

When organizing community rides, you're responsible for keeping everyone safe. This includes paying attention to the weather and air quality. Here are the simple guidelines to follow to make sure your rides are safe and fun.

## Air Quality and Extreme Weather Guidelines

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### Registration Form

Add a note in the registration form so that participants are aware that weather could change the ride.

- *“HUB Cycling reserves the right to modify, reschedule, or cancel rides in the event of poor air quality or extreme weather. The health and safety of our participants, volunteers, and staff are our number one priority. Ride organizers will aim to notify participants of changes 24 hours in advance.”*
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### Air Quality

The most important tool you'll use is the **Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)** from the Province of BC (<https://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/bcairquality/data/aqhi-table.html>). Check the AQHI a day or two before your ride, and then again right before it starts, as conditions can change quickly.

- If the AQHI is **4-6 (Moderate Risk)**, let riders know that people with pre-existing health issues may be at higher risk. Offer them options like a refund or a chance to reschedule if possible.
  - If the AQHI is **7 or higher (High or Very High Risk)**, you must cancel or reschedule the ride.
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### Extreme Heat

Use the **Humidex** from Environment Canada's website ([weather.gc.ca](http://weather.gc.ca)) to check for extreme heat. The Humidex combines temperature and humidity to give you a "feels like" number.

- If the Humidex is **31-35°C**, you might need to adjust the ride. Move the ride to a cooler part of the day (like the morning), take more breaks, and keep the ride time to less than 60 minutes.
  - If the Humidex is **36°C or higher**, you must cancel or reschedule the ride.
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### Extreme Cold

Use the **windchill temperature** from Environment Canada ([weather.gc.ca](http://weather.gc.ca)), which combines temperature and wind speed to give you a "feels like" number.

- If the temperature is **0-2°C**, check the route for ice or snow. If it's safe to ride, keep the time outdoors to 40 minutes if it's raining or snowing, and 60 minutes if it's dry.
- If the temperature is **below 0°C**, you must cancel or reschedule the ride.

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## Other Weather Risks

Always keep an eye on the weather forecast and the weather alerts for your ride location. You should consider canceling or rescheduling the ride if any of the following are happening:

- Thunder and lightning
- Heavy rain (25 mm or more in one hour)
- Slippery roads
- Strong winds (over 40 km/h or gusts over 60 km/h)
- Poor visibility (less than 100 meters)
- Hail

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## How to Cancel or Reschedule

If you need to cancel or reschedule, it's best to move the ride to another time or day to avoid disappointing riders and to keep things simple.

1. **Talk to your organizing group** before making the final decision.
2. Aim to make a decision **24 hours before** the ride and continue monitoring conditions.
3. Once the decision is final, notify all riders via email and update the eventbrite page as soon as possible.