catch on. If someone is determined to go off the front and leave everyone behind, let them! Getting angry about that, or impatient about a slower rider, is not loving the unlovely as Jesus does.
- Stop and help with any mechanicals or injuries. Be sure you are well equipped



and skilled enough to do road or trail-side repairs or first aid.

- If there is a serious injury (rider cannot finish the ride), your role in leading the finish of the ride is OVER. Caring for that person is your primary responsibility. They need you more than the others need a ride leader, or an uninterrupted ride.
- If you have to be at the front or in the lead, you're probably not ready to be a servant-leader of a group ride. That's OK- get someone else to be the servant-leader. We all go through phases! If you have two ride leaders, you'll have a chance to move around in the pack, whether on or off-road, and spend time beside or along with different riders. Keep one leader in the front third of the group, and another in the back third. Switch it up during the ride.
- Public prayer is optional, but prayer is necessary! Under special circumstances, public prayer at the beginning of a ride may be appropriate, but don't make people uncomfortable. Instead, take a couple moments to pray in or at your car, etc. My usual prayer is like this: Heavenly Father, Thank You for this chance to do what we love, to enjoy your beautiful creation, and to exercise and strengthen these temples you've given us.

Please protect us and help us to be a blessing to each other and everyone we meet on our ride. Amen!

- After the ride: Thank everyone for coming, and go around and ask people how it was for them. Will they be there next week? Remind people to invite friends. Follow up on Facebook, tagging people and saying something positive about the ride.

Colors: Be sure your members wear their ChristianCycling kits and wear them well, representing the mission and the Gospel well, and clearly acting as a team together on mission to serve. We want folks to be able to look to any of our members for help or a good word. Any re-directing of our members should be done gently and privately.

Food and Hydration: Members should have enough food and hydration for themselves and some to give away. Leaders should have a spare helmet, spare water bottle, windbreaker, gloves, and a couple extra tubes in their car for those who forget stuff.

Rides/workouts that have worked: In Missouri, we've had two group rides that were highly successful.

EXAMPLE OF HOSTING A WEEKLY RIDE

CX Practice: We have hosted a cyclocross practice that starts the week after Labor Day and concludes when Daylight Savings time ends, on Tuesday and Thursday nights in a local park. A 0.8 mile flagged course is set up starting at 5 PM and is ready for riders by 5:40. Folks cruise around and warm up until 6, when we have a few “hot laps” or race simulations totaling about eight minutes in the beginning week, to 15 minutes later as the race season approaches. We do some cool down and re-hydrating, then do more race simulations in the opposite directions. Then we ride until dusk, practicing skills or doing tempo work. New course variations are introduced every week. Participation varies, from 6-30 riders depending on weather. These practices serve aspiring or newbie cx racers as well as veteran racers. Leaders look for newbies and lead them around the course during warmups, and coach on cx skills such as barriers. Sometimes we bring a cooler of water and some cookies. The place where we set up the barriers are a natural stopping and gathering place.

Night Gravel Ride: Our announcements on social media sites tell riders what to expect and what to bring.

When: 6:00 PM on Tuesday nights

Where: At the Mound parking lot off Highway 94, 1.5 miles southwest of Highway 40 on Highway 94. Look for the Quonset hut on the right, then turn into the parking lot at the Superfund site.

The Course: The 24-mile-long course incorporates the Hamburg and Katy trails, and climbs paved Terry and Duke roads to the top of Matson Hill, then returns to Defiance and re-traces the Katy and Hamburg gravel trails back to the parking lot.

What to Bring: A cyclocross or gravel bike with 700 x 35 smooth rolling tires inflated to 50 psi is recommended, but a 29er hardtail with fast rolling tires works well too. You'll need a good headlight with at least 300 lumens and a flashing tail light, appropriate clothing for the weather, a snack, and at least one water bottle. Bring a tube and pump or CO2 inflator and a small tool kit. If you need a bike or a light or whatever, but want to try gravel night riding, speak up here on this forum and we will see what we can line up for you.

How we roll: We make 6 stops along the way and catch everyone up. Rolling average speed is about 16 mph, not counting the time at rest stops. The gravel descent early on the Hamburg is sketchy, and the paved climbs on Terry and Duke roads are relentless. This is a training ride but nobody gets left behind. Women are welcome of course!

We start at a moderate, warmup pace to the first stop. Then riders can expect a “Cat 4 training pace” until the stop before the first climb. Then it’s a free for all to the next rest stop, and so on, to the end. Lead riders reaching the rest stops first typically roll backwards on the course if there are riders still out of sight after a minute or two, to make sure nobody is struggling or had a mechanical. Looking forward to seeing you Tuesday night!

Who: Led by your local ChristianCycling group. If you have last minute questions or need directions or are running late on ride night, call Rich Pierce at 314-800-5018 before the start of the ride at 6 PM.



MINISTRY GUIDE

SECTION TWO – SPOKE DIRECTORS



HOW TO CREATE A SPOKE

What is a Spoke?

The ChristianCycling Bylaws [updated 2014] define a Spoke as: a “Fellowship of Ministry” represented by a locally organized group of Christians and dedicated members shall be known as a Spoke. A Spoke may be organized in a state, a part of a state, or in any geographic region or community with sufficient members.

