



Young Rider Policy

Adopted: June 2026

Last Reviewed: June 2026

Intention of Policy

The Peterborough Cycling Club (PCC) is committed to including members under the age of 18 on rides appropriate to their skill level. This policy is in place to ensure these riders are appropriately supervised. These rides are not part of our Youth Programming, but our regular Adult rides, both recreational and competitive drop rides.

Safe Sport is a requirement for all organized sports in Canada. Ontario Cycling has a Safe Sport policy that we are required to follow for all youth programming. The intention of this policy is to provide a Safe Sport environment for our youth joining our Adult Rides.

Safe Sport links - to OC and Safe Sport Canada will be here

<https://sportintegritycommissioner.ca/uccms>

<https://ontariocycling.org/safe-sport/>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/safety-integrity-ethics-sport.html>

This policy must have an annual review.

Safe Sport and Youth

Safe sport legislation and policies focus on preventing maltreatment, sexual abuse, and discrimination in athletic environments, largely through screening, mandatory codes of conduct and independent reporting mechanisms.

This is not about cycling ability or the maturity of your child.

The legislation designates people under 18 (youth) as a vulnerable sector. To allow a vulnerable sector member into club activities, then all organizers, coaches, leaders, and other volunteers would need to be screened, which we do for our youth specific programming but it is impractical for regular club rides.

We do not see a club ride as a high-risk environment for maltreatment, sexual abuse, and discrimination.

Parents may bring their child to any ride assuming both are members and have the capabilities for the ride. The parent is responsible and will ensure an appropriate environment for their child. We extend this scenario and allow a parent/guardian to designate a chaperone(s), which will provide similar protection for the youth. The youth is still under the care and responsibility of the parent. Neither the PCC or Ride Leader(s) are responsible.

For competitive youth who join the time trial (TT) this arrangement holds, but the nature of the TT means the rider will be alone on the road. The parent/guardian/chaperone must be with the youth at all times other than while on the course. (They are at the start/finish area.)

The PCC believes this provides a reasonable risk reduction to prevent maltreatment, sexual abuse, and discrimination, meeting a Safe Sport environment. It is the parent/guardians responsibility to determine if the risk level to their youth is appropriate.



Requirements for Youth Riding on an Adult Ride

In order to attend PCC rides and events that are not part of our regular youth programming, riders under the age of 18 must:

- have the appropriate minimum level of ability and fitness for the ride; and,
- be accompanied by a parent/guardian, or by a chaperone designated by the parent/guardian on the attached form prior to the ride .

During the ride, the parent/guardian/chaperone is responsible for all supervision, including:

- staying accessible to the youth member, such as riding nearby within the group; and,
- taking charge of the youth in the event of an emergency, mechanical, or other event. (They must stay together, if one drops out of the ride, they both must drop out.)

Please note:

- Parent/guardians are responsible for determining the suitability of chaperones. The PCC takes no responsibility for the chaperone-youth relationship.
- This signed form must be shown to the ride leader before each PCC Adult ride and identify the specific chaperone for the ride. Youth riders are indicated with a yellow dot in CycleClub and the Ride Leader may ask each youth for confirmation if it has not been provided. PCC Ride leaders must take responsibility for the overall group and cannot also chaperone youth while leading a ride. PCC Ride Leaders are not screened to Safe Sport protocols.
- Young riders must stay with their parent/guardian/chaperone; one drops from the ride, they both must drop from the ride.
- The Ride Leader takes no responsibility to ensure the youth and parent/guardian/chaperone stay together. This responsibility is between the youth and the parent/guardian/chaperone.
- You may have multiple chaperones on this form, but for each ride, there is only one designated as the youth chaperone.
- If a youth attends a ride without a parent/guardian/chaperone they will not be allowed to ride. Intentionally riding without a parent/guardian/chaperone may result in disciplinary action.

Designation of Suitable Chaperones for youth

I, _____, allow my child _____ to attend
Parent/Guardian Name Name of Youth Member

PCC adult rides or events during the 2026 season, while supervised by one of the following chaperones:

Name	Cell	Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

I acknowledge that for each PCC ride or event, I will ensure one of these chaperones is present, through direct communication with the chaperone, and not leave my child unsupervised.

I also acknowledge that it is my responsibility to communicate my expectations for supervision to each chaperone; and that the inherent risks of PCC rides and events include possible separation of my child from their chaperone.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date Signed Emergency Contact Number