

Hi everyone,

It's less than a week until Tierra Bella, so time to go over our Mechanics responsibilities. First of all, thanks so much for signing up! We are particularly proud of our sponsors who have provided trucks and tools (**Good Karma & Community Cycles of California**). **Good Karma** has provided mechanic support at 4 of our rest stops.

We hope that this event will be one that everyone will enjoy. If anyone runs into questions or difficulties, please ask the rest stop Captain, or call me (408-807-1494).

Remember that the new start for TB is at Gilroy High School. The finish will be nearby at Christmas Hill Park, with food trucks and other stuff. I'll be working there if anyone has problems. We plan for 2 mechanics for each rest stop, Here's the current 2024 rest stop lineups:

Rest stops	Open	Close	Rest Stop Capt	Mechanics
Gilroy High School	6:00 AM	9:00 AM	Melanie Clarke	Jim / Arye
Gilroy Hot Spr.	7:30 AM	11:00 AM	Roy West	Gil / Tony
San Martin	8:30 AM	12:30 PM	Dave Adler	Rick / Craig
Henry Coe	10:30AM	2:00 PM	Don Axtel/Holly	Jay / Anna
Uvas Reservoir	10:30 AM	4:30 PM	Barry&J Chaffin	Dan / Sara / Gene
Christmas Hill pk	2:00 PM	5:30 PM	Melanie Clarke	Ed

Where are the rest stops located? https://tierrabella.org/tb_route.php.

Gilroy High School is the main parking lot for the start of the ride (previously Gavilan College) – please place the Good Karma van a bit upwind from the porta-toilets! This is where many over-confident riders discover that the bike they haven't ridden for 2 years needs some chain lube and flat tires patched or pumped. After the riders have taken off, I'll try to visit every rest stop later in the day, with the exception of **Henry Coe**. It can be a bit treacherous dodging riders from both directions on that road. **Do be careful when driving to any of the rest stops!**

As for the other rest stops, the captain will usually have a reserved spot for us. You might want to recommend a place away from the loudspeakers if you hear music! It can be difficult adjusting for noises on the bike if you're right under Led Zeppelin speakers.

What to expect:

I've done the San Martin stop for 6 years. Being the second stop, flat tires and shift adjustments are the primary problems. It's safe to assume that all chains can use some fresh lube.

Broken chains, spokes, sliced tires, wobbly wheels and other more difficult problems are time consuming and up to the mechanic and your parts cabinet. The easy solution if you're busy, or don't have the right parts, is to pass the rider onto the SAG group. If the bike has serious problems, we can't be responsible for them. Call the SAG Coordinator (Jim McCann at 669-234-8488, or call me - 408-807-1494)

These are what we suggest our mechanics bring to their rest stops. **If you need something, let me know and GKB can provide them.**

For parts (it's ok and expected to charge your expenses for these items to the riders!)

- Bring a couple of Tubes!: 700 x 25 and 700x35 are the popular ones. Bring at least 3.
- 26" x 2-3" mountain bike tubes are less likely, but you might bring one.
- Other sizes are more rare (27 x 1.25 tires can handle 700 tubes). For unusual sizes, I just recommend bringing a patch kit.
- For sliced tires, bring either a boot or cardboard to cover them temporarily. If you have extra 700x25 tires, you can offer to sell them to the rider.
- **Old Rags** & Gloves (if you use them). Rags are always useful!
- **Lube/oil** for chains/derailleurs
- isopropyl alcohol & brushes for cleaning helps
- Penetrating oil spray (WD-40)

For tools, the usual suggestions:

- Bike stand (at least one) - makes you look official – Good Karma can provide!
- Folding chair! (for long waits with nothing to do)
- Standalone bike pump for schrader and presta valves
- Tire levers & patch kits
- Wrenches, hex & open (some bikes aren't quick-release!)
- An apron with the label "Mort" helps you look official, but not necessary

Optional Stuff (that I always bring):

- Shift and brake cables are helpful, but I rarely see these problems at rest stops - and they might take longer than the rider cares to wait.
- Cable cutters & cable ends
- Truing stand - You can often fix out-of-true wheels using the brakes as a gauge

I'm also including a small poster with lawyer-ese that might protect you - hang from your bike stand at your discretion if you'd like.

Please let me know what I left out, or if you need anything in advance? I defer to your experience!

Many thanks,

Ed Irvine
ACTC, TWFK and Good Karma Bicycle Repairman
408-807-1494



BIKE TECH

This bike technician is an ACTC volunteer with knowledge and practical experience in bike maintenance.

Their services are made available to assist you to make minor adjustments and emergency repairs to your bicycle, even though some of the necessary skills, parts or tools may *not* be available.

Understanding these limitations, if you choose to use this technician, rather than a professional mechanic, you will be assuming all risk and agree that neither the volunteer nor ACTC will be liable for the outcome, including any resulting injury and/or damages cause to you and your equipment.