## AN EXPERIENGED RIDER'S GUIDE TO

## SPORTIVE TRAINING

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In partnership with..
AndulaokCucling
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For beginner to pro

ONDON REVOLUTION

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## AndycookCycling

COAGHES
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"Mass Participation" Commission. Andy has held senior positions at both British Cycling and the Cyclists Touring Club (CTC).
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If you are interested in more personalised coaching, visit www.andycookcycling com

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Andy Cook Cycling is run by British Cycling qualified coaches. In the last 25 years they have trained and coached thousands of cyclists from absolute beginners to top level competitors, helping them improve their performance. A knowledgeable and adaptable approach makes it easy to develop your bike fitness. This 12 week training plan will work on your endurance but also develop pace and power through tough interval sessions. It's perfect if you're targeting a quicker time at your upcoming sportive or tackling a particularly challenge route.

The right nutrition in training will help you along the way to a successful Sportive and getting stronger. Using sports nutrition correctly can help strengthen your immune system, improve your endurance performance, and contribute to muscle growth.

Carbohydrate is the fuel that your body uses for energy when exercising. Although your body has a limited store of carbohydrate, it's normally sufficient for exercising up to 90 minutes. So for shorter training sessions, you only need to take on fluids with electrolytes to remain HYDRATED. A zero calorie electrolyte drink like High5 ZERO enhances hydration and can help you control your calorie intake.

Some of your rides are already over 90 minutes and you may find low energy levels towards the end of your ride, especially those over 3 hours.

When exercising for longer, you should focus on HYDRATION and ENERGY. Your body's limited store of carbohydrate can be depleted after 90 to 120 minutes and as a result your energy levels will drop. Your body is telling you that it needs more carbohydrate to maintain your pace. Fuelling your body with a drink like High5 EnergySource or using High5 EnergyGel will help maintain your performance and provide the extra carbohydrate you need for longer sessions. You will also not feel so tired the following day.


## WEEK 2

monday - cycling 1 HR

Recovery ride nice and easy. A gentle ride spinning the pedals. Enjoy the bike ride
Try a new route for a change or ride tracks on a mountain bike

## TUESDAY - CYCLING 1.5 HRS

Threshold session. Warm up thoroughly and then ride at FT for 12 mins followed by 3 mins rest. Repeat 3 - 4 times. Warm down well
Concentrate on maintaining a constant FT power output or heart rate during the 12 minutes effort periods

## WEDNESDAY - GYCLING 1-1.5 HRS

Steady ride. Best completed alone or
with a small group of similar ability riders
If riding with others don't be tempted to ride beyond your ability especially when climbing. Its your training so ride at your pace, not theirs

## THURSDAY - CYCLING 1.5 HRS

Threshold session. Warm up as usual then ride for 5 mins at FT followed by 1 min recovery. Repeat between 6-8 times then warm down These sessions can be completed on the road or on a turbo Remember to drink properly and take on carbs

## FRIDAY - REST DAY

Check and maintain the bike

SATURDAY - GYCLING 2 - 2.5 HRS

## Group ride

Practice your group riding skills; Enjoy the ride and make the most of riding with others

## SUNDAY - GYCLING 3.5-3.75 HRS

Begin this endurance session with a good 20 mins warm up, then concentrate on riding at $85 \%-95 \%$ FT for 1 hr 15 mins followed by a further 30 minutes at recovery rate before a second 1 hr 15 mins at $85 \%$ $95 \%$ FT. Finish with a good warm down
Good opportunity to practice drinking and eating on the bike. Find what suits YOU. Make sure you follow your recovery regime after the ride

## WEEK 3

## MONDAY - gYcling 1 HR

Recovery ride nice and easy. Spin the pedals enjoy the bike ride Find some new roads, Try a new route or use the mountain bike

## TUESDAY - GYCLING 1.5 HRS

Threshold session. Thorough warm up then ride at FT for 8 mins followed by 2 mins rest. Repeat this $3-5$ times. Warm down well Keep within your numbers and stick to the figures that are relevan to you. Concentrate on pedaling technique and maintain a fluid adence of $90-100 \mathrm{rpm}$

WEDNESDAY - GYCLING 1.5-2 HRS
Steady ride. Best completed on your own or with the small group of similar ability