Why Start a Spoke?

A Spoke has tremendous advantages in that the members can more effectively participate in ministry and evangelism working as a team, and the support and fellowship of Christian cyclists united in purpose is a wonderful blessing.

We experience strength in numbers: locally, nationally and worldwide. With more ChristianCycling members involved together, our impact is greater.

What does it take to start a Spoke?

First, a motivated leader to go through the process of becoming an official Spoke Director of ChristianCycling.

1. Fill out the Spoke Director Application
2. Sign the Statement of Faith
3. Send a Pastoral letter of Recommendation

Second, one or more additional motivated leaders, who share a passion for Christ and cycling, and are committed to growing the Spoke. Matthew 18:20 states: “For where

two or three come together in my name, there am I with them”. If God is present with two or three believers we believe that is a good foundation for starting a Spoke.

A Spoke shall have the following:

Leadership Team: The Spoke Director is the de facto leader of each Spoke. The leadership team of each individual Spoke will likely vary but positions to consider are an Assistant Spoke Director, Treasurer, Secretary, ride organizers, communications, project leads, and other core leaders.

Ministry Plan: ChristianCycling is a ministry, seeking to impact the kingdom of Christ. A local Spoke serves as a great place for Christian fellowship and camaraderie, and we want to be intentional in our mission to Unite (fellowship with Christian cyclists) and Light (outreach to cycling community). Each local Spoke should develop a ministry plan that outlines its plan to foster Christian fellowship, spread the Good News and minister to the greater cycling community in their geographic location. The ChristianCycling Ministry Guide includes examples other Spokes have used, but your ministry plan likely may be unique to your area.

Communications Plan: The most successful Spokes succeed because of effective planning and communication with its local members. In addition to emailing and text messaging, other popular

communications channels used by current Spokes include Facebook, Meetup.com pages, regular newsletters, phone chains and other social media platforms.

Leadership Transition Plan: Through the years, ChristianCycling learned that Spokes with the greatest longevity and growth employed plans to transition new leaders, especially Spoke Directors. A Spoke needs a plan for installing new leadership, and a regular rotation as the directorship, like a term limit, can stave off burnout and promote healthy growth and new ideas in a Spoke. Each new Spoke should submit a leadership transition plan as part of its spoke director application.

Who Can Lead a Spoke?

- A person who believes in Jesus Christ as their Savior
- A person who is committed/involved with a local church
- A person who has a passion for cycling (recreational, racing, road, mountain, trail, cross, etc.)
- A member who is in good standing with ChristianCycling
- Agrees with, and has signed, our statement of Faith
- Has completed the Spoke Director Application

- Has submitted a pastor letter of recommendation

The ChristianCycling Executive Board believes a firm foundation is the key to staying power of Spokes. The board reviews all Spoke Director Applications and makes the final decision on the applicant. The applicant will be notified of further questions and/or the decision.

International Spokes

International Spokes are unique in how they are formed and set up.

Wow! Why such requirements?

First, while a Spoke is a great place for Christian fellowship and camaraderie, ideally it will be more than that. Like any ministry, we should be intentional in our mission and outreach to have an impact for the Kingdom of Christ.

Second, it is important to realize that calling a new local ChristianCycling initiative a “Spoke” doesn’t magically make a Spoke appear or last. A firm foundation and staying power are important, just like in training on the bike or our own faith journey.

HOW TO CREATE A SPOKE

Exercise 1: Why do we want a Spoke?

This is probably the best place to start. The intentional steps you take early on to understand your and other members' hopes and aspirations for a Spoke will help you every time you need to make decisions.

Activity: Gather together your core group of Christian cyclists who have an interest in starting a Spoke in your area. If you can host the gathering at a neutral site, this can help everyone feel equal and more open. An example would be meeting at a park after a group ride. If you meet at someone's home or business, try to rotate your meetings so others can host. You may want to use a white board, blackboard, laptop or tablet to write down words or phrases that are important to each person. God brings His people together with unique gifts to serve each other and be the complete body of Christ together. A good study chapter for this exercise is I Corinthians 12, and you may choose to read it as a starting point. Start the meeting with prayer for guidance.

Questions you might pose (not in any particular order). Remember to be patient and draw out responses from each person. Take time to listen and to not judge each others' motivations. Other questions might be more relevant or important to your group, so feel free to improvise.

1) "What is the cycling scene like here? What is great about it? What's not so great?"

Answers may address the types or local flavors of riding (road, MTB), the vitality of the local cycling community, the numbers and types of clubs and race teams, the types of organized rides, races and charity rides. This question may help you understand why people want "more" or "something different".

2) “What could we do as a Spoke that we can’t do as individual Christians or ChristianCycling members riding bikes? Or, “Wouldn’t it be awesome if we could.....”

Answers may include: promote better fellowship among Christian cyclists in our area, enjoy group rides with other Christians, race together as a team, do bike tours, charity rides, or epic organized rides together as a team, serve the local cycling community together, grow Christian community among cyclists in our area, and share the Gospel more effectively.

3) “What are our spiritual gifts that God could use for His glory here if we were a Spoke?”

