

Communication Protocols

Communications devices are provided to assist primarily with ensuring the safe passage of the ride group. Primary users will be the two Road Support Vehicles who will communicate with other vehicles travelling within the groups immediate vicinity to ensure safe and efficient passage around the rider group.

UHF Channel 40 will be the primary communication channel used as it is the channel used most regularly for vehicle communications, in particular transport vehicles. Road Support Crew will determine the appropriate channel to be used. If a change is required for any reason they will communicate this as required, but generally if an alternate channel is require UHF 39 is the preferred alternate. This may be required in areas of high radio traffic such as leaving Brisbane.

In general, the following radio traffic guidelines shall be followed to ensure efficient and effective communications

- Pilot and Rear Follow Vehicles shall be the main users of radios with the primary goal of advising other road users of our presence and assisting safe passage past the ride group.
- Communications shall be minimised to providing critical safety and traffic flow messages to avoid miss-communication between the various support vehicles and other road users.
- Ride & Assistant Ride Directors and Ride Leaders may use radios to communicate between each other and the Road Support Vehicles to advise safety and critical messages where required shall be done at a minimum and done in a safe manner and at appropriate times.
- Hand held radios within the rider group shall be used to advise issues within the peloton such as increasing/decreasing speeds, advising of mechanical problems to warn rear vehicles, etc.
- Idle chatter or conversation throughout the group is to be discouraged to keep the air-waves clear for critical safety messages only.
- Communication with other road users shall primarily come from the Road Support Crew and riders shall avoid communicating with other road users. Riders and Road crew are not to respond to non-complimentary communication from other road users. Any abuse or negative feedback shall be dealt with by the Road Support Crew and thus will avoid escalating the issue.
- All radio communication shall be done so in accordance with Radio Communication standards, which includes avoiding the use of foul, abusive or threatening language. Courteous and polite language must be used at all times and in accordance with the standards required as a Smiddy Ambassador.

Further information on the general use of amateur radios can be found at the following website.

<https://www.acma.gov.au/Citizen/TV-Radio/Radio/Marine-and-Amateur-Radio/citizen-band-radio-service-cbrs-fact-sheet>

We would also follow the guidelines as outline the the Radiocommunications Act 1992

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2009C00036>