## THURSDAY - GYCLING 1.5 HRS

Threshold session. Warm up thoroughly and then ride at FI for 12 mins followed by 3 mins rest. Repeat 3-4 times. Warm down well Concentrate on maintaining a constant FT powe output or heart rate during the 12-minute efforts

## FRIDAY - REST DAY

A relaxing day or evening. Why not go to the pictures

## SATURDAY - GYCLING 2 - 3 HRS

Group ride. Practice group riding skills; Enjoy the ride and the social aspect of riding with others

## SUNDAY - GYCLING 3.5-3.75 HRS

Endurance ride. Begin this session with a good warm up for 20 mins and then concentrate on riding at $85 \%-95 \%$ FT for 1 hr 15 mins followed by a further 30 minutes at recovery rate before a second hour and fifteen at $85 \%-95 \%$ FT followed by a good warm down
Remember to drink and eat on the bike. Practice refueling strategies peculiar to you. Decide which bars and drinks are inght for you. Make sure you follow your recovery regime after the ride

## NUTRITION TIP:

tis time to consider your rest and recovery routine. it is importan er-fuel immediately after your ride. Consuming carbohydrates contributes to recovery of normal muscle function after stienuous exercise, whilst high qualify whey protein helps grow and maintain muscle mass. Use a recovery drink like High5 Protein Recovery, or eat a meal with both protein and carbohydrate. Aim to have this as soon as you finish your training for maximum effect. This is where a recovery drink that mixes quickly and easily is more convenient. Eat a balanced meal one to two hours after your ride.


## WEEK 7

MONDAY - REST DAY

Stretching, pilates/yoga/mobilty should still feature in your all round training programme

## TUESDAY - CYCLING 1 HR 40 MINS

Warm up for 20 minutes. Ride at a "steady" pace for 20 minutes ie not recovery but also not endurance pace, followed by 20 mins recovery then another 20 minutes steady followed by warm down Make sure the intensity of this session is NOT hard

## WEDNESDAY - GYCLING 1 HB

Recovery ride at recovery pace for 1 hr Ensure that the ride is within the recovery zone

THURSDAY - GYCLING 1.75 HRS

Warm up for 20 minutes. Ride at a "steady" pace for 20 minutes not recovery but also not endurance pace, followed by 20 mins recovery then another 20 minutes steady followed by warm down

Adaptation should be taking place this week. Therefore make sure the intensity of this session is NOT hard

## friday - REST dAY

Take some time to check your bike more thoroughly. This may involve booking it in for a service at the local bike shop. If any kit is wearing out now is the time to get it changed

## SATURDAY - GYCLING 2 HRS

Group ride
Enjoy this ride. Stop for coffee and cake if practical

## SUNDAY - CYCLING 4.5 HRS

Endurance Ride Warm up for 30 mins . Then ride for 1 Hour at 85 - $95 \%$ FT followed by 20 mins at recovery rate. Repeat with a second 1 Hour followed by 20 mins recovery then a third lhour at 85-95\%FT followed by a good warm down
Take a break with a tea stop on this ride

WEEK 8

## MONDAY - gYCLING 1 HR

Warm up for 20 mins in low gear at $90-100$ rpm, then ride jus above FT for 1 min at 100-105 rpm followed by 1 min easy Repeat this 10 times Warm down
Concentrate on smooth pedalling and maintain cadence

## TUESDAY - GYCLING 1 HR

Steady pace 90-95rpm
Concentrate on keeping cadence smooth

## WEDNESDAY - CYCLING 1.5 HRS

Endurance training. Ride at around 85-95\% of FT. Best done on your own If you do ride with others, remember it is your training that matters THURSDAY - GYCLING 1 - 1.75 HRS

30 mins warm up @90-100rpm. Interval set: 6 X lmin effort in large gear (53X14/15) @ 50-60 rpm. 1 min rest after each effort spinning a smal gear @100rpm. After 1st set of 6 intervals 5 min rest, then repeat set twice. Finish with warm down in light gear @90-100rpm
Think about the pedaling technique and ensure that the motion is efficient

Rest

## SATURDAY - GYCLING 2.75 HRS

Group ride. Take your turn in leading and don't shirk the workload on the group ride. However, don't "race" the others either!