Answers may include any of the spiritual gifts, and particular applications to the cycling community. These might include prayer, generosity, compassion, wisdom, service, hospitality, healing, etc. Try to tease out how these might be used if you launched a Spoke in your area. People tend to be shy about sharing their gifts so you may decide to talk about each others’ gifts. “Alexa, you’re a great group ride leader. I can see your gifts of service and hospitality at work when you lead that Tuesday evening ride from the sandwich shop.”

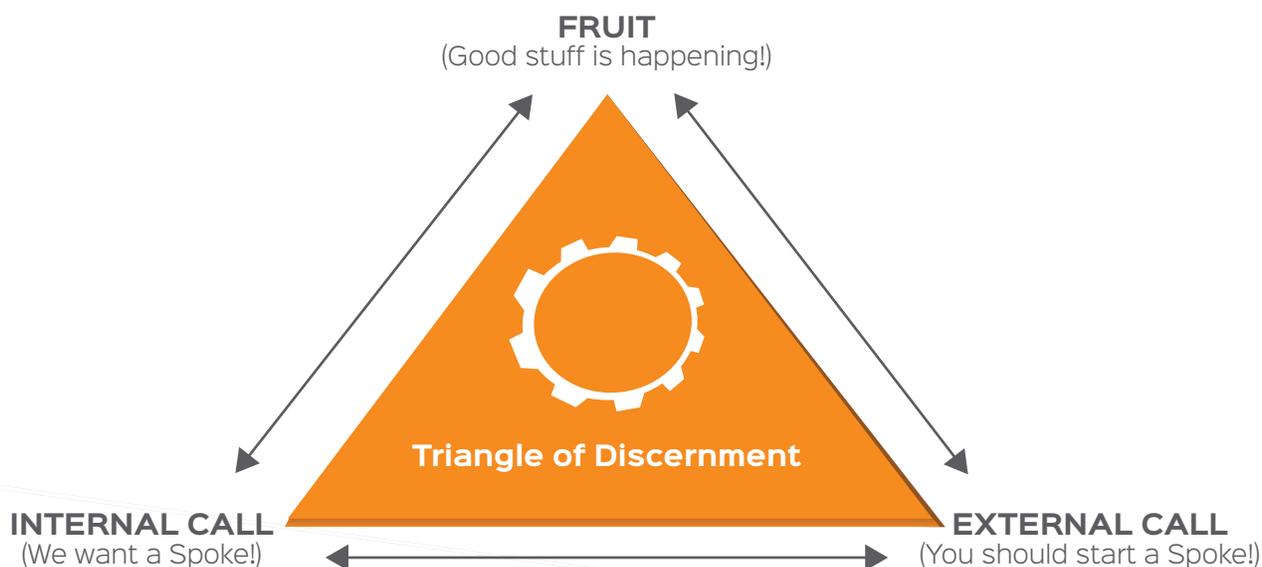
Synopsis: Ask if there are other questions about “Why we want a Spoke” and take time to work through any. Then talk about where there is consensus or passion or both, and verbally come up with a summary of what the group has learned. Have someone write a brief synopsis of the discussion and distribute by email to attendees and others who have interest.

HOW TO CREATE A SPOKE

Exercise 2: Are you “called” to start a Spoke?

We believe that God prepares His people for every task that He has set before them. But how do we know what we are called to do? Besides desire, which is internal, it’s good to have others agreeing that your group is ready to start a Spoke, and evidence that all your hard work will bear fruit.

The triangle of discernment is a tool that can be useful for figuring out where a person or group can be effective. This can apply to the group and to individuals who are figuring out their role in the Spoke. It has three components. First is the “**internal call**”. Simply, this is a sense of calling, or desire to do something important for the Kingdom. In this case, it’s your desire to have a local Spoke. At another point on the triangle is the “**external call**”. In ministry, this is others recognizing your gifts and work, and saying, “You’re really good at that! You are a blessing when you serve that way!” The third point of the triangle is “**fruit**”. Fruit is the good that happens as a result of your work by God’s grace. “Spoke” examples of this are successful group rides you organize, charity fundraisers, cyclist Bible studies, or any other good things that arise because of your efforts.



Internal Call: You've addressed this in Exercise 1, where you evaluated why you want a local Spoke. Your sense of calling should be impacted by the encouragement of other Christians and by the fruit of your labors. At the individual level, a potential Spoke Director should feel called to lead, a ride coordinator should have desire to rally cyclists together, etc. It's helpful for each member of your nucleus to share what role they would like to serve in the Spoke.

External Call: Others will see your commitment and also look for fruit of your work, and encourage you. Take some time to share how the gifts you see in each other could be important in launching a Spoke.

Fruit: Have you seen fruit come of your first steps toward launching a Spoke? This might include a sense of excitement, commitment, and cooperation among your nucleus, seeing the group growing in Godliness together, and that some of your activities so far are successful. This will increase your internal sense that "yes, we can do this" and prompt others to encourage you. Individuals figuring out their roles in the Spoke can share how their successes in other areas could translate to the Spoke.

*We believe that God prepares
His people for every task that
He has set before them.*

HOW TO CREATE A SPOKE

Exercise 3: Are you equipped to start a Spoke?

