

El Grupo Fall Fondo - Frequently Asked Questions

- Why should I do this ride?

Not only is this ride unique to the area, the funds raised from the Fall Fondo will be used to directly benefit the youth of El Grupo Youth Cycling. These donations will go towards further developing programs like El Grupito, Summer Bike Camp, Team El Grupo and more.

- Is the Fall Fondo a race?

No, it is not a race. The roads are open to traffic. All riders are encouraged to ride at their own pace, and enjoy the ride. Participants must obey all traffic rules and are responsible for their own safety.

- Is this only for racers?

No, not at all. Our routes have been designed so that anyone is able to participate. Alternate suggested routes can be provided for those riding in larger and/or fast groups that prioritize bike lanes over multi-use paths.

- Where is the start and finish?

The start and finish are at El Grupo's very own clubhouse, located at 610 N. 9th Ave. Encourage family and friends to join us for the post-ride festa in the clubhouse courtyard.

- How do riders line up at the start?

Since the Fall Fondo is not a mass start event, all riders start in small groups or partners but they don't have to toe the line at the same time. In fact, we don't want you to! Our friendly volunteers will help make sure you are leaving in groups of no more than 10 people at a time and spaced out by 1 minute, in accordance with Pima County regulations.

For the Long Course we encourage riders to arrive no earlier than 7am and leave 7:30-8:30 am, for the Short Course and Fun Course arrive around 8am and leave between 8:30-9:30 am. This will allow you to ride the suggested route at a reasonable pace, enjoy the stops and arrive at the finish for the post-ride festa.

- Who is the ride open to?

El Grupo's Fall Fondo is open to any person who wants to participate. Riders under 18 must have the written permission of their parent or guardian (parents must sign the event waiver).

- How fast do I have to ride?

Ride at your own pace. We would like to have all riders back at the clubhouse for food and fun between 11:30-12:30pm. Raffle, prizes, music, food, beer. Please plan accordingly.

- Will there be Support Staff or Mechanical help on the ride?

Our very own youth riders from El Grupo will be riding along with you, offering mechanical help. Although just as we instruct our youth riders on Team El Grupo, we encourage you to **"be your**

own rider.” Make smart traffic decisions, rely on yourself and anticipate what you might need in a ride scenario. Try to be prepared with the proper tools to fix a flat and other minor on-bike repairs while out riding the suggested route. In case of emergency, call 911 or in less dire circumstances, flag down a fellow rider or aid station volunteer for assistance.

- Will there be food at the finish?

Yes, there will be beer and food following the ride at the festa. Each registered rider will receive 2 tokens (worth \$5 each), which can be used as a voucher for food and/or beer. Additional tokens will be available for purchase.

- Is there a minimum age for participants?

The minimum age for rider participants is 12 years old.

- I don't ride, but I want to participate– what can I do?

Join the festa and/or volunteer! You can arrive anytime after 11:30 to buy tokens for food, beer, raffle prizes, etc. and join your friends for the festa. Volunteering at the clubhouse for setup/take down or serving snacks at a sag stop is an excellent way to be part of the event.

Please email info@elgrupocycling.org to be a volunteer!

- Will bad weather cancel the Fall Fondo?

Most likely not. The Fall Fondo will be held rain or shine, unless a state of emergency is declared by local authorities, or local authorities determine that the event cannot proceed safely. The Fall Fondo reserves the right to cancel or reschedule the event at its sole discretion. In the unlikely event of serious storms, an email message will also be sent to all registered participants.

- Refund Policy

Orders placed are final. El Grupo Youth Cycling will not provide refunds for Fall Fondo registration.

- What should I bring?

Please bring the bicycle you plan to ride and be sure to bring your riding equipment (i.e. **helmet**, shoes, clothing, flat repair kit). Additionally, feel free to bring a change of clothes. There will be an area to CHECK IN a bag of clothes - changing rooms will be available pre and post-ride. This way you can comfortably lounge, eat and drink without having to simmer in your cycling kit.