## SUNDAY - GYCLING 4 - 5 HRS

Endurance ride. Begin the session with a good warm up for 30 min and then concentrate on riding at $85 \%-95 \% \mathrm{FT}$ for 1 hr followed by a further 30 minutes at recovery rate before a second 1 hour at $85 \%$ $95 \%$ FT followed by a further 30 min recovery. Complete a third hour at 85-95 FT before a good warm down
Don't forger to eat and drink. This ride should prove your choice of food and drink. Make sure you maintain your recovery regime after the ride

## NUTRITION TIP:

With only 5 weeks to go it's time to think about the nutrition strategy for your sportive. Find out what products/brand will be on course but remember that it is easy to carry your nutrition in your jersey pockets and saddle bag so you don't have to rely on the nutrition available on course. The feed stations will have water available
so you can mix more drink later in the ride. Try out your nutrition strategy on your longer ride to be sure that it works for you and you can go into the sportive with confidence Check out the High5 Sportive Guide on page 7 for some advice on your best nutrition strategy.

## WEEK 9

## MONDAY - REST DAY

A recovery week for adaptation to take place. Think about general nutrition and quality rest. The coming test should show improved results. Check and clean the bike after the weekend riding

## TUESDAY - GYCLING 1 HR

Easy ride. Gentle spin enjoying the bike ride
Explore. Go touring!

WEDNESDAY - REST DAY

Be completely rested in anticipation of tomorrows test

## THURSDAY - GYCLING 1.25 HRS

FIP Test - 10mins easy. 3 X 1 min @120rpm with 1 min easy after each. 4 min easy tien 5 min hard. take 10 min easy then 20 min as hard as possible. 10-15 warm down
Have an assistant to record the all important numbers! Hopefully the
Have an assistant to record the all important numbers! Hopefully the average number will have gone up to prove the training is working!

## FRIDAY - REST DAY

Rest
SATURDAY - CYCLING 2.5 HRS

Nice steady ride without "pushing it" maintaining a cadence of between $90-100 \mathrm{rpm}$
Ride with a friend or a group of similar ability
to ease the monotony of training alone
SUNDAY - CYCLING 3 HRS

Same as yesterday. Include a stop at a café if convenient and time allows

Group riding at this stage will contribute to skills development


## SPORTIVE NUTRITION GUIDE

These guidelines are based on the latest science and real world feedback from thousands of athletes. Research shows that by just following these guidelines, athletes were able to maintain their pace $26 \%$ longer during an endurance ride. This was compared to their existing brand of sports nutrition consumed as they would normally ${ }^{1} .$. Yes these guidelines work!

## THE FUEL FOR SPORT

Carbohydrate is the high-energy fuel that lets you ride fast and far, and it's what makes your time on the bike enjoyable. Unfortunately your body only has a limited store of carbohydrate, which can be depleted after around 2 hours of riding.

Think back to how easy it is in the first couple of hours of a tough ride, as compared to the last hour when you have depleted your carbohydrate reserves. Fuelling your body with additional carbohydrate, by consuming sports drinks and gels as you ride, will extend your endurance and provide the extra energy you need to enjoy your longer events - particularly in the latter stages.

It might seem logical that the more carbohydrate you consume the better, but you should take care. You are able to consume (swallow) a large amount of carbohydrate, but that does not mean your digestive system can process it as quickly. Research shows that if you consume more than $\mathbf{6 0} \mathbf{g}$ per hour of the carbohydrates found in traditional ${ }^{2}$ sports drink and gels, any extra will simply sit in your digestive tract and not be absorbed. Unless carbohydrate is absorbed into your bloodstream, it is of no benefit to your sports performance. Consuming too much carbohydrate can also lead to stomach cramps.

To exceed the 60 g per hour limit, you have to switch to a new type of sports drink. The recommended intake for 2:1 fructose drinks is $\mathbf{9 0} \mathbf{g}$ per hour. This ability to deliver additional carbohydrate can make a substantial difference to your performance in an endurance event.

## HOW MUCH DIFFERENCE?

If you follow this guide, you will get 90 g of carbohydrate each hour to fuel your working muscles. That's a total of $\mathbf{4 5 0 g}$ more carbohydrate during a $\mathbf{5}$-hour Sportive.

