

Hale'iwa Bike Ride Will Be Held April 27

BY PETER ROSEGG

More than 800 riders are expected for the 32nd Hale'iwa Metric Century and Aloha Fun rides starting the morning of April 27 at the Bill and Peggy Paty Kaiaka Bay Beach Park. The annual event is part of the celebration of Hawai'i Bicycling League's 50th anniversary.

New this year will be a separate coned path for the family-friendly Aloha Fun Ride, separate from the general cyclists' route.

"Families and keiki who sign up for this ride will have access to an aid station and a dedicated path for two full hours so they can ride as much as they want," says Chris Salas, event coordinator. "We will be filming with drones and a camera crew to create a video highlighting the ride and also adding more unique foods to the aid stations."

Bicycling Magazine calls the Hale'iwa Metric Century one of the 50 best U.S. rides, in part because of the amazing North Shore scenery and because it is a the lowstress, well-organized ride.



Cyclists take part in a previous Hale'iwa Metric Century Ride. **PHOTO COURTESY HAWAI'I BICYCLING LEAGUE**

HBL Celebrates 50th Anniversary With Family-Friendly Event

Early registration this year suggests more off-island participants than in the past.

North Shore roads will all remain open to vehicular traffic; bicyclists and drivers are asked to ride and drive alert and with aloha, and to follow all rules of the road.

The 100-kilometer (62mile) ride starts at the beach park between Waialua and Hale‘iwa. Bicyclists will ride from YMCA Camp Erdman back to Hale‘iwa and then out to Hau‘ula Beach Park before turning around and finishing back at Kaiaka Bay Beach Park.

Cycling in Hawai‘i, and especially on O‘ahu, has come a long way since Hawai‘i Bicycling League was founded in 1975. Faye Saiki, James Stuart and the late Jock Purinton, with other enthusiasts, were key founders.

In 1970, Faye and Dennis Saiki had opened The Bike Shop on Cooke Street before moving the next year to South King Street where the store remains.

They wanted to promote cycling for transportation with the dream of eventually getting more bikes than cars on the road. With branches in ‘Aiea and Kailua, The Bike Shop is most likely the oldest surviving bike store in Honolulu.

“The mission has remained to enable more people to ride bicycles,” says Travis Counsell, HBL executive director. “We do so with three primary focuses: advocacy, education and events.

“Advocacy efforts have led to improved infrastructure and safer streets for all users. We’ve helped pass safety-focused bills like the 3-foot passing law. We work with community leaders, as well as state and federal agencies to ensure bikes are part of the planning conversation in health, recreation and transportation efforts.

“Our BikeEd Hawai‘i program provides education to over 9,000 people each year. Overall, we have taught bike safety to over 100,000 O‘ahu fourth graders! We also offer adults basic learn-to-ride and bike skills courses, as well as senior trike rides.

“Our members organize weekly group rides, receive deals at local businesses and help support our efforts to create a bicycle friendly Hawai‘i.”

For more information on events and membership, visit hbl.org.

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Century Ride. **PHOTOS COURTESY HAWAI‘I BICYCLING LEAGUE** Participants turn out for a past year’s Hale‘iwa Metric



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