



## CTA POLICY ON E-BIKES

### Introduction

The mission of the Cycle Touring Association of Western Australia (CTAWA) is to *promote and enjoy recreational cycling and cycle touring*.

E-Bikes now represent a large portion of bikes that are available for sale in many bike shops and, as a result, are now being purchased in higher numbers by recreational cyclists.

Given the general alignment that E-Bikes have with other forms of recreational cycling, the CTA committee believes it should promote Club membership and its benefits to riders with E-Bikes.

It is also important to note that the Club has, at this time, minimal experience with E-Bikes. As such, any policy we establish today will likely change as the Club becomes more experienced with E-Bikes.

### E-Bike Policy

Members of the CTA may ride bicycles with electric assist motors (E-Bikes) on Club sponsored rides, tours, and events, under the following conditions:

- It is the responsibility of all e-bike riders to be familiar with and follow current e-bike laws and road regulations governing their use. Web link: (<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/road-safety-commission/erideables>).
- It is not the responsibility of the CTA to determine if members are using a legal E-Bike, or the suitability of their E-Bike for the proposed ride.
- E-Bike riders will observe and follow CTA Club ride rules and policies governing ride safety and etiquette absent the provision of any other rules specific to E-Bikes.
- The use of an E-Bike on a tour (including OYB) will require approval by the tour leader. Numbers are likely to be limited due to the availability of general support and overnight charging facilities to ensure batteries remain outdoors when being charged. All participants need to be capable and self sufficient for the normal rigors of cycle touring including camping as necessary.

### Code of Conduct

- A rider needs to ride within their group riding skill level and with the same pace rides they would ride without an e-bike. For example, a new member just learning to ride in a group should not then ride an intermediate ride simply because the bike allows the pace.
- Similar to conventional cyclists that participate in group rides, ride leaders have the authority to speak with any rider of an E-Bike if, in their judgment, they feel that the rider is compromising the safety of others on the ride. This authority also includes making them aware of what they are doing incorrectly or requesting that the E-Bike rider maintain a position at the back of the group ride to ensure the safety of others.
- Etiquette:
  - It is considered bad form for an e-bike rider to pass regular bike riders up steep hills aggressively.



- An e-bike rider should be certain they have sufficient battery reserve for their chosen ride (fully charged battery and spare if needed).
- E-Bike riders must also have the skills and tools to fix a puncture (for example, some E-bikes require special tools to repair or change a tyre).
- E-bike riders are responsible for, and need to be capable of, getting their bike on and off a vehicle or trailer. If necessary this may require removal of the battery.