Bikers 4 Babies Communications Plan
September 20, 2015

Agency Contacts

Kara Maxwell
MOD Community Director
kmaxwell@marchofdimes.com
918-710-6106

Penny Sharp
Bikers Committee Chair
penny@kc.rr.com
816-674-4070

Amateur Contacts

KC4WCG
--Matt—
matthewmay@kc.surewest.net
913-927-4148

N0CJ
--Carolyn—
carolyn@chwells.net
816-377-7223

KC0BS
--Brian—
kcshorty@gmail.com
913-638-7373
Background

The Kansas City Bikers for Babies ride began in 1995 with 130 riders raising $3,000. In 2014, 5,000 participants raised more than $820,000, bringing the 20-year total to $7.3 million! It is the largest March of Dimes Bikers for Babies event in the country and one of the top motorcycle fundraising events in the nation.

The ride starts and ends inside the Kansas Speedway. The course is about 75 miles. The route goes south on 435 to K32 west then south on 158th st. to De Soto then south to 103rd St. There, the riders turn west and pass under K10 and continue west to Eudora. They then turn north back to K32 turning left and heading north on US 24/40 to Tonganoxie. They then head northeast on Tonganoxie Rd turning right onto K7 southbound then taking the ramp onto US 24/40 eastbound for the return back to the Speedway.
2015 Bikers for Babies Timeline

Route Freq.
145.390 neg 88.5Hz Primary
147.030 + 88.5 Hz Secondary

Speedway Freq.
145.410 - 88.5 Hz Primary
147.570 Simplex Secondary

Net Control Phone: 816-377-7223
EMS/Sheriff Liaison: 913-927-4148
Emergency: 911 & Notify Net Control
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 Checklist

Items in red are critical

☐ Mobile Radio or HT (Dual Band with Gain Antenna Preferred)
☐ Volunteer T-Shirt (MOD Yellow)
☐ Hearing Protection
☐ Headphones/Earbuds/Adapter
☐ This Guide & Route Maps
☐ Lawn chair & Shade (Umbrella)
☐ Snack: in case you miss lunch
☐ Bug Spray & Sunscreen
☐ Spare radio with battery
☐ Broom (for sweeping roadway)
☐ Something to read during the quiet times

☐ Programming instructions for your radios
☐ Water
☐ Full Fuel Tank
Net Start Times: 0600 and 0800

• Check In
  – Please check in on the primary frequency (145.390) when you are ready to assume an assignment. If you are assigned a Speedway position check in, get directions to enter Speedway grounds and be prepared to switch to the Speedway (145.41) repeater frequency.

• Speedway
  – All amateur radio volunteers with assignments at the Speedway need to be on station and ready to operate at **0600 hours**. We’ll be operating on 145.410 negative offset with a 88.5 tone

• Route
  – All amateur radio support volunteers with assignments on the route need to be at their assigned location by **0800 hours**.

All Stations should be off the route by 1500
Radio Stuff

• On the Route
  – Please check in on the primary frequency (145.390) when you are ready to take an assignment or have one and are enroute. You need to be on position by 0800 as many bikers don’t wait for the official launch, they check in and leave right away.
  – Backup repeater: If you are having a hard time hitting the primary repeater go to the back up. Coverage on the 145.39 repeater gets spotty so you can use the 147.030 (if it’s before 10am the MS event might still be on that repeater)

• In the Speedway
  – Check in on 145.390 as you are heading in. We’ll check you in and then move you off to the Speedway frequency. If you are assigned to a Speedway position you will need to be on station with your shadowee by 0600 to support set up work. We’ll operate on the 145.410 repeater. If that has issues we’ll work simplex on 147.57
Assignment Types

**Checkpoints:** monitor intersections where cyclists could miss a turn or encounter dangerous high-speed motor traffic. These operators are the ones the cyclists are most aware of, because they’re plainly visible with their signage and yellow tee shirts. They are greatly appreciated because they provide reassurance that help is near if needed. Please wear your MOD Emergency Communications shirt both to make it easy for riders to identify us and for us to know where each other are.

**Rest Stops:** Communicate supplies inventory & rest stop status back to Net Control. There are a few “official” stops and a few unofficial stops as well.

**Medics:** There will be no official Medics on the route. If you see a medical problem call 911, then call it in to Net Control and assist if you feel able. There are places on the route where cell service is iffy. Most important… get additional help on the way first!

**“TOW”:** Picks up riders who have a mechanical failure and can’t make it back to the Speedway. The tow back to the Speedway is free and should be requested via Net Control. If a rider needs assistance, contact NC with the rider name, bike description & location. The cyclist will be responsible for towing anywhere else besides the Speedway and they must remove the bike from the Speedway by 1700. The way to call for a tow is via Net Control or call Santa Fe Tow direct at 913-894-5201

**“Rover”:** Moves up and down the line of cycles, keeping tabs on where the front cyclists are and where the laggards are. They watch for cyclists in trouble and report any accidents immediately. They can also be assigned a previously unassigned position to provide temporary coverage.

