

- Kickin' Asphalt Bicycle Club –

E-Bike Policy and Guidelines May 2023

- POLICY -

It is Kickin' Asphalt Bike Club (KABC) policy that Class 1 Pedal-Assist e-bikes may be used on Social and C group rides in accordance with the definitions and guidelines below. E-bikes of any kind are not allowed on C+ group and any B/B+ group rides. Class 2 and Class 3 e-bikes are not allowed on any KABC group rides.

- SCOPE -

This policy and these guidelines apply to all KABC riders participating in KABC-organized ride events.

This policy applies to the use of e-bikes. For the purposes of this policy, electronic bikes (e-bikes) are defined as a bicycle equipped with an electric motor that may be activated in order to assist with or replace pedaling. E-bikes are divided into three categories:

- Class 1 e-bikes: A motorized bicycle that only provides assistance when the e-bike rider is pedaling and has a maximum assisted speed of 20 mph
- Class 2 e-bikes: A throttle-assisted motorized bicycle (pedaling is not necessary in order for the bicycle to move forward) with a maximum speed of 20 mph
- Class 3 e-bikes: A motorized bicycle that only provides assistance when the e-bike rider is pedaling and has a maximum assisted speed of 28 mph

- GUIDELINES –

KABC Allowed e-bike Classes: Only Class 1 (pedal assist, top speed of 20 mph) e-bikes may be used on KABC rides. Class 2 and Class 3 e-bikes are not allowed. In the remainder of these guidelines, the term “e-bike” refers only to Class 1 e-bikes.

Use of e-bike motor: e-bikes allow the user to control the extent of the assistance given to the rider while pedaling, from no assistances (motor is off) to assisting with the pedaling until the e-bike reaches a speed of 20 mph. Several communities in which KABC rides do not allow e-bikes to be used (or restrict their use). Since it may be difficult to tell if an e-bike motor is engaged or off just by looking at a group of riders, this policy applies regardless of whether the rider is actually using the motor or not. In other words, if a given KABC ride states that no e-bikes are allowed, then it is not sufficient for a rider to state that they won't turn the motor on.

Routes that allow e-bikes: The group coordinator for each ride is responsible for annotating the master scheduling worksheet to indicate if e-bikes are allowed on the ride. If e-bikes are allowed for that route, then the KABC webmaster will annotate the ride notice on the web page to indicate that e-bikes are allowed. If there are restrictions, then the group coordinator will notify the ride leader so that the group can be informed prior to the ride.

Policy Enforcement: While the responsibility for complying with the policy is with every KABC member, there may be cases where a rider with an e-bike arrives for a ride where e-bikes are not permitted. In these cases, the ride leader should remind the rider that e-bikes are not allowed on the ride, and that it will reflect poorly on the club should the rider continue on the ride. However, the ride leader should not feel compelled to take extraordinary measures (cancel the ride, physically restrain the e-bike rider, remove the battery from the e-bike, etc.) in order to make the rider comply. Any incidents should be reported in the ride leader report, and appropriate remediation measures can be discussed among the KABC president, vice-president, ride director, and safety coordinator.