

February 12, 2010

Double DATES

Howdy from Denison!

We miss seeing everyone on regular DATES rides. However, we are riding the tandem more than ever! Hopefully we'll be able to balance our riding schedule to include numerous DATES rides this year. We are still enjoying our ultra distance rides & have big plans for it. Last year we rode on an all tandem relay team at RAAM (Race Across America). This year we're riding the RAW (Race Across the West). This is a shortened version of RAAM, ending in Durango CO. RAW is labeled as "The hardest part of the Toughest Bike Race in the World". This year, we will be riding solo. No relay partners to take over for us. We'll start in Oceanside CA on June 9. Our goal is to complete the 860 mile race in less than 3 days! We will ride day & night with only a couple short naps until we reach our destination. We plan to ride approximately 300 miles each day. Once again, we will be riding for JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). JDRF is a GREAT organization and a GREAT cause. We are proud to be part of their efforts.

Last year, DATES members stepped up and collectively donated more than \$2000 to our cause!!!! THANK YOU!!!! Many of you donated money, some donated new & used cycling products that we sold at our swap meet and on ebay. The result was the same: funding for our teams expenses, and funding for our charity. We need your support again. Our cause (JDRF) and our team (Team JDRF) are both tax deductible charity's. So, any donation you make will be tax deductible. You may designate your donation to benefit our race expenses, go directly to JDRF, or split between them. Our personal goal is to collect \$10,000 in donations. Every dollar above & beyond our race expenses will go to JDRF. We will have a crew & support vans following us on our 'adventure'. The crew is volunteer, and use of the vans has been donated. We are working diligently to keep our race expenses to a bare minimum, in efforts to donate as much to the cause as possible. The DATES club will be rewarded for it's efforts. We will add the DATES logo to the team jerseys, website, support vans & all printed matter. It will share these spots as a major contributor.

Along the route, we have 15 checkpoints (Time Stations). These checkpoints track our progress, and ensure we stay on course & eliminate shortcut opportunities. A very popular donation opportunity is sponsoring a TS (Time Station). Donate \$100 or more, pick your time station, and you will be the sponsor of the TS. Your name will be listed on the website, associated with your TS. Additionally, we will call you when we arrive at YOUR time station & give you a progress update.

There are several ways you can donate. We have set up donation links on our team website for credit card donations, you may mail a check, or donate your old bike parts, components & accessories to be sold at our bike swap & ebay. We will arrange to pick up any bike parts donations. The direct link to our personal donation page is:

http://www.teamjdrf.org/donate_jenkins.html

Sincere Regards,
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Associated websites: www.teamjdrf.org www.jdrf.org www.raceacrossthewest.org