

Hey GCBC!

Hope everyone is feeling great and getting plenty of rest! There are four days till the Big Level Ride/March 22. We are so very excited!!

Our local police officer friends will be patrolling the courses that day, helping us to safely navigate on and around MS-15 and Highway 26. We will be providing route profile stickers with navigational cues, so you can be able to know where the next turn is without taking your hands off your handlebars. You'll hopefully have the RWGPS course loaded onto your phone or bike computer giving you turn by turn directions live, and the roads have also already been **marked with white tape** by our GCBC friends and fellow cyclists, Geoff Stockenstrom and GCBC Vice President, Mary Beth Lobrano. Huge shout out to Geoff and Mary Beth for taking care of that for everyone!

For anyone who missed the club meeting this past Friday, the "Eddie & Angie Holmes Volunteer of the Year Award" is going to be \$1,000 cash. We will be releasing the official points system for this asap.

**Let's hear Lauren talk about our new "Eddie & Angie Holmes Volunteer of the Year Award!"**



**Speaking of volunteers, here are the remaining needs we have:**

- 1- If anyone has a truck and is willing to meet us at the road time trial happening Wednesday night at Woolmarket at 5:30pm, we'd love for someone take the bike racks from the club trailer, which will be there that night, and then bring them up to Big Level Saturday morning for the start/finish area. All the volunteers will be meeting up there Saturday morning at 6:30am, and so whoever agrees to this will also need to be okay with meeting us up there at that time.

- 2- Another need we have is someone who owns a truck committing to being the SAG driver for the day (likely driving out and about the courses from 9am till 1pm or so, looking for anyone who needs help). You'll need to be familiar with the course maps, which we'll help you with. We'll be supplying you with plenty of first aid supplies, tube repair supplies, electrolyte tablets, a small cooler with ice and water bottles, and markings for your vehicle, so everyone on the course knows you're with us. A truck is needed in case someone, along with their bike, needs to be transported back to the start for any reason. Your phone number will also be given to all participants during check in, so they can contact you in the event of an emergency where they need to be picked up asap. Just know that whoever commits to the SAG duty for Big Level and other rides we have this year is going to receive some serious points towards the "Eddie & Angie Holmes Volunteer of the Year Award!"
  
- 3- We need one more volunteer who will agree to show up at 6:30am Saturday morning and help with parking organization, as people start driving in. We have a neon vest and two flashlights ready for you.
  
- 4- A non-rider will need to oversee taking the finalized participant list and crossing names off as they finish, so we can make sure everyone makes it in safely.

Please let me know what you can help with. Thank you so much everyone for helping where you can, so we can give everyone the best experience possible!

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**Check in and same-day registration for all participants, regardless of their distance, will be between 6:30am and 7:30am under the large pavilion. There will be a hard stop at 7:30am when check in will close.** It's important to note that same day registration will only be available in a paperless fashion. You'll be directed here to the RWGPS event and then to the corresponding Race Roster link to sign up, sign the liability waiver, and pay via PayPal or Venmo. Once you show us your phone so we can see you've completed it, we'll hand you your \$10 meal voucher and route profile sticker, and you'll be ready to roll!

**We are going to do the following staggered start times:**

~ 75 milers will go off at 8am

~ 44 milers will go off at 8:30am

~ 20 milers will go off at 9am

Blue Cliff School will be there offering complimentary massages. That might be nice for those having to show up before 7:30am for check in but needing to wait until 8:30 or 9am to start the 44- and 20-mile distances.

**Los Sarapes Tacos & Mas food truck and Snow Boogers will start serving at 10:30am!** Please prepare to bring additional money just in case the \$10 meal voucher we're providing doesn't cover all of what you'd like to order.

Remember, you will not be able to view the pinned routes for the Big Level Ride or any rides on the club RWGPS calendar until you're a RWGPS club member, which is free. Here's the link to get that done:

<https://ridewithgps.com/organizations/14742-gulf-coast-bicycle-club/join>

And here's the link to the Big Level Ride:

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/343882-big-level-ride-three-route-distance-opti>

\*\*Register to participate, here: <https://raceroster.com/events/2025/101034/big-level-ride> + Add logo

Online registration will remain open until 7:30am on ride day (approximately 30 minutes prior to the start time). It's important to note that same day registration will only be available in a paperless fashion. You'll be directed here to the RWGPS event and then to the corresponding Race Roster link to sign up, sign the liability waiver, and pay via PayPal or Venmo. Once you show us your phone so we can see you've completed it, we'll hand you your \$10 meal voucher and route profile sticker, and you'll be ready to roll! We appreciate your understanding.

\*\*While registering, please consider ordering event T-shirts for yourself and your entire family to support all GCBC events for the year!

Police traffic control and road markings/signage will both be present but limited, so all participants should download routes to their computers, plan to play the route from their RWGPS app on their phone, or carry printed turn-by-turn directions with them. For instructions on how to download routes to your Garmin, Wahoo, or other computer, see the Ride With GPS Help page at <https://support.ridewithgps.com/hc/en-us/articles/4419007646235-Export-File-Formats>

[...] [more]

**Routes** Overall leaderboard

Big Level 20	20.2 miles	+643 ft	
Big Level 44	43.5 miles	+1241 ft	
Modify		Go to route	Remove
Big Level 75	75.4 miles	+2445 ft	

[Show all on map](#)

If you have any trouble or have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to let us know, and we will be very happy to help.

As always, all rides are weather permitting, and at your own risk and liability.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Best Regards,



Apryl E. Handy

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