

## **RIDING IN WET CONDITIONS**

This document is intended to represent the feelings of the majority of our members that equip their bike appropriately for the weather conditions and to provide information to assist those that don't. The wording is intended to provide clarity but is not intended to be aggressive or cause offence, so please read it in the manner that it is intended.

All riders joining Coventry RC club runs in wet conditions are expected to have effective mudguards and mud flaps fitted. The reason is pretty obvious, in wet weather, spray from the wheel of the bike in front can make for a very unpleasant ride, mud and grit in the face and all over your clothing is never going to be a pleasant experience.

If you are one of the vast majority of our members that are happy to equip their bikes with suitable kit for the conditions, on behalf of your clubmates, THANK YOU and there's no need to read on. However, if you are one of the minority that aren't aware of the expectation or somehow feel exempt, then the following may assist you.

We all need to show respect for our club-mates, if you haven't got mudguards and it's wet, think about staying at home, using the turbo or riding on your own. Let's be honest, nobody really wants to ride with somebody that sprays them in unmentionable road filth.

Some riders have misconceptions about fitting mudguards:-

When riding without mudguards, your club-mates think you look "Cool". - *Far from it, when you've just given them a face full of dirty road spray, there will be many words that go through their mind but "Cool" probably isn't going to be one of them.*

If I sit on the back and will be okay – *As you may know, riding on the back of a group is much easier than riding on the front so it's not very sporting to expect club-mates to reward your lack of mudguards by doing all the work for you?*

"It doesn't apply to me as my bike can't be fitted with mudguards" - *You're just not trying hard enough, there are numerous products that do the job, so no excuse.*

### **MUDGUARD & MUD FLAP HINTS AND TIPS**

If you need help with availability of suitable products hopefully the following will be of use.

#### **Mud flaps**

- Mudguards alone won't protect the following rider from spray, to do this an effective rear mud flap should be fitted. While you're at it a front flap will help keep your feet dry.
- You can buy mud flaps from your local bike shop but many choose to make their own.
- If you want a pattern and material to make front and rear flaps, just email a request together with your name/address to [general.sec@coventryroadclub.org.uk](mailto:general.sec@coventryroadclub.org.uk) and you will be sent a pack (free to members).

#### **Mudguards (standard type)**

- If your bike has mudguard eyes and sufficient clearance between the wheels and fork crown / rear brake bridge, then standard mudguards are the way to go.
- If your bike has sufficient clearance but no mudguard eyes then P clips can be purchased, they come in various sizes and are available from bike shops or on-line.
- If there is insufficient clearance under the fork crown, you could cut off the section of mudguard in front of the fitting bracket and bolt the mudguard to the rear of the brake bolt using Problem Solver bolt (yes that's actually the brand name).



#### **Mudguards for bike with tight clearances**

If your bike has insufficient clearance for standard guards then there are specialist products that can be fitted.

**Crud Roadracer MK2**

Supplied with various length extensions, use the longest.



**Zefal Shield R30**

No experience of this product but looks worth considering



**SKS Raceblades Long**

Don't buy the short version, they'll protect you but not your club mates.



**RSP Race**

No experience of this product but looks worth considering



**Don't buy the following products**

The products of this type will give the rider some protection but will still leave your club-mates exposed to spray.



**HOPEFULLY THIS HAS BEEN HELPFUL.**