



Suburban Cyclists Meetup Fact Sheet

What is Meetup?

In their own words: “Meetup is the world's largest network of local groups. Meetup makes it easy for anyone to organize a local group or find one of the thousands already meeting up face-to-face. More than 9,000 groups get together in local communities each day, each one with the goal of improving themselves or their communities. Meetup’s mission is to revitalize local community and help people around the world self-organize. Meetup believes that people can change their personal world, or the whole world, by organizing themselves into groups that are powerful enough to make a difference.”

Meetup is particularly popular with outdoor recreational groups. Learn more at <http://www.meetup.com/about/>

Why are we switching to Meetup as our ride calendar?

The ride calendar system in place is nearly 15 years old. It was state of the art at that time, but no longer. Using Meetup provides a professionally designed and maintained calendar via an ad-free website that offers many more functions than are available through the old ride calendar such as:

- Choice of ride listing or calendar view, or view of past events.
- RSVP’ing to rides and social events.
- Cross visibility of events between our members and those of other Meetup groups.
- Unlimited choice in ride start location, including an automatically generated map.
- Photo album and comment section for every ride.
- Access from mobile phone app.

How do I access SCU’s Meetup ride calendar?

Go to the link on home page of the SCU website or go directly to <http://www.meetup.com/Suburban-Cyclists-Unlimited-Meetup/>.

When do we switch to Meetup?

We already have a Meetup ride calendar in use by many members. The final change over date is March 1, 2013, after which the old calendar will no longer be in operation and all rides must be listed in Meetup.

Do I need to join Meetup to see the rides?

As they are now, the ride listings are openly visible to the public. (We want people to find us!) Joining Meetup or the Suburban Cyclists Meetup group is strictly optional. Of course, you will not be able to RSVP for rides, meetings, and social events, or communicate on the discussion boards without joining.

Do I have to receive all notifications and emails?

Just as with the Yahoo email list, some people will like to receive email notices and others will like to check the Meetup page whenever they are ready. Once you join the SCU Meetup, you can set your preferences by moving your cursor over My Profile then clicking on Email and Notifications. It is highly recommended you opt to receive notification of “changes to a Meetup I’m attending” and “Special announcements from Organizers to members.”

Is my email address secure?

Yes. You are free to participate in Meetup without revealing your personal email address unless you choose to do so.

Does Meetup connect with Facebook and Twitter?

Yes, but not automatically. Whenever you RSVP for a ride you have the option of sharing your response with your friends via Facebook or Twitter.

What do I need to do to list a ride on Meetup?

Regardless of the ride calendar in use, our insurance requires you must be a member in good standing (dues paid) in order to lead a ride. Assuming that is the case, you need to join the Meetup group and ask the Ride Coordinator or other EC member to change your role to Event Organizer. There will be a training session to introduce last year’s regular ride leaders to Meetup.

What if I have more questions?

Feel free to contact me, Steve Muth, at smuth3@gmail.com.