

Fairplay – Canon City 400k Tips

Welcome to the 2014 version of the Fairplay-Canon City 400K Brevet starting and ending in Colorado Springs. The brevet begins just off of I-25 Exit 149 (Woodman Road) at the Circle K/Shell station at 7055 Commerce Center Drive.

Tarryall road begins at mile 50. The section of Tarryall Road that was under construction in 2012 and 2013 is now complete and has brand new pavement. This section combined with the new pavement from 2011 combines to make some very nice riding in a new area to most participants.

DISCLAIMER: There still remains a 7.5 mile stretch of rough road. I did a pre-ride of this stretch Saturday 5/24/14. The first half has many of the potholes patched but is very bumpy. Then there is a short section they paved. After that it looks like they covered the dirt areas with ground up asphalt and packed it down. It's better than dirt but sections are still gravelly, though most of the time you can find some clear pavement to ride in between. After this there are some areas that they oiled. After this 7.5 mile stretch the pavement is brand spanking new up past the reservoir.

Since this is a new route for most people, please review the route sheet and map for more details. Become familiar with the route before you show up at the start. Most of this route is MORE REMOTE than 400K routes in Northern Colorado. Pay careful attention to where you can get food and water. These places are at the controls, and other areas marked in purple on the route sheet. The distance between Control 3 and Control 4 is 81 miles, but there is a store in Hartsel in between.

- *Vernon Smith*