

Organising a cycling event

Guidance from Humberside Police

If your event requires that traffic be stopped to permit competitors to start a race, finish a race or otherwise proceed along a road or through a junction then you require a road closure order or in relevant cases, the Accredited Marshal Scheme.”

Humberside Police along with its partners wish to promote safe events and have therefore taken the decision that the practice of using marshals with flags to stop traffic must cease as it is unsafe and done without lawful authority.

Humberside Police will not authorise or support events that require moving traffic to be stopped to allow the competitor to continue, without the use of a Traffic Regulation Order or Accredited Marshal Scheme.

As the organiser of an event on the highway I would remind you that you are responsible for the safety of competitors, staff and the public at your event.

If your event is to take place on open roads without the use of a Traffic Regulation Order or Accredited Marshal Scheme, then you must instruct your marshals that their role is to warn and direct competitors only.

All marshals and spectators must be informed that they must stand in a safe place off the highway in a place that does not confuse or restrict the view of other road users.

As the organiser it is good practice for you to liaise with the local highway authority to ensure that the road is not subject to special conditions or pre-planned road works for the duration of the event.

It would also be good practice to inform local residents, who may live near to or be affected by your event, that the event is taking place.

Accredited marshal scheme (AMS)

The accredited marshal scheme sees trained volunteer marshals employ a ‘Stop! Cycle Race’ sign to legally stop and hold traffic to allow the safe passage of a cycle race on the open highway. British Cycling and National Police Chiefs’ Council (NPCC) have praised the success of the accredited marshal scheme as its use in road races continues to grow.



Traffic must not proceed beyond the sign.

- Only applies to events under British cycling banner
- Must be approved in the force area
- Circuit must be risk assessed
- Marshals must attend and pass an accredited course
- Allow you to legally stop and hold traffic
- Signs are approved in the Department for Transport’s signs and regulations
- Support by NPCC – safe and effective traffic management
- Authorised in Humberside June 2019.