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Everyone Rides brings community together

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From left: Caloosa Riders members Steve Rodgers, Peter Ahlgren, Bill Garrison and Jeff Brim. / Special to news-press.com

Written by

BikeWalkLee

Special to news-press.com

If you go

What: Everyone Rides

When: Saturday: Packet pickup – pasta lunch for registration at Crowne Plaza (Fort Myers)

noon-3 p.m.; happy hour with food and prizes at Naples Doubletree Hilton 5-7 p.m. Late registration \$45 and up for ride, \$65 and up for half-marathon, \$35 and up for 5K until Dec. 8. **When:** Sunday schedule at JetBlue Park: Packet pickup opens 6:30 a.m. 62- and 100-mile rides start 7:30 a.m. 15- and 30-mile rides start 9:30 a.m. Half marathon starts 7:30 a.m., 5K run starts 9:30 a.m. Public expo opens 9 a.m., brunch opens 9:30 a.m., lunch at 10:30 a.m. Event closes 2 p.m. **Online:** everyonerides.org.

The name says it all: “Everyone Rides.” And if you like riding bikes, you ought to like being a part of an event like this, which will be Sunday at JetBlue Park.

Here are some fun details:

- You get to hang out with other bicyclists. It’s also your chance to see if organized rides are your thing. But if you just want to go on your own and enjoy a little ride cuisine and camaraderie, that’s OK, too.
- You can get a little outside your comfort zone, riding new routes or a longer distance, but you’ll have other riders and even support staff to keep an eye out for you. The ride routes are always skewed toward safety and multiple ride lengths keep everyone in the saddle for the time they can handle.
- You get a chance to do a little good. For “Everyone Rides,” proceeds go to buy bikes and helmets for through the Boys & Girls Club of Lee County.

Only a few things to remember: Bring your helmet. Be on time. Learn how to ride and read. Most rides are self-guided, so you’ll get written directions and distances to lead yourself around the course.

— **BikeWalkLee is a community coalition advocating for Lee County streets that are designed, built, operated and maintained for safe travel for all users. BikeWalkLee.org.**