

RIDER INSTRUCTIONS

2018 PALM DESERT CENTURY, Saturday, November 10th, 2018
Palm Desert // Mecca // Palm Desert, California, USA

WELCOME and **THANKS** for joining the [8th Annual Palm Desert Century](#). These important instructions will help insure your safety and comfort. The Palm Desert Century rolls rain or shine. **Visit the website for any last-minute changes before departing for Palm Desert.**

Recent severe rain storms & flash flooding have closed the Box Canyon Rd segment (15 + 15 miles) of the traditional Palm Desert Century for redesign & reconstruction. About 70 miles of the century remains unchanged. Two detours have been added and are reflected on Course Strip Maps & Cue sheets. About 700 ft of elevation gain has been eliminated, leaving about 1,900 ft for the modified century route. The Box Cyn Solo TT is now on Detour #1, a 25-mile segment, with its Start/Finish at Rest Stop #2 (Mile 25). See Rider Instructions email & website for more details.

- Safety:** First & foremost, **SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT!** Everyone at the event must be Alert and Focused at all times. **Ride as if your life depends on your own actions, because it does!** This is a **"RULES OF THE ROAD"** event, meaning riders must comply with all Traffic Laws, including stopping at Red Light Signals and Stop Signs. **Police will issue tickets to riders disregarding Traffic Laws.** Riders failing to heed Stop Lights and Signs will be disqualified from the entire event. **The Palm Desert Century is a recreational RIDE, not a race!**
- Packet Pick up/Registration:** Riders may pick up rider packets, or register in person, on **Fri, Nov 9th, at University Park** (Start/Finish) from Noon to 8:00 P.M, or on **Sat, Nov 10** from 5:45 to 8:00 A.M. Address: 74-902 College Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260 ([map it](#)). Riders may pick up friends' packets with written permission (i.e. a printed email). To speed Sat pick-up, please check the [Rider's List](#) for your Bib # and arrive with full water bottles.
- Parking:** Volunteers & signs will guide riders to designated parking areas near the Start/Finish in University Village, adjacent to the University Park, on Sat, 1st Come, 1st Served. Recommend Carpooling. Heed all "No Event Parking" signs. Be courteous to local businesses (i.e. don't park in reserved spaces, nor at businesses such as Carl's Jr park spaces). **Lot opens at 5:30 A.M.**
- Jerseys/T-shirts:** Riders **who purchased** jerseys by Sep 24th receive them at packet pick up. After Sep 24th, jerseys are available [directly from Voler](#), mailed in 1 week, w/free shipping. T-shirts will be at packet pick up for riders **who purchased them.** See website for more info.
- Bike Inspection:** Riders must individually insure their bicycle is mechanically sound and equipped with fully serviceable brakes, wheels, and tires. **WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE every rider get a professional tune-up & safety inspection prior to the ride.** Replace all questionable components, **especially tires.** The desert is no place for worn-out tires!
- Bib #'s:** Bib #'s (aka, helmet numbers) are assigned to each rider and posted on the [shadowtour.com](#) website under "[Rider Lists](#)". Please locate your Bib # before entering the line at packet pick up. A cross-referenced Alphabetical Rider Roster will also be posted.
- Wristbands:** Please loosely affix your enclosed wristband(s) to either wrist.
Gold: Full Century w/Time Trial pass to all Rest Stops
Silver: Full Century Only pass to all Rest Stops
Yellow: Short Course pass to all Rest Stops
Red/White/Blue Flag: Lunch location in Mecca (Mile 56).
Checkered Flag: Lunch location at Start/Finish in Palm Desert.
- Start Times:** The Start Window **for all distances** is 6:30–8:00 A.M, in waves of 30-50 riders, at 2-3 min intervals. We **STRONGLY RECOMMEND** all Full Century riders **DEPART AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.** Lunches begin at 10:00 A.M. in Palm Desert & Mecca. Plan your ride accordingly. **Course maps & Cue Sheets will be available at Packet Pick up.**

