

## A WORD ABOUT UNCLE RALPHIE'S RIDES

Your old Uncle has put together five sample rides for your enjoyment. Rides are rated on two

criteria...DISTANCE(1-2 or 3) and DIFFICULTY (A-B or C). Distance is quite simple: CLASS 1 is 0-35 miles...CLASS 2 is 36-70 miles...CLASS 3 is 70 + miles. Difficulty ratings

are: A for easy...B for moderate...and C for challenging. Hence, a ride might be classified as

1C...that says its less than 35 miles but LOTSA hills...or...3A might be 75 flat miles.

DIFFICULTY ratings are complex at best. What's easy for some folks is more difficult for others. You must be the judge of your own physical fitness. Ratings are based on the fitness level of an average cyclist.

MILEAGE on Uncle Ralphie's Rides are a "ballpark" number. Why? You'll agree, at the end of a ride all the cyclocomputers seem to differ in mileage, right? So why do you expect yours to agree with the old Uncle's. Any variance in mileage should not be significant. However, if you do encounter any errors or omissions, please notify Uncle Ralphie. Thanks.

On his route slips, you'll notice two MILEAGE columns (1) and (2). (1) is the accumulated mileage at the start, the turn, or the finish. Whereas (2) is the mileage you'll probably cover before the next turn. This system seems to work pretty well.

ROUTE SLIP NOTATION is specific shorthand used to reduce the amount of verbage to a minimum.

For example: L=left turn, R=right turn. (Con't)=continue. (X)=cross (X the bridge) etc. (Y)=fork in the road. (T)=end of the road. (becomes)=change in name of the road (into)=road merges into another. (Jog R or L)=a minor turn before another bigger one.

HERE'S A TIP: When the next turn is an L watch for the street name on the LEFT side of the

Street you are on. Vice-versa for a Right turn. Why do this? Names for cross streets often change from one side of the street you are on to the other.