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sCc

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SYDNEY  
CYCLING  
CLUB

**GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

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**POLICY**



## **GOOD NEIGHBOURS**

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**Bunches have to make calls about traffic signals, road surfaces and changes in speed, for our own safety. Our neighbours don't know or understand this unless they are cyclists, it's a requirement unique to our sport. As a club we would like to lead the way towards establishing better community relationships by implementing the following "good neighbours" policy in our bunches:**

### **HAND SIGNALS**

Use hand signals to point out minor road surface irregularities and bumps. Constant loud calls highlighting every road blemish or car passing, not only annoys neighbours but can ruin a tranquil ride. However, if there is an immediate danger then a call will be quicker than a hand signal and allows the bunch to react quickly to avoid an accident. Please use your common sense and choose appropriately.

### **CALLS**

Where hand signals are impractical, call the issue/action by speaking at a level just loud enough (unless it's an emergency) for the person immediately beside, in front, and behind to hear. Each member in the bunch must then do likewise to pass the call. This is the preferred method for SCC bunch communications; the responsibility lies with each person in the bunch to be alert and communicative, rather than having an individual town-crier in the bunch do all the calls at a super-loud volume.

### **VOLUME LEVEL**

If you are the person at the back of the bunch tasked with making calls of "over" etc, do not project your voice loud enough for the lead riders to hear. You only need to be loud enough for the people in front of you to hear, it is their job to pass the call on. If you are on the front and need a call from the rear, request the call as early as possible so that the message has time to travel down the bunch, and back up again.

Always look up the road and anticipate obstacles early.

### **INTERSECTION & TRAFFIC LIGHTS**

At intersections and traffic lights keep conversations to low volumes, avoid loud laughing or shouting to someone 4 people away from you in the bunch. It's easy to forget your surroundings so please make a conscious effort to be aware of the neighbouring public.

### **HOW TO DEAL WITH LOUD CLUB MEMBERS**

Quietly remind your fellow riders to keep noise levels down if volumes are getting too high.



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Possible rebuttals and responses to this reminder may include:

***"It's 6am, they should all be up anyway".***

Sydney is a city that operates 24x7, there are many shift workers in the middle of their night's sleep when we roll past.

***"If the councils would fix the holes we wouldn't have to yell".***

Good point. However, we don't need to yell loudly when indicating holes. You can also take a proactive stance against road surface issues by reporting them via the 'Snap.Send.Solve' app after your ride.

***"If car drivers weren't such a-holes we'd be able to ride later when people are up and there's more traffic around to muffle our sound".***

With many people having to get home and go to work after a ride, I don't think we'd head out any later even if we had the best drivers in the world.