Depending on your vision of your local Spoke and what you will do, the resources you will need may vary. It's good to do a checklist of what you have in hand, and what you need, to get started.

The Nucleus of committed Christian cyclists: By now you've been riding together and meeting with your core group to figure out your ministry plan for the Spoke and discern if you're called to develop a new Spoke at this time. At least 2-3 committed and active members (Matt. 18:20) are needed for a successful Spoke launch, and you'll need a plan for growth as well.

- o How many cyclists do you have who are committed to being a Spoke?
- o Are they all ChristianCycling members yet? If not, why not?
- o How do their gifts line up with the vision of the Spoke?

Material Resources: You will need some things besides cyclists in ChristianCycling jerseys to make a visible presence in the local cycling scene. Examples of durable goods are ChristianCycling banners, pop-up tents, a trailer to haul team bikes to events, and ministry items which will vary depending on how you intend to serve your cycling community. If you'll be hosting bike races or rides, specific resources are needed for those activities. "E"-resources could include a club forum on a local cycling website and your own Facebook page. Take inventory of your resources and what more you'll need to get off to a good start. All of this can seem daunting, but God can provide, starting with you. Many cyclists will spend at least \$500 a year on cycling equipment and clothing, and give regularly to their churches and support additional ministries. Headquarters and even other Spokes can help with resources. Don't hesitate to ask God and His people to give what's needed.

Exercise: Matching Needs with Inventory. Focus on up to 3 areas of “Spoke Activity” you’d like to see in the next year, plan what durable goods or “e-resources” are needed, and take inventory. **This will help you make plans, prioritize, and let your supporters know how they can help, and what their help will accomplish.**

ACTIVITY	RESOURCES NEEDED	INVENTORY

HOW TO RECRUIT MEMBERS

Why? Recruiting new members needs to be a constant practice if you want a healthy, sustainable spoke that goes on and keeps serving. If you look at any spoke's membership over the years, you'll note that most members do not stay active for more than five years. Life changes, interests change, and people move away for jobs or other reasons. Eventually, we who know Jesus as Savior go to join Him. So if you hope to maintain or grow, your spoke should recruit new members each year.

Recruiting new members serves other purposes too. Growth is healthy and an influx of new members brings new ideas, personality and energy. Perhaps as important, it helps the founders remember the ministry of the local spoke is bigger than them. It belongs to the Lord.

Lastly, recruiting new members is just one part of knowing and being known in your cycling community. If you are relational, you can gain equity to share your faith with other cyclists, and if they are Jesus followers, to invite them to join your ministry.

Who? There are just two criteria for membership in a local spoke: *Jesus followers who ride bikes*. If either of these

criteria is missing, you will almost certainly get off mission. If your focus is to be a club of road racers, or mountain bikers, or recreational riders, or grand fondo riders, or any other style, you may well miss out on terrific members the Lord would give you. If you primarily recruit Christians who are your friends or attend your church but don't really have a passion for cycling or cyclists, your mission will be weak. Our mission is to share Christ with other cyclists, that they may know the joy of fellowship with our Lord and Savior, to His glory.

Knowing someone and experiencing that they have a passion for Jesus and for cycling takes some time. Keep in mind we are a ministry. Having big membership numbers without any real Kingdom impact in our cycling communities would be missing the mark.

How? (finally!)

Relationships: Most successful recruiting to a missions team is based on relationships, and relationships are based on spending time together and finding chemistry. Relationships require intentionality. So be intentional about getting to know cyclists you encounter wherever you bike. That could be at races, group rides, spinning classes, or just when you are out on the road,

Our mission is to share Christ with other cyclists, that they may know the joy of fellowship with our Lord and Savior, to His glory.

bike path, or trail. Talk to people, learn their names, find out about them. Look them up again and again when you see them on or off the bike. Share your faith and your ministry with them and make sure they see your faith in action. Note that developing new relationships requires an outward-facing posture. We do not want to be a group of Christian friends just riding around together.

Service and Ministry: If we are to be a ministry to cyclists, we need to practice our ministry to convey that is who we are and what we do. Your best recruits will be cyclists who want to shine the light of the Gospel to the world, and if they see you doing that, they will want to join. When serving other cyclists or reaching out, be intentional about noticing who finds that interesting, and ask them what they think of what you are doing. That can lead to great conversations. Again, note the outward-facing posture is strongly conveyed by service and ministry to other cyclists. We have a lot of more detailed resources for you on what service and ministry could look like for your spoke.

Communication: In addition to a physical and engaging personal presence in your cycling community, a spoke needs a visible presence in social media. People have to be able to hear about you or find you. Keep your spoke's information on christiancycling.com up to date. Develop a Facebook page for your local spoke and invite friends to "like it". Publicize your service and ministry and fun events.

Pray: If you regularly gather together and pray for new members to share in your ministry, you will find God opening doors, opening your eyes, and opening your heart. This sounds simple but is challenging. Dependence on the Lord glorifies Him and frees us from stressing over it.



AREAS OF SERVICE, EVANGELISM AND MINISTRY

Just as a church can do different types of ministry than individual members, a Spoke can do more than an individual ChristianCycling member. This is one of the main reasons to have a Spoke: to impact your “cycling world” with the Gospel in ways that would be difficult or impossible as individual members. Below is a list of some of the types of service, evangelism and ministry that our Spokes have engaged in to make a difference for the Kingdom.