**“Tail End Charlie”:** We will attempt to have an APRS tracker on the last bike, but we will also broadcast a description of the last rider and we will ask that as they come by your position you report that they have come by. There are often more bikes behind that rider but they are the official :“Last Rider”.

**“Honcho”:** Will shadow the MOD B4B coordinator, and pass information between her, the other staff and committee members, and the volunteers on the route.

**“Safety”:** The liaison station to EMS, Sheriff, PD & Fire. Any non-critical calls for medical assistance can be directed through this station. Critical calls for medical assistance should be made using 911, and then notifying net control.
Do’s and Don’ts

• **Do Wear Hearing Protection.** It is critical that you be able to hear when Net Control calls for you. Motorcycles are LOUD and 6000 of them in one place is VERY LOUD. Some cheap shooting muffs and earbuds will work very well. Make sure to get the adapter for your radio for the earbuds. (Most radios are mono.. Most earbuds are stereo)

• **DO bring a broom** if you are assigned to a route position. These intersections often have gravel and sand on them which can be a problem for the bikers when riding this close.

• **Don’t smoke.** This has started to become an issue somewhat on the route, but mostly in the crowd areas. We are representing a health based event and need to not offend the participants who donated a lot of money to participate in this event.

• **Don’t Direct Traffic** The bikers have to obey the rules of the road. Stop for lights etc. The only exception is when we are asked to by Law Enforcement.
Checkpoints

S1 Village West Parkway & Speedway Blvd
S2 Speedway Blvd & Talladega
S3 California & Talladega
S4 Talladega & Daytona Dr.
S5 Daytona Dr. & Phoenix Dr.
S6 Daytona Dr. & France Family Way (tunnel ent.)
S7 Daytona Dr. & Homestead-Miami
S8 Homestead-Miami & Village Parkway West
S9 Village Parkway West and State Ave.

A1 K32 and I435 (right off ramp onto K32)
A2 K32 midway
A3 K32 west to K7 south (on ramp)

B1 Johnson county line
B2 K7 south to 83rd St west (on ramp)
B3 83rd St and Frisbee/Mize Rd
B4 83rd St and Gardner Rd
B5 83rd St and Kaw Drive to 83rd west (right turn)
B6 Penner and Lexington Ave.(slow speed limit)
B7 Lexington and 103rd St. (slow speed limit)
B8 103rd and Evening Star

D1 Douglas Co Line
D2 1400N rd under K10 (Eudora exit)
D3 N1400 Rd (10th st) and Main (Right turn)

E1 Kansas River Bridge (Lev. Co Line aka 222nd rd)
E2 K32 & 222nd (Linwood Rd)
E3 K32 & US 24/40 (right turn)
E4 243rd st & US 24/40
E5 Honey Creek Rd and Chiefton (US 24/40)
E6 K16 & US24/40
E7 US24/40 / Main St (218th St) (Left turn)
E8 Main St (218th St.) and Parallel Rd (right turn)
E9 Tonganoxie Rd & 199th St. (left turn)

F1 Tongi Rd & Mitchel Rd.
F2 Tongi Rd / Lev 29 & Hollingsworth Rd
F3 Lev Co 29 & Fairmount Rd. (right turn)
F4 163rd St & Fairmount Rd.
F5 K7 & Fairmount Rd. (right turn)
F6 K7 & Donahoo Rd.

G1 K7 & Parallel Pkwy (Wy Co Line)
G2 K7 & US 24/40 (east bound ramp)
G3 US 24/40 Hwy & 126th St
G4 118th & State Ave.
G5 Phoenix & State Ave. (right turn)
Checkpoints

There is a method to the designations for the checkpoints. They are labeled by counties, so when the route crosses a county line, the alpha designation changes. This is key in requesting the proper Public Safety authority to an accident.

Here are the designations:

S – Start/Finish, Speedway
A, G – Wyandotte County
B,– Johnson County
D – Douglas County
E, F – Leavenworth County
Overall Route Map
1 South East Section
DeSoto
Tonganoxie
Final Thoughts

• Thank you on behalf of the March of Dimes and ARES.
• The hard work we all put forth for this event not only benefits the riders, but also is great emergency communication training for us. A win-win.
• Having worked several of these as well as several real events we can tell you that this event is as close to how a real emergency operation is run as we could ever devise. Also know that no two are ever the same and there is no such thing as "too much training".
• Most of all, have FUN! This is just drudgery if we don’t enjoy ourselves.

Again.... THANK YOU!!!!

Matt May, KC4WCG
Carolyn Wells, N0CJ
Brian Short, KC0BS