


Hello GCBC Community,

We're gearing up for an exciting chapter with the **Gulf Coast Bicycle Club**, and we'd love for you to be part of it! Join us at our upcoming in person meeting for the entire club- Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at First United Methodist Church- where we'll make some big decisions, share exciting plans, and, of course, naturally have a bit of fun along the way.

 **Date:** Tuesday, March 4th

 **Time:** 7:00 PM

 **Location:** First United Methodist Church (2301 15th Street, Downtown Gulfport)

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/349403-gcbc-meeting-for-the-entire-club-at-firs>

**Here's what we've got planned:**

- **VP, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Board Members vote and introductions!**
- **Club bylaws and articles of incorporation vote**
- **Annual budget vote-** Including a vote to approve \$500 worth of scholarship money this year to support a couple children in our community who are desiring to compete in the cycling world
- **Membership renewal-** To everyone who has renewed for 2025, thank you!! If you are not sure you've paid to renew your club membership or you realize you haven't yet, please take care of that here for us when you get a chance- <https://www.thegulfcoastbicycleclub.com/member.html>
- **New club logo vote-** With an option for absentee voting via email to me. As long as you are a current member, if you're not able to make the club meeting in person, you're welcome to email me your vote regarding the new club logo by 7pm on March 4<sup>th</sup>, and it will absolutely count towards the total. All other club matters to be decided will need to be in person
- **Vision sharing-** We'll outline our vision and gather your ideas!
- **Volunteers and donations-** Find out how you can contribute! **Volunteers for the Big Level Ride are most urgent- see attached- we still need about 10 more.** Regarding donations, the sooner we meet our fundraising needs for the year, which takes care of the incredible events we are putting on for everyone, the sooner we can focus our time on our advocacy efforts, which is incredibly important to me! <https://www.thegulfcoastbicycleclub.com/advocacy.html>

## Our first event is coming up!

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/346291-big-foot-horse-trails-gravel-time-trial->

Even if you are not participating, you can support the GCBC by ordering an event T-shirt for yourself, your kids, your grandkids, your parents, for anyone you feel would love to rock a super comfy GCBC shirt. All size options are available! Check out the design attached. A couple things will be added to this before the shirts go to printing, but so far here's what we've come up with!

If you **are** participating and you've already registered without buying an event T-shirt, you'll click on the RWGPS event, click onto the Race Roster link inside the description, and then you'll click on "Store" on the right. That's where you'll be prompted to type in your confirmation number (let me know if you can't find it and I'll get it to you) and last name, and then you can order as many event T-shirts as you'd like. We need to hit at least 50 orders until we can place our bulk order which will help us to receive pricing that will allow the club to break even on cost. That way, everyone wins.

If you for sure are not participating but you'd still like to support the GCBC and buy some shirts, you'll register for the event- it's free! That way you have a confirmation code. Then you'll follow the same steps above.

This process will be identical for the other events we have this year. You'll find a "Store" button on the right side of each event we have- be it the Big Level Ride, the Bikes and Beaches Time Trial, or Southern Magnolia- any of our rides- and that's where you'll be able to follow the same process. We'll need at least 50 orders for each design before we can place our order.

Another awesome update to share- almost all our big ride routes have been finalized and are pinned to the RWGPS event! See below and feel welcome to start exploring! For most, the Race Roster registration link and store options are already open and ready for you.

- 1- Big Level Ride/March 22- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/343882-big-level-ride-three-route-distance-opti>
- 2- Mid-Year Party Ride at Buccaneer State Park/June 22- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/344065-mid-year-party-ride-at-buccaneer-state-p>
- 3- Flint Creek Ride/July 12- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/344066-flint-creek-ride-three-route-distance-op>
- 4- Bikes and Beaches Time Trial/July 26- 10 miles out so pretty easy to know this one! <https://ridewithgps.com/events/344070-bikes-and-beaches-time-trial>
- 5- Tour de Burger Ride/October 4- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/344067-tour-de-burger-ride-three-route-distance>

- 6- Southern Magnolia Ride/October 18- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/344069-southern-magnolia-ride-three-route-dista>
- 7- President's Birthday Ride/November 22- routes not firmed up yet- <https://ridewithgps.com/events/347908-president-s-birthday-ride-at-buccaneer-s>

**Didn't get this email from us directly?**

It might mean we don't have your email address. Let us know, and we'll add you to our mailing list! On the other hand, if you've received an email from me twice, blame me. I'm attempting to compile a full email list for our club so everyone can stay up to date on what we have going on, and there may be some duplicates in here as I'm fine tuning my process. Please let me know if that's the case, and I'll get it fixed up.

I look so forward to seeing as many of you as possible in person on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> coming up. We're excited to hear your thoughts, share a few laughs, and continue building a strong, vibrant cycling community together. **Let us know if you'll be there!** Just reply to this email or drop a 🚲 in the comments on our Facebook event.

Till then, please stay safe and healthy out there!

Best Regards,



Apryl E. Handy

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