On the bike:

- **Lead group rides.** These may be seasonal road or MTB rides. Find out about the organized group rides in your area, and see what’s missing. Examples of such rides that are successful:
 - o Missouri Spoke hosts a Tuesday night gravel and pavement ride of 25 miles with lights that runs from the end of Daylight Savings Time to late February, depending on the weather. We get from 6-15 participants, which is a good size for developing relationships. It’s been running about 4 years.
- **Host training sessions.** These could be MTB, road racing or cyclocross race training sessions to develop skills and confidence of newbies, and hone the skills of seasoned riders/racers. Examples that have proven successful:
 - o Missouri Spoke hosts cyclocross practices on Tuesday and Thursday nights in a city park from the week following Labor Day to the end of Daylight Savings Time. This has been running about 8 years and we get from 6-30 participants.
 - o Missouri Spoke and X, Y, and Z Spokes help run “merit badge” events for Cub Scouts and other organizations, where bike safety, handling, and maintenance skills are taught.
- **Host trail rides for church youth groups.** X, Y, and Z Spokes have led trail rides for church youth groups, providing loaner bikes, helmets, on-site bike tuning and repair, ride leaders, a cookout, and someone who can give the youth group a devotional. This is a great break for church youth group leaders who only have to show up and hang out.



Serving cyclists off the bike:

- **Feed and wrench.** Colorado Spoke launched and took this to its highest level, providing food, a resting place, and full on bike service at endurance and cross country races such as the 24 Hours of Moab and many others. Scale can vary from PBJs, bananas and water for “feed” and a single bike stand and tool box for repairs, to event-sized tents, hot cooked meals, sofas for lounging, massage therapists, and mechanics on duty with spare parts.
- **Hosting a race.** Spokes from California to Uganda have hosted road, cyclocross, and MTB races in their locales. This helps Spokes develop “credibility” in the local racing community and can also raise money for local causes.



Ministry to cyclists:

- **Pastoral care.** Sometimes, everybody hurts. Cyclists get injured a lot, and suffer the same family tragedies as everyone else. A card, call, email, hospital visit, bouquet of flowers, or hot meal delivered can be an effective way of saying, “Jesus loves you”.
- **One on one evangelism.** Solid, long term relationships between your members and other cyclists build a strong foundation for personal evangelism.
- **Worship services at cycling events.** Several Spokes have organized and staffed worship services for cyclists at large and small events where folks won’t be able to make it to a worship service on Sunday.



HOSTING A BIG EVENT!

Why a big event?

Hosting a big event is an exciting opportunity to serve a lot of people in Jesus' name. Plus, hosting a big event is a great relationship-tester and relationship-builder for everyone working together. *The first step in hosting a big event is figuring out what your spoke hopes to accomplish with the big event that you cannot accomplish with smaller, less stressful endeavors.* We will use the experiences gained by the Missouri Spoke hosting a large spring road race for 14 years as an example of how one spoke figured out what “works” in hosting large events. They hosted the race for several reasons: 1) there were no exciting “spring classic”-style road races in the area and few road races at all; 2) they had success in hosting MTB races and wanted to expand our ministry to “roadies”; 3) this race offered them the chance to partner with a local church and a whole small community; and 4) they hoped to have a net profit that would support their ministry throughout the year. These were clear goals. Importantly, they were goals in line with the Gospel (living the abundant life and expanding opportunities and resources to share the Gospel).

What kind of big event? Choose an event “type” that you already know how to do. A big event is like a small event except for scale, but even small events require skills,

experience, and teamwork. Figure out what your spoke is good at, and look for opportunities to leverage those to a bigger event. In our case, we'd already put on a dozen or so MTB races before tackling a road race that had the potential to be “big”.

What if we don't have any experience at all? When Jesus sent out the Twelve Apostles 2x2 on their first mini-missionary trips (Luke 9:1-6), they already had the experience of sitting under His teaching, serving those He was reaching while following Him around, and experiencing His proclamation of the Gospel to the people. This preparation is a great example for us. You can get experience while serving others who are putting on big events. Volunteer! The Missouri Spoke first learned how to promote MTB races by serving beside the bike shop that sponsored the state MTB race series for a year. The following year, they hosted the whole series. Two years later, using that experience and the reputation they had built, they launched the Hillsboro-Roubaix Road Race which grew to over 500 racers over the years. Start small, see what works, build a team, and then go big.

Marketing - knowing what is needed. A successful big event requires knowing the “market” and what your target audience is

looking for or needs. A great example of this is the ministry tent that ChristianCycling-Colorado staffed for years at the 24 Hours of Moab MTB race. That ministry sold itself. What exhausted MTB racer wouldn't want a sofa to flop on, a mechanic to work on their bike, a masseuse to coax more out of their tired bodies, and a hot meal in the middle of the night- for FREE? That combination ministry succeeded because the spoke knew what it was like to race that race. They built it upon their experience and a heart for service, and the Lord blessed it. It also helped that they had a captive audience – the racers were already there and they were needy.