Remember: If you cannot consume the full amount of drinks and gel shown, then consuming 70 g of carbohydrate per hour is better than 50 g and that's better than 30 g .

For more details see hitp:///highfive.co.ukresesarch-and-developmentloo-turtherhtm!
2. For the purpose of this illustration, a traditionall energy or sports drink is one contanining a source of carbohydrate that breaks down to glucose and contans litte or no fructose.

Your breakfast should be light and high in carbohydrate; good examples would be cereals toast and porridge. 60 to 90 minutes before the start you should Caffeine Load. This is achieved by drinking the following amounts of EnergySource X'treme based on bodyweight. For higher bodyweights (80kg and above), you will also need to take gel containing caffeine.

```
Your body weight:
40kg: 425 ml 50kg: 550 ml 60kg: 650ml 70kg: 750m
80kg: \(750 \mathrm{ml}+1\) Gel Plus
90kg: \(750 \mathrm{ml}+2\) Gel Plus
```

This will provide you with an effective dose of caffeine (approx. 3 mg per kg bodyweight) Avoid tea and coffee on the day of your event.

## DURING YOUR RIDE

How much you are able to drink during your event will depend on weather conditions In warm / hot conditions, the 2:1 fructose formulation in High5 EnergySource means that you should be able to drink up to 1000 ml per hour. This will provide fluids, electrolytes and 90 g of carbohydrate for energy. If the weather is cool and you drink less, your carbohydrate intake will be less and you will need to boost it with gel. If you drink the following amounts of EnergySource each hour, you should take the number of gels shown below:


800ml: no gel
750ml: $1 \times$ gel sachet per hour
400ml: $2 \times$ gel sachets per hour
It's important to focus on drinking as much as possible to remain hydrated. For gel intake you can use either High5 EnergyGel or IsoGel depending on personal preference.
Your body removes caffeine from your bloodstream over time. To keep your caffeine levels "topped up" your first gel every hour should be EnergyGel Plus or IsoGel Plus. Both contain 30mg of caffeine. Any remaining gels each hour should then be standard gel with no caffeine.

## En- AFIER YOUR RIDE



Drink 400 ml to 800 ml of Protein Recovery when you finish. Eat a balanced meal one to two hours later.

## GAFFEINE NOTE:

If you have any medical condition including high blood pressure, if you are pregnant, breast feeding or under 18 years of age, do not use caffeine. If you are sensitive to caffeine and suffer any side effects when using caffeine such as muscle tremors, cramp, anxiety or a higher than expected heart rate discontinue use immediately. If you do not wish to use caffeine for any reason, then simply switch the caffeine products detailed with the non-caffeine equivalent from High5

## KEY PRODUCTS

## ENERGYSOURCE (2:1 FRUCTOSE)

## Advanced sports drink mix

- Caffeine free
- 2:1 fructose carbohydrate with key electrolytes
- Great light taste


## ENERGYOEL



A smooth gel with a dash of real fruit juice for a light taste

- Proven in the World's toughest competitions
- 23 g of carbohydrate
- EnergyGel (without Caffeine); EnergyGel Plus (with 30 mg caffeine)


## X'TREME (2:1 FRUCTOSE)



Advanced sports drink mix with HIGH caffeine

- High caffeine content $(300 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{L})$
- Intended for caffeine loading or a big caffeine hit*
- 2:1 fructose carbohydrate with key electrolytes
- Great light taste
*XTREME IS NOT INTENDED FOR CONTINUOUS USE DURING EXERCISE


## ZRRO Neutral

The Uk's leading zero cal
electrolyte sports drink tab

## PROTEIN REGOVERY



The ultimate post exercise drink mix with whey isolate

- The Pro's choice after exercise
- Contains the highest quality whey protein isolate
- Contains carbohydrate
- Mixes easily into water or milk


## GREAT VALUE TRIAL PACK:

The High5 Race Pack contains a perfect mix of High5 awardwinning nutrition to enable you to follow our Advanced Nutrition Guidelines for a 4 hour Sportive, MTB or Triathlon event. It comes with a FREE bike bottle and 4 FREE gels.

This pack is intended to demonstrate what can be achieved using the latest generation of sports nutrition and a scientific strategy for your sport, and without the need to spend a lot of money!

Available from all good bike shops and online.

