



THURSDAY NIGHT RIDE – SALMON ST. SPRINGS – 7PM – EVERY THURSDAY

Announcing the Creation of:

#GOTNR ~ Guardians Of Thursday Night Ride

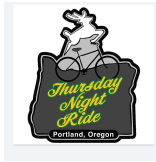
#BARF ~ Biking and Riding Friends Working Group

Goal- Creating safe spaces at TNR bike rides May 1, 2021

("The decision to remove TNR from the calendar was a group Shift decision that was begun to be discussed after the fire ban incident in September 2020, and was put in place after the COVID distancing/health incident reported to us in January 2021", "Reminder that the only thing Shift has done is to remove the TNR ride listing and further study the situation. Please understand this has been done because of care for the safety of our bike community" ~Emee Pumarega)

On behalf of TNR as the ride leader, we apologize to anyone who has been harmed or made to feel unsafe and here's how we're going to address these issues brought forth from Shift Board Members. TNR is creating the Biking and Riding Friends (#BARF) working group. BARF is working to compile a list of concerns that have been raised publicly on Bike Rights, Facebook, Shift to Bikes, and in personal conversations. BARF is taking the following actions to make TNR a safe space for all people regardless of gender, race, age, or ability; with the assumption that TNR will be publicly advertised as a safe space for all people combined with the follow up and processes that we will outline in this document and that once TNR has demonstrated that we have initiated these processes, that TNR be allowed to return to the Shift to Bike calendar, and that Shift to Bikes website volunteers that are not able to be objective in their acknowledgment of the radical changes that TNR is proposing and actively undertaking that they will at least neither condone nor condemn TNR publicly and not let their personal feelings infringe on the new found success and creation of safe spaces at TNR in 2021 and beyond.

#BARF currently is actively recruiting additional volunteers. Specifically we are creating space for and asking for a diverse group of volunteers that include men, women, NB people, as well as people of color. If our Vibe Watchers are not diverse, we may be missing some of the things we want to be watching out for. To participate in #GOTNR. Please email us BARFTNR@GMAIL.COM or find us at the fountain.



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Can we agree on the following subjects? (Keeping in mind that)

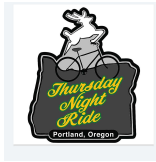
- 1) TNR is a bike ride where people engage in "adult behaviors" also keeping in mind that actions that may be taking place between two adults may be consensual, but may be triggering to some people who attend TNR.
- 2) We require that riders self-monitor their ability to ride safely, and for the group to monitor and look out for each other, bringing to GOTNR's attention any riders whose ability to ride safely may be compromised.
- 3) TNR is free and open to the public. Please ride at your own risk. Also keeping in mind that because TNR is a bike ride that is open to the public and that actions may be taken by a rider who may only come to that one event and BARF may not be able to follow up with these perpetrators. However an effort will be made.
- 5) BARF is aiming to create safe spaces during each TNR ride and identify repeat offenders (who abuse other TNR riders during TNR rides) and work with them to address their behaviors to come in line with TNR's new Safe Space guidelines and if they are unable or unwilling to remedy their behaviors that they shall be banned from one or more TNR rides.
- 6) TNR encourages riders to follow all state and local health guidelines, link to Shift's Public Health Page <https://www.shift2bikes.org/pages/public-health/>

TNR and BARF will not-

Get involved with interpersonal relationship issues (that occur during non TNR time) and people trying to get others banned from TNR for issues that have nothing to do with TNR or their personal behaviors while they are not at TNR. We will not punish someone for something they have previously done in their life, as long as when they are at TNR they are always on their best behavior. If it doesn't have anything to do with TNR it shouldn't be dealt with by TNR.

TNR and BARF work to-

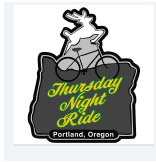
- Create safe space for Female/ Trans / Queer/ People Of Color / All riders during TNR bike rides.
- Create a Zero Tolerance policy for sexual assault and domestic violence that occurs during or immediately following TNR bike rides if the victim and perpetrator both attended the TNR bike ride.
- Support victims.
- Generate a spectrum of consequences depending on the severity of the actions taken by the perpetrators.



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Actions TNR is Taking

- 1) Creating the BARF working group and email to allow people to report concerns (BARFTNR@GMAIL.COM)
- 2) Compiling a list of previous issues to make sure they have been or can be addressed in a timely manner
- 3) Printing consent spoke cards that will be handed out at the beginning of TNR bike rides- BARF volunteers will have one on one or group conversations with attendees to educate them about informed consent with a general focus on new riders after the initial distribution
- 4) Empower all TNR riders to call out / check in with riders about any abusive behaviors that they see and to report them to the BARF volunteers as soon as possible or simply scream BARF and a GOTNR member will find you.
- 5) Creation of the **#NOBS** (New Orientation Buddy System) to allow any new or previous riders to have a previously vetted safe ride partner
- 6) Identifying known perpetrators/ predators/ repeat offenders (who have caused abuse/ problems at TNR bike rides) and either banning them or putting them on notice to remedy their actions to be in line with TNR's new Safe Space policies
- 7) Gather and publicly post testimonials from NB people, as well as people of color, women, female bodied riders who have been attending TNR since March 1, 2021
- 8) Gather and publicly post testimonials from NB people, as well as people of color, women, female bodied riders who were regularly attending TNR prior to March 1, 2021
- 9) Provide an opportunity for all TNR riders to post testimonies of their experiences attending TNR since March 1, 2021.



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Needs

BARF is seeking other groups or individuals with training in de-escalation, anti-oppression, and collective liberation to collaborate with to improve our processes. The BARF team is open to any additional suggestions of trainings that volunteers could / should have to be the most effective response team possible.

BARF is seeking volunteers to be Vibe Watchers during TNR rides. Vibe Watchers will help monitor the vibe of the ride and individual riders and address any issues that may arise in a reasonable timeframe depending on the severity of the situation.

The Future

TNR will be a leader in the Portland bike community by being the first bike ride (that we know of) to actively create a weekly safe space with BARF volunteers, have a Vibe Watchers team, creation of the NOBS buddy system, addressing the actions of one time and repeat offenders, and supporting victims.

Who has created the BARF team and written this document?

TJ Baxter Pedalpalooza Kick-Off Ride 2017 & TNR Ride Leader/Ambassador of Fun asked for help from the bike community and Matt Landon answered the call. #BARF volunteer and document creator- Matt has been a social and environmental activist since 1997 and has been through various de-escalation, anti-oppression and collective liberation trainings over the years. Matt is a 42 year old white guy from Southern Appalachia, is in a long term relationship, and identifies as queer. Matt ran a volunteer house in Tennessee for a nonprofit where he recruited over 400 volunteers and 50 interns during a 4 year period. He has been through a training with Guardians of the Vibe which is a group that provides safe spaces during festivals and they hand out consent stickers and have conversations with attendees about informed consent that is clear, coherent, willing, and ongoing. Since March 2021, Matt has invited several of his personal female bodied friends to the ride including Paige his partner. Matt has organized and participated in many Pedalpalooza bike rides since 2014.