Marketing- drumming up interest in your event. Most of the time, you will need some equity in the cycling community to be able to succeed in hosting a big event. You'll need visibility and credibility. For example, if putting on a road race is your plan, you should have a road racing team that is racing with the very folks you hope will come to your race. You should be faithful supporters of the local or regional racing scene. You want your target audience to think, "Heck yeah, they are a cool bunch of racers- let's go to their race!"

Scheduling You need to know the calendar for whatever type of big event you're planning. For a road race, for example, we studied the local and regional calendar and saw there were few road races throughout the season,

no road races with exciting courses (from our point of view), and almost nothing early in the year except a couple 4-corner crits. We were also serving at local MTB races and there were few of those in the spring that would conflict, because of often wet spring conditions. That clinched an early spring date.

Partnering For most big events you will need to partner with many entities. For a road race, this means partnering with a sanctioning body like USA Cycling and their officials, the local association of that governing body, the town or township, local police, a host site for registration and awards and parking, and sponsors and volunteers. Granny Gear Promotions and other spokes were key partners for the ministry tent which served for many years at the 24 Hours of Moab. Find and develop partners over a year before the planned launch of your big event. The work involved the first year of a successful big event is almost twice the work in subsequent years, and much of that work is developing relationships with partners. Learn what they want and need to happen, and make it work for them, too. Much of your effective witness of the Gospel will be in how you work with your partners.

HOSTING A BIG EVENT!

Planning and Team Building Once you know what you're going to do and when, you will need to plan out every phase and component of the event, and build a team which is invested and dedicated to making it happen. Break the event down into areas of responsibilities and find captains for each area who will work all the details of their parts, and recruit and build a team that will do a great job. For example, for a road race, you would need captains in charge of working with partners (officials, local police, ambulance crews, and the host site), a registration team, marketing team, pace car drivers, wheel truck drivers, awards, and a team who will do course prep and marking. One person or promoter may broadly know everything that needs to be done, but captains know the details and build the teams that make it happen. Planning meetings should happen monthly in the six months leading up to the event, and more often as the event approaches. Make sure the meetings are positive and that you are caring for all your teammates and partners. They are not cogs in a machine. John 13:35: "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Pray for fruit Prayer aligns our hearts with God. Prayer helps us remember that as Jesus-followers, we are jars of clay carrying the precious Gospel. With our hearts fixed on Jesus, we will be led in His wisdom and

ways and He will guide our steps. Whether we succeed or fail in worldly terms in our "big event", if we understand that Jesus' incarnation, perfect life, death, and resurrection are the real big event, we will be prepared to serve with grace and truth. Many opportunities to serve and love in Jesus' name, and live and proclaim the Gospel will arise as good works set before us when we seek His kingdom first.

Do not worry Worry is probably the biggest temptation, or the hardest balance. How do we plan everything well, but not worry? Don't let the success of the event or approval or praise of people become an idol. Rest in the words of Mt. 6:31-34: "Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Celebrate Be sure to celebrate your event. Celebrate the teamwork you've experienced, the people you've met and served and served beside, and the privilege of being called to ministry.

Plan, Plan, Plan! We cannot provide a complete step by step cookbook here for any particular event, but remember that anything of quality takes time and planning, and the larger the event the more planning it takes. Some of ChristianCycling's biggest events have started their planning for the next year not long after the current event has finished. Do take advantage of the experience of many of your sisters and brothers in ChristianCycling when you need more details. Contact headquarters and ask who would be a good resource for you.

Hosting a big event is an exciting opportunity to serve a lot of people in Jesus' name.

SPOKE LOGISTICS

Leadership

Once you have been approved as a spoke it is important to get your local leadership in place and be sure you have a succession plan. To be an effective spoke director you will need support and that is best done by having a leadership team. You might consider a Treasurer, Secretary, Ride Coordinator, Social Media/Marketing person, etc. It is also important to start planning for your succession by having someone in place to take the spoke director position for you when you are ready or need to take a break. This ensures there will not be a break in the spoke's activity and momentum when leadership transfers.

USA Cycling

All official spokes are registered under their spoke name with USA Cycling. Be sure to tell your members to sign up under this name when renewing their license. We renew our team membership with USA Cycling each year.

Clothing

Spokes can decide whether they want to participate in the national clothing order or want to facilitate their own local order. Local spokes are allowed to secure their own local sponsorships and place these logos on their jerseys as long as your local jersey follows the Clothing Guidelines (see Appendix). All local kit designs must be approved by our clothing committee.

Website

Each spoke is represented on our national website with local ride and spoke director contact information.

Facebook

Each spoke needs to set up their own Facebook page with ChristianCycling and then spoke name (such as "ChristianCycling Colorado"). Be sure to update your Facebook page often with ride and event information and pictures of local members.

Finances

Each local spoke has the option of setting up a spoke checking account with the ChristianCycling tax id number. This will be used as your spoke operating fund. Be sure to have more than one signer on the account.



In order to comply with our 501c3 status we must file a 990 annually with all local spoke financial information. There is a step by step guide that we will send you that tells you how to fill out and keep track monthly of your finances on an excel spreadsheet that then allows us to compile the finances of all spokes into our national financial statement. We are available to help you learn how to do this.