9. **Mechanic Support:** Mechanic support will be at the Start/Finish on Sat morning. At 8:00 A.M. SAG vehicles/mechanics will roam the course. Please pay mechanics for parts they replace.
10. **Full Century:** **Full Century Riders need to check in** at the Finish to record successful Full Century completion. Names & Cities of Full Century Finishers will be posted on the website. Short Course riders are not eligible for the Full Century List.
11. **Helmets/Safety:** Riders must wear a serviceable Snell-approved helmet while riding. **Ride on the far right side of the road, single file. Never gesture at, or harass, vehicles.** Headphones/iPods are not permitted while riding. Parents must accompany minors.
12. **Red Zones:** In designated **RED ZONES** (potentially hazardous areas) use **EXTRA CAUTION. In Red Zones, reduce your speed to a max of 20 MPH and stay as far to the right as safely possible.** Red Zones are the **Ave 52 Traffic Circle** at miles 12 & 88. Red Zones apply in both directions and are marked with signs and may have Police/CHP support. **Use extra care at all Left Turns. Riders must stay alert and protect themselves AT ALL TIMES. ALWAYS point out obstacle to riders behind you.**
13. **Gear Drop:** Sat morning in Start/Finish area. Don't leave valuables, as we cannot guarantee security. This service is primarily for riders wishing to leave outer layers of warm clothing worn just prior to the start. A special on-route gear drop is at **Rest Stop #1 (ONLY!) until 10:00 A.M Sharp!** These bags will be returned to Palm Desert at about 10:30 A.M. and stored at the Start/Finish. Gear bags are marked & sorted by Bib #. Remember to pick up gear bags! **Unclaimed gear bags will be returned at rider's expense (\$10).**
14. **Weather:** Forecasts will be posted on the Shadow Tour website as the event nears. Expect a cool morning, warming to 75-80F, with winds developing in the P.M. Recommend lightweight arm warmers + base layer. **Expect headwinds in the P.M. returning to Palm Desert!**
15. **Timeline and Time Cut-offs (Sat):**

5:30 A.M.	Event Parking Lot Opens. Please time your arrival accordingly.
5:45 - 8:00 A.M.	Registration/Package Pick-up in Palm Desert University Park (Start/Finish)
6:30 - 8:00 A.M.	Wave starts of approximately 30 riders at 2-3 minute intervals
10:00-2:00 P.M.	Lunch open at Rest Stop #3 for riders opting for lunch in Mecca
10:00-5:00 P.M.	Lunch open at Start/Finish for riders opting for lunch in Palm Desert
11:00 A.M.	Detour #1 Closes to outbound riders.
1:45 P.M.	Intersection at 66 th Ave & Hwy 111 (Grapefruit) closes to outbound riders.
2:00 P.M.	Rest Stop #3/4, Mecca, mi 56/69, closes to all outbound riders.
2:00 P.M.	Mandatory turnaround, all riders must be returning to Palm Desert
3:00 P.M.	Rest Stop #2/5, Las Palmitas Elementary, mile 25/75, closes
4:00 P.M.	Rest Stop #1/6, Westside Elementary School, mile 16/84, closes
5:00 P.M.	Course closes. All riders must be off the bike course.
6:00 P.M.	University Park event parking lot closes. All event vehicles must be moved.
16. **Routes:** This is primarily an out & back course. The course is designed to allow the following distances with full support. Permit restrictions preclude riders from turning around at the Ave 52 Traffic Circle. **Riders must flow only North & South on Jefferson thru the Traffic Circle.**

20 mile course:	To Ave 48 Turnaround, back to Palm Desert (mini Rest Stop @ mi 6 & 14)
32 mile course:	To Rest Stop #1, Westside Elementary School, back to Palm Desert
50 mile course:	To Rest Stop #2, Las Palmitas Elementary, back to Palm Desert
60 mile course:	To 66 th Ave/Hwy 111 (Grapefruit) intersection, back to Palm Desert
70 mile course:	To Mecca/Box Cyn Rd closure Turnaround, back to Palm Desert
100 mile course:	To Detour #1, Mecca, Detour #2, Box Cyn Turnaround, back to Palm Desert
125 mile course:	Add 1 extra Detour #1 lap to century course (subject to 11:00 A.M. cut-off)
17. **Rest Stops:** Three static Rest Stops support riders in both directions and provide 6 chances to re-hydrate, carb-up, and get course info. All Rest Stops have portajohns--use them--not the bushes! **Use extra caution riding in Rest Stop areas. Announce "Stopping!" to avoid rear-end crashes. Move bicycles completely off the road. Outside support from friends & family in vehicles is not permitted anywhere on the course.** See [FAQ's](#) for more details.

