

TEAM GUIDELINES FOR RAGBRAI®

**Clubs, teams and groups are role models for those participating in RAGBRAI®.
If you or your members cannot abide by the rules, please do not request tags.**

Application Process

The group application deadline is **April 1**. However, if you choose to submit your group's application via paper, the deadline for submitting paper applications is **February 15**. All groups that miss that deadline will be in jeopardy of missing the lottery.

To be considered in the lottery as a group, the members of a group must register as a group, and appoint one person to be the GROUP CONTACT. That person is accepting responsibility for taking delivery of the group's Participant Packet, distributing the participants' credentials and merchandise, and registering vehicles.

If your team is set up as Group Pay, then combine the payments of all members and submit one payment, either by check or with a credit card online. Remember to submit signed minor waivers. If your club is set up as Individual Pay, group members submit their own payment directly to RAGBRAI, the Group Contact will submit payment for his/her registration only, plus any vehicle passes ordered for the group.

Only one entry is allowed per person. Team members who do not apply through the Group Contact and apply directly to RAGBRAI will not be considered as a part of your team. If any person attempts to apply through both your team and directly to RAGBRAI, everyone on each application will be rejected.

For road safety reasons, RAGBRAI is limited to 8,500 week-long riders and 1,500 day riders. Entries can exceed the number of riders allowed, so a random computer lottery takes place after all the entries are entered in the computer. All checks and credit cards will be processed initially. This does not mean you were selected, and we will issue a full refund if not.

RAGBRAI has been able to accept 95% of entries received prior to the deadline over the past five years. The odds of getting in the lottery are very high, but certainly not 100%.

RAGBRAI is not responsible for delayed, lost, or misplaced application forms and materials.

If your team has a charter service, it is your responsibility to make sure that no one is accepted for the charter without the necessary credentials. Wristbands cannot be sold or advertised as part of a

charter package.

Please discourage anyone from participating in RAGBRAI without a wristband. One-day wristbands are available by application until **June 1**. After that date, wristbands will only be available on the ride while supplies last at RAGBRAI's baggage truck and RAGBRAI's Information and Merchandise trailer in the main campground.

No Extra Private Vehicles

If a member obtains wristbands through your team, he or she is not to bring a vehicle under any circumstance. Vehicle passes may only be applied for through the Group Contact.

Refunds

Fees are nonrefundable after **April 1**. A \$25 processing fee per applicant is deducted for refunds prior to April 1.

Transfers

While we do not encourage you to privately re-sell wristbands, we understand that sometimes emergencies require last minute changes. An online transfer document and waiver must be completed and received in the RAGBRAI office before the ride begins for any re-sold wristband to be "official." If the transfer has not taken place officially, your team can be held liable.

Safety and Rider Conduct

It is important to promote and practice RIDE RIGHT® within your group and in your community. Please encourage members to get in shape for RAGBRAI, wear helmets, sound off, and practice the rules of the road that are a part of the Participant Guide. The guide is emailed electronically on May 1 and then also enclosed with the wristband package sent to the Group Contact.

Teams are responsible for the behavior of their members in all phases of the ride - conduct on the road, in pass-through towns, and in overnight campgrounds. An adult must accompany minors who are part of a club/team. Remember that we are guests of each Iowa community. No one should be issued a wristband if you are not positive he or she will demonstrate exemplary and safe riding habits and behavior.

The RIDE RIGHT safety video will be shown on RAGBRAI Expo Saturday during the Rider Safety Meeting. Encourage your members to view it. The video is available upon request for your bus trip by emailing info@ragbrai.com.

Ride hours are from 6:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. Teams are asked to take responsibility for making sure their riders are in the overnight towns by 6:00 p.m. Support services are generally not available before or after these hours nor for cyclists not on the official route.

Housing & Private Campgrounds

Please be thoughtful of overnight communities and **DO NOT initiate contact with them about anything regarding RAGBRAI until after May 1.** Campground chairs are advised to get an early start on campground reservations for large groups. It is possible that a committee member may contact you prior to May 1. If so, then feel free to communicate with that chair.

RAGBRAI has made it a practice to not provide contact information for campground chairs to team representatives, so please don't ask. If you are unable to connect with the campground chair for a town, notify the Assistant RAGBRAI Director and he will reach out to the campground chair on your behalf.

When you request the mailing of information, such as campground maps, you may be asked and should expect to include \$3 to cover their costs.

If you commit to a location by mail or in person, please stay in that location. Switching spots just because the shade might be better really challenges the already stressed Campground volunteers.

It is advisable to provide your team members in advance with maps to your camping locations in each town. Also email scott@ragbrai.com with your campground locations in each town to help RAGBRAI guide lost riders to your campground.

Remember to be courteous of your fellow campers and do not "tape off" an area that is more than you need.

No parking near the RAGBRAI baggage semi-trucks. The area around the RAGBRAI baggage trucks needs to be reserved for riders who are using the RAGBRAI baggage trucks.

Support Drivers

Drivers should check in at the main Information Center in each overnight town. This allows staff in the information center to help members of the club/team locate where they are camping.

Support vehicles are not to be in the pass-through towns with the exception of the daily designated Meeting Town listed on the route map. The Iowa State Patrol or local law enforcement may confiscate your vehicle pass if this rule is not followed.

Signage

Please be thoughtful of overnight communities when you put up signage for your camping area. If you use directional signage, please remove all signs before departing the next day. Please do not use self-adhesive signs and do not use signs that are orange or green, as these are the colors of the RAGBRAI route arrows. Do not paint arrows or directional marks on the streets! And per the request of a former overnight town, do not use Gorilla tape or similar product to adhere signs to public or private property.

Don't cover up road signs with directional signage for your charter. An obstructed Wrong Way sign can wreak havoc in a campground.

Please use caution when hoisting a team flag near overhead electrical wires.

If you request private camping outside of the main campground, please help the campground committee in each overnight by providing signage that will assist them in designating that area as reserved for your respective team.

Showers

A number of campers use sun-heated portable showers. According to state law (Section 455B.186), it is illegal to dispose of waste water into any state-owned natural or artificial lake. Additionally, you are requested to dispose of this water through appropriate sewage access. Please do not dump portable showers on the ground.

RAGBRAI Trademark Usage

"RAGBRAI®," "Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa™" and "RIDE RIGHT®" are registered trademarks of The Des Moines Register. No one can use them for any purpose without written permission. Legal action will be taken against any individual or group/club violating trademark laws, such as printing t-shirts or club jerseys containing these marks or symbols.

The bottom line is: **YOU CANNOT USE THE WORDS OR LOGOS OF RAGBRAI ON YOUR JERSEYS OR SHIRTS.**

**FEBRUARY 15 IS THE DEADLINE FOR PAPER APPLICATIONS.
APRIL 1 IS THE DEADLINE FOR GROUPS WITH WEEKLONG RIDERS.
JUNE 1 IS THE DEADLINE FOR GROUPS WITH ALL DAY PASS RIDERS.**