All local donations and sponsorships that are obtained must be sent to ChristianCycling Headquarters to be processed. ChristianCycling will send a receipt and thank you to the donor and then send 95% of the donation back to you, 5% is retained for administrative costs.

Spoke Director Round Table Meetings

We have SDRT meetings bimonthly on Tuesday nights. We use a conference call number which allows us all to meet and hear any national headquarters news and updates from other local spokes. Be sure to make these meetings a priority!



MINISTRY GUIDE

SECTION THREE – APPENDICES



BEST PRACTICES OF EXISTING SPOKES

Ministry/Outreach Ideas

Below are some service and outreach ideas that our St Louis and Tucson Spokes have participated in over the years.

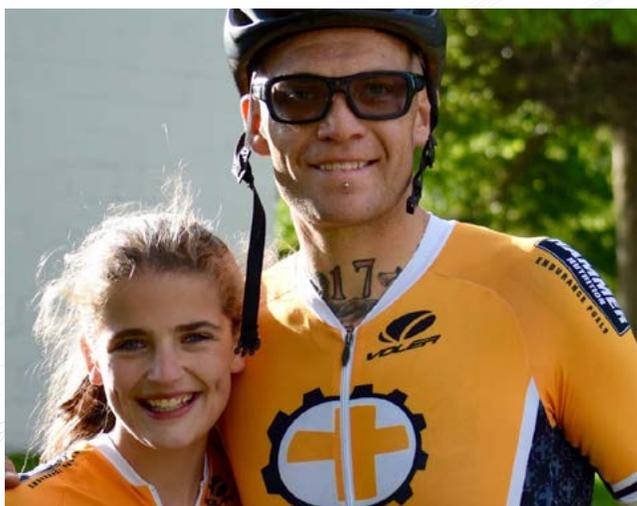
- Hosted a weekly or semi-weekly ride at two different locations to make it more interesting.
- Purchased a booth at local bicycle events and handed out HEED, Hammer Gels, ChristianCycling materials and tracts.
- Aid station at a local race or tour.
- Water Station Outreach to cyclists passing by on popular bike routes.
- Get connected to a church. Some churches are more willing to make you a ministry partner and might even support you financially.
- Organize a Charity Ride.
- Bike Repair for community.
- Put on a Criterium Training Series for the race community with drinks, pizza and music.
- Promoted Hillsboro Roubaix road race for 14 years.
- Promoted the ChristianCycling Sylvan Springs Park road Crit.
- Snow Cone ministry at the summer “dirt crits, Tuesday night Worlds road crits” and the Penrose Park Velodrome.
- Wheels over Wildwood – Bike inspections and wrenching.
- Co-sponsor the Forest City - Route 66 Mountain Bike race.
- Promoted the Rim Wrecker mountain bike race.
- Check Point Support at the OT100 (Ozark Trail) Mountain Bike race.
- Ministry tent at the annual Bike Expo and Swap meet.
- Youth Mountain bike Rodeo.
- Lead a Tuesday night (winter) gravel/road ride.
- Served Burritos from God at over 40 races.
- Hosted Cyclocross training practices for 9 years.
- 24 hours of Moab ministry to racers.
- Worship service at MS150.
- As a club we co-promoted the state MTB championship series one year and promoted it the next two years 2001-2002.
- Hospital visitations.
- Prayer ministry.
- Personal evangelism.

Setting up a tent with tables, food, drink, bike stand, etc. at races has worked very well for us. We tape the race schedule to the table so people can remember their start times. We also include some bibles and other literature for people to take.

We fill one large five gallon jug with Heed and another with water. In the morning we have coffee if it's cold. Additionally, if it's cold, we'll have propane gas heaters running for people to stand by and keep warm. We grill out with burgers and brats. Cyclist can be picky eaters so including a few soy/veggie burgers helps too. A few times we even had a changing tent where people could change in and out of their kits.

Food encourages folks to come by and hang out. We check with the race promoter to make sure they don't have a food truck stopping by so we don't step on someone toes and hurt their business.

Food also helps on the recreational side of things. When we have food, whether it's grilling out or eating fast food somewhere, people tend to hang around and fellowship longer instead of "just getting a ride in" and going home.



BEST PRACTICES OF EXISTING SPOKES

Encouraging letters from our members, letter 1:

Dear ChristianCycling Friends:

Thank you guys for taking care of me out on the road for the past two years and celebrating my birthday with me. You guys have brought happiness, adventure, thrill, friendship and wonderful memories to my life through cycling. I am looking forward to the years to come!

Response:

We are so glad that you have chosen to ride with us. I'm sure I speak for all, you have been a pleasure and a joy to ride and spend time with. Your awesome attitude, willingness to drop back and help others, and friendly smile have endeared you to the peloton. Thanks for hanging out with a bunch of old guys, we are proud to be your friends.

Letter 2:



ChristianCycling .com

Hello All,

It is with some sadness that I must say farewell to you all.

Next week my family and I are moving and I will be leaving behind some of my fondest cycling memories.