Rest Stop #1/6 (7:15–4:00 P.M.): Westside Elementary (mile 16) and Rest Stop 6 (mile 84)
Rest Stop #2/5 (7:45–3:00 P.M.): Las Palmitas Elementary (mile 25) and Rest Stop 5 (mile 75)
Rest Stop #3/4/Lunch (8:15–2:15 P.M.): Mecca B&G Club (mi 31/56) and Rest Stop 4 (mile 69)

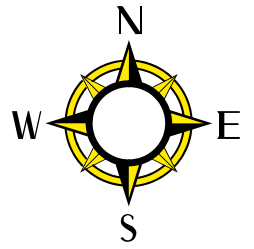
18. **Route Markings/Cue Sheets:** Yellow arrows/signs, traffic cones, Police, CHP, and Vol's will guide you. All riders are given a map in their packets. Cue sheets are at packet pick-up. Be flexible, routes can change as the event date nears. Visit the website for final route updates.
19. **Optional Chip Timing:** The chip-timed 25-mile Detour #1 Solo Time Trial is only for paid Full Century riders. **Pick up disposable Timing Chips Fri/Sat at the Reg Tent in Palm Desert.**
20. **Share the Road:** Vehicular traffic varies widely. There will be local traffic, out-of-town visitors, RVs, and vehicles pulling trailers. **Ride single file at all times and stay alert for passing vehicles. In groups, announce "Car back!" and give extra room, if safely possible. Use extra caution at the 52nd St Traffic Circle (North & South); come to a complete stop at all Red signals and Stop Signs.** Ride to the right of the white line at all times when safe to do so. Stay cool if vehicles honk/ behave aggressively. Inform CHP of unsafe drivers. Watch for sand on road. Please assist other PDC riders if they need it!
21. **Stores:** There are stores/gas stations near Mecca, which are open if you want sodas, V-8, or items not at Rest Stops (bring cash). All event Rest Stops are well-stocked.
22. **Floor Pumps/First Aid Kits:** Available at the Start, each Rest Stop, and the Lunch Stop.
23. **SAG Support:** SAG vehicles & [Velofix](#) mobile mechanics will be roaming the course marked with orange magnetic signs (cell #'s below). Flag them down, or call, if you have a mechanical issue or need assistance. Riders must carry (at the least) spare tubes, tire levers, and a small pump or CO2 inflators. Personal SAG vehicles are not permitted anywhere on the course.
24. **Included Lunch:** All riders receive an included Subway sandwich lunch. Wristbands reflect each rider's choice for lunch location: The Mecca turnaround point (Flag wristband), or the Start/Finish in Palm Desert (Checkered wristband). Lunch in Mecca runs from 10:00 A.M. to 2:15 P.M. Lunch in Palm Desert runs from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Please plan your ride start & finish times accordingly. Wristbands are removed after riders receive their lunch.
25. **Trash: Please keep all your on-route trash** (especially Clif Bar wrappers, Gel packets, and Banana peels). Use trash bags located at all Rest Stops, the Lunch Stop, and the Start/Finish.
26. **Ride Momentos:** A limited quantity of event jerseys and t-shirts will be for sale after the ride in the Start/Finish area. Paid riders receive a Custom Pin & Custom Finisher Medal.
27. **Course Marshals:** Course Marshals are identified by Yellow Vests. Most volunteers are trained only with their station's operation. For higher level support, ask for a Course Marshal.
28. **Ride Photos:** Please affix your number sticker to the **front of your helmet** before the ride.
29. **Volunteers:** Many Thanks to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley Volunteers for all their hard work! They put in many hours of preparation. These Volunteers are giving up their weekend to help you enjoy yours. This is an important annual fundraiser. Your donations are greatly appreciated at the event & online. Please be courteous to all Vol's.
30. **Emergency Numbers:** For Emergencies, Dial 9-1-1. For mechanical/non-emergencies on the course, call Shadow Tour Staff/Vol's: Jim (Event Director) 858-692-6220; Paul ([Velofix](#) Mechanic) 760-978-9622; Shane (Crew Chief): 619-857-5455; Sag Wagon 415-309-9151. Cell phone coverage is limited, but is available on most parts of the course.

MANY THANKS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE 2018 PALM DESERT CENTURY! We look forward to seeing you next at the [15th Annual Stagecoach](#) on Feb 23rd, 2019, and hope you'll recommend us to your friends. We always welcome your constructive feedback. Feel free to email your comments & suggestions to: support@shadowtour.com.

