

## **Velo29 Sportives – What to Expect**

*A short introduction to Velo29 events for those who haven't ridden with us before.*

*In the week before the event you'll be sent the Rider Manual. It's essential that you read this, it's the only info you'll be sent. We don't post rider numbers or timing chips, you collect them on the day.*

*You need to enter in advance, we do that because if not we get 25% of the entries on the day. We have to buy medals, food, arrange a suitable support team, have adequate parking, timing chips etc. With a variation of 25% on the day, it's not possible to maintain good value and run a safe event. We will always do our best to accommodate riders who's plans change last minute.*

*GPS files are available on the sites as well as printable maps. Study the route in detail before the day so you know what to expect!*

*Parking is always free (Whitby Regatta is the only exception), there are always toilets at the HQ. Changing isn't always available, it will be mentioned in the event manual. If not please plan for this.*

*You need to sign to say you are there and you'll be given the timing chip and rider number then. You'll join the queue at the start area, receive a short briefing then set off.*

*There is always a mechanic at the start, he's for unforeseen emergencies, not for badly prepared bikes!*

*We don't have spare shoes, helmets, wheels etc. so make sure you check your kit bag!*

*There is generally 1 feed station for every 30 miles of riding. These are stocked with High5 gels, powders and bars and fresh bakery food which includes sandwiches, chocolate brownie, flapjack and a sausage roll. You can always fill up your water.*

*On the back of your rider number is an emergency contact. That reaches the event control team at HQ. We've got motor cyclists on the course who carry tools and inner tubes, a mechanic's van, a broom wagon and a mobile medic. These are scaled depending on the number of riders. The unexpected does happen and that's what the team are there to deal with. We'd expect that punctures can be dealt with by the rider, we are looking after up to 2,500 people over 150 miles of road so we need to prioritise the incidents.*

*We place a HUGE amount of direction signs on the route. They are coloured according to your distance, details in the event manuals. We check them on the morning of the event. If a sign is missing it has been interfered with by the public. Please let us know ASAP so we can rectify this and also try to inform other riders. Such incidents are potentially dangerous and a pain for all of us. Sadly we get interference on a lot of events!*

*At the finish you'll be welcomed back, congratulated and given your medal. Sometimes we have free gifts but not always, we work with sponsors on these to keep the price down. We always have a hot snack available which is free apart from the Cat and Peak where we have a large spread of catering options and a bar. There is always a coffee van. You can have a 5-minute massage for free or pay for longer.*

*We encourage people to stay and chat with each other and us after the event. We always have tables and chairs, you can have as many sausages as you want and feel free to bring your own post ride refreshments. We always have picnic tables available and provide cover where necessary.*

*You can print your rider time on the Ride Timing Kiosk, at 17:00 on the day of the event you'll receive an email with the link to your free certificate and the free finish line images. The professional photographer will upload their photos usually by Tuesday after the event.*

*We are always on hand to help you before, during and after the event. Email is the best way to contact us as we are out on the road a lot so can't always answer the phone, use [events@velo29.com](mailto:events@velo29.com)*

*Enjoy your ride with us, Richard and the Event Team*