I think back to a little over 3 years ago when I reached out to you all and asked about the club after seeing a local member at a gymnastics meet wearing his ChristianCycling T Shirt and looking up the club online. I was warmly welcomed and invited to the Sunday “recovery” ride. It was a hard ride but I loved the fellowship and friendly attitude of all the cyclists.

The defining moment came in the form of two local members who rode home with me and talked with me about cycling as if we were old friends and right there I knew I had found something special.

I have really enjoyed cycling with so many of you over the past 3 years. I have become a better cyclist because of your strength and dedication to cycling.

Thanks to those who coached me on riding in a pack in those early days when I truly knew nothing. Thanks !

Thanks to the members who rode alongside me on many of our longer Saturday rides and gave me the inside scoop on routes that were new to me. Guys, I cherish our time on those rides to Berkley and Moraga !!

Finally I have to call out the 3 people who influenced me the most and have left an lasting impression - Darryl and Tania Smith, and Steve Chew you have been role models for that I aspire to. Thank you for opening your homes for Dash for Cash post race celebrations, Summer parties, 4th of July parties, club meeting and meeting to grieve the loss of Herman. So many memories of ride support from Steve on those “no drop” Moraga rides. Darryl and Tania are our adopted club parents and care for the club and its member like we are their children.

I will miss you all as individuals, but I will also miss the club as an entity and all it stands for. I am going to have to find fellow Christian Cyclists and I am going to have to try to create something similar because I do believe we serve a purpose !

It has been my pleasure giving back to you all through tiny acts of service which I loved being able to do and I hope you’ll remember me when you put on that Specialized kit, or wear your new Dash for Cash T Shirt, or when you get one of the brand new water bottles that just arrived yesterday. I know I will always remember my rides with each and every one of you ! (tearing up a little now).

Tomorrow morning’s 7am pre-church ride will be my last ride with the club before my bike is boxed up to move. Please join me at the back of the pack (like always) for a farewell spin. I look forward to seeing those of you who can make in one last time.

Fondest regards,
ChristianCycling member

RESOURCES ONLINE

You can find all of our resources online at christiancycling.com or by clicking on the link below:

[Clothing Guidelines](#)

[Business Cards](#)

[Tri-Fold Brochure](#)

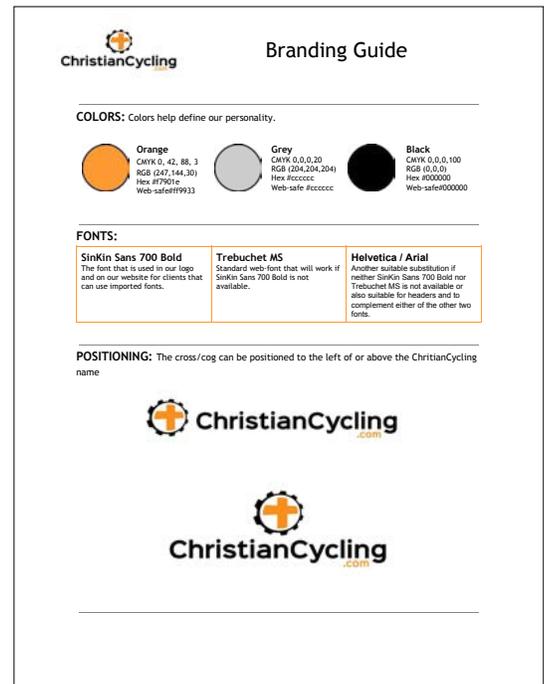
[Branding Guide](#)

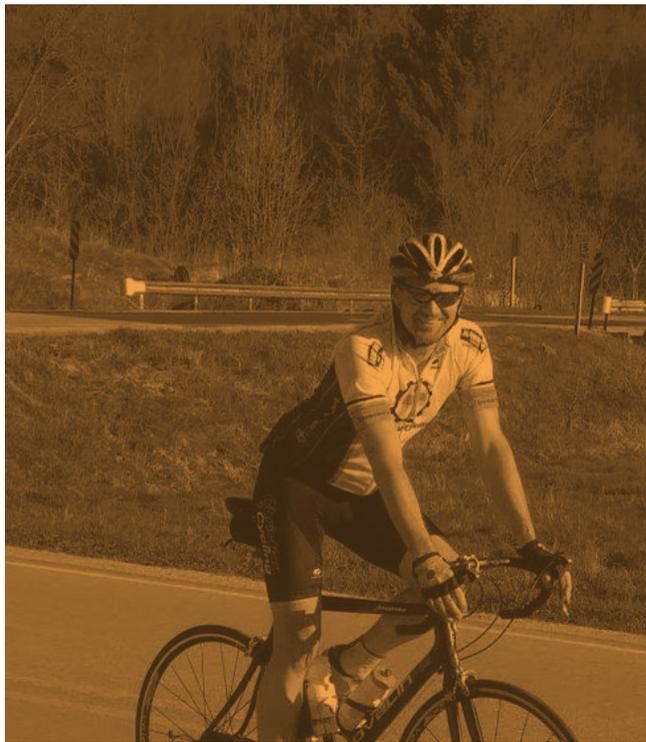
[Promotional Flyer](#)

[Logos](#)

[Spoke Director Application](#)

[Regional Director Application](#)





Impact

*your cycling world
with the Gospel.*