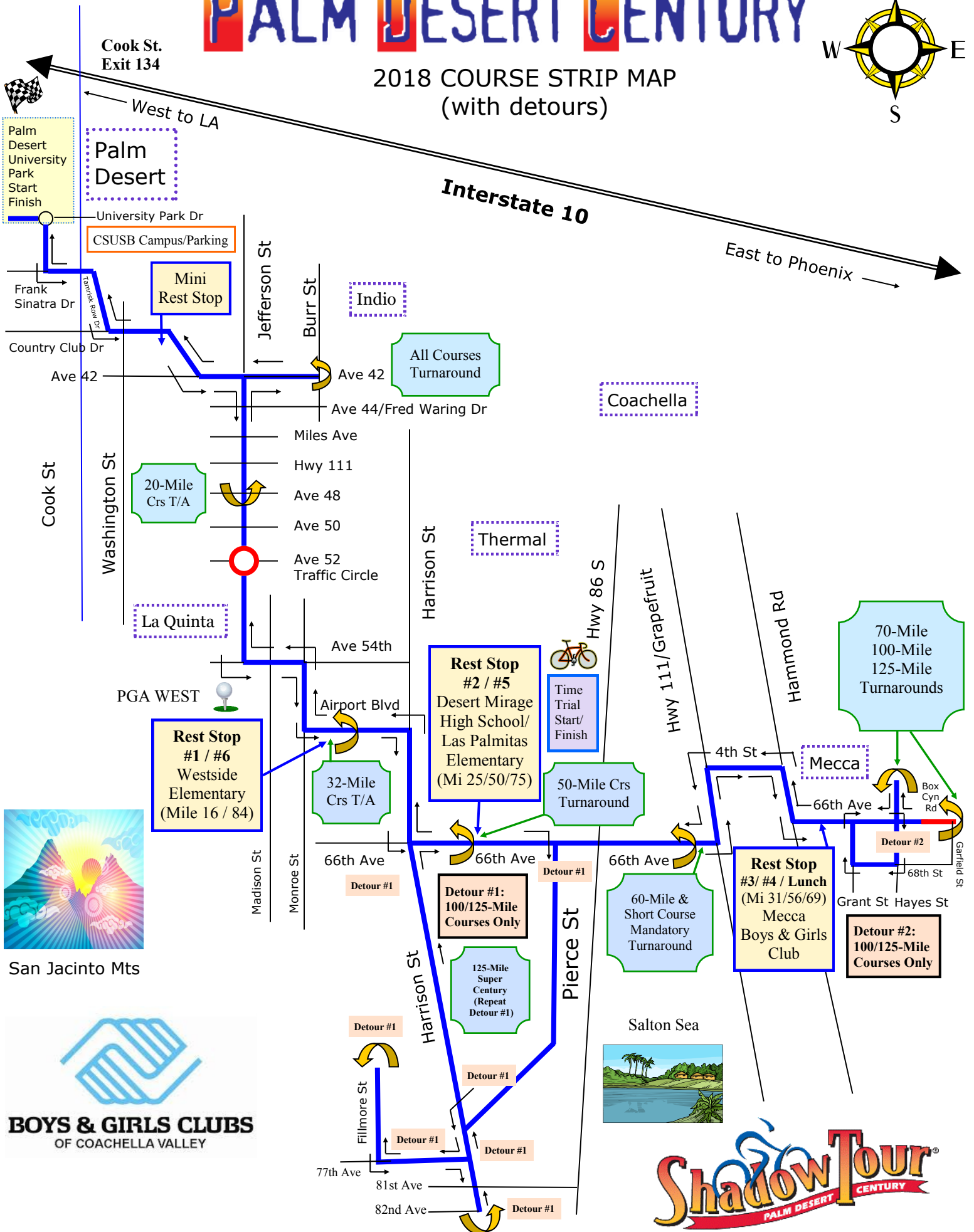
Enjoy Your Ride, Ride Defensively, and Always Be Alert!

Jim Knight
Event Director/Managing Member
Shadow Tour, LLC

PALM DESERT CENTURY



2018 COURSE STRIP MAP (with detours)



San Jacinto Mts



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF COACHELLA VALLEY



Salton Sea

