



## RULES OF THE ROAD

- The Tour de Houston is not a race. Be careful and courteous to all riders.
- Know your limits! Choose mileage you are sure you can ride. This speed distance/time calculator can help you decide the appropriate mileage: [http://www.machinehead-software.co.uk/bike/speed\\_distance\\_time\\_calc.html](http://www.machinehead-software.co.uk/bike/speed_distance_time_calc.html)
- Helmets are required! If you are not wearing a helmet you will not be permitted to ride. There are no exceptions!
- Follow the posted start times for desired mileage:
  - 60 mile - 7:30 a.m.
  - 40 mile - 7:45 a.m.
  - 20 mile - 8:00 a.m.
- No riders will be allowed to leave the Start Line after 8:30 a.m. Please arrive on time.
- Routes are secured until 1:00 p.m. After that time, riders have the option to hop on the sag wagon or continue the ride without support.
- Be aware of changing road surfaces - watch for cracks, uneven surfaces, manhole covers etc.
- **This is not a closed route.** Officers and ride marshals will provide support on the route.
- Scan for traffic, signal lane changes, and turns. Bikes are considered a VEHICLE and MUST OBEY ALL TRAFFIC RULES, POLICE OFFICERS, AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS.
- Use caution at ALL INTERSECTIONS.
- Stay in the right lane and be aware of left turn transitions.
- Use verbal and hand signals to announce your intentions (“passing on your left”, “left turn”, “right turn”, “slowing”, “stopping”).
- Be predictable. Maintain your line and speed. Don’t accelerate or slow down suddenly.
- Travel in a straight line unless you are avoiding hazards or passing another rider.
- Ride NO MORE than 2 abreast.
- Slower riders ride as far RIGHT as possible to allow faster riders to pass on the left.
- Ride Marshals will be on the route for your safety and can assist with problems on the road.
- If you need assistance, pull completely off the road, remove your helmet, and use it to wave for help.
- No use of HEADPHONES, MOBILE PHONES, BLUETOOTH DEVICES, HAND-HELD CAMERAS, TRAILERS, OR TAG-A-LONGS during the ride.

## **SLOW DOWN AND STOP AT THE FOLLOWING RAILROAD CROSSINGS:**

- Navigation between 74<sup>th</sup> and Hedrick (North and South bound)
- HWY 3 at Challenger (East and West bound)
- Highway 3 at Clear Lake Parkway (East and West bound)
- Park Place at Highway 3

## **SLOW DOWN AND STOP AT THE FOLLOWING METRO RAIL CROSSING:**

- Smith at Rusk (North and South Bound))
- Smith at Capitol (North and South Bound)
- Franklin at Main (Eastbound)
- Congress at Main (Westbound)