

DirtCraft

Development Squad

Expectations, Details & Decleration (EDD)

2025/2026 Season

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Introduction

The purpose of this document is to list the expectations and requirements of each of the three parties (the athlete, DirtCraft and parents) to operate with a highly level of autonomy. A secondary objective of this document is to clearly outline the details of each area of the Development Squad and how they operate.

DSC is referenced many times throughout this document. DSC refers to the DirtCraft Development Squad Committee who not only play a part in selecting the team, but also educating, training, leading, traveling and managing the team.

Rider(s) is the term used to refer to paying members in the Development Squad.

General

Outlined below is an overview of how we expect team riders to operate in a general sense.

Vision & Values

- Riders understand the DirtCraft vision and are working towards fulfilling it in their way.
- Riders understand the DirtCraft values and continue to develop them in their own way.
- Riders represent the vision and values to the best of their ability.
- Riders display maturity, teamwork, enjoyment and respect.

Health and Safety

- Riders and DSC must abide by the DirtCraft Health & Safety Policy.
- Riders and DSC must abide by the DirtCraft Child Protection Policy.
- Riders must warm up and cool down properly.
- Riders are not allowed to smoke any type of cigarette, E cigarette or vape whilst representing.
- Members cannot consume alcohol, recreational, or performance enhancing drugs whilst representing.
- Driving in a vehicle on the camps and race trips will be with a fully licensed DSC or approved parent.
- Any team member driving themselves to or from a squad activity must have a restricted or full license and cannot take passengers unless given permission by DSC and it is legal to do so.
- Some sessions may be independent which will mean riders may not always be supervised, this may require riders to take every effort to adhere to the road code when riding on the road.
- Photographs of riders will be taken throughout the season. Riders may have access to these photos.
- Team members are required to follow all instructions from DSC while in their care.
- Riders are to compete within the legal boundaries as set by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

Team Culture

- A rider should communicate with DSC.
- All riders must acknowledge that they should work to enhance the positive team culture.
- Representing our vision, values and developing into a great young person is just as valued as results.
- Some situations will require riders to be unsupervised on their own or in groups; it is up to the athlete to maintain respect and maturity while using common sense and following previous instruction.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants.
- Team riders must treat teammates and DSC with the utmost respect.
- All riders must follow instruction of DSC (including external individuals/groups) with respect.
- There will be shared accommodation/living/cooking facilities with other male or female riders or DSC at camps and events.
- Sleeping arrangements will always separate male and females. It is vital for squad members to conduct themselves in an appropriate mature manner in these

independent situations without bringing another team member, DSC or themselves into disrepute.

- Team members and their families understand that for a DirtCraft Development official overnight trip/event/campaign to occur there needs to be a same sex chaperone present for each gender present. In some cases, there can be limited options around this and either one of three outcomes will occur:
 1. A same sex chaperone is sourced and attends the trip/event/campaign,
 2. Parents/caregivers and the athlete acknowledge there is no same sex chaperone present and confirm they are comfortable with the situation and DSC attending,
 3. The athlete does not attend the trip/event/campaign because there is no same sex chaperone available.

Communication

- Communicate with DSC as soon as possible around any issues involving travel, training, racing, finances, internal squad controversy, external controversy or other issues that may impact your performance, image, results, the team's ability to achieve its goals, team and rider image, the squad's culture, the club, team sponsors, other members.
- Throughout the year riders will face challenging situations, due to the nature of mountain biking, riders may face these challenges on their own. There will be health and safety risks that are limited and controlled as best as possible by the coach and manager, these challenges will teach riders to take ownership and develop as young people.
- Immediately inform the squad coach or manager of any illness or injury that could impact on the riders' ability to compete, train or participate.

Event trips

DirtCraft expectations

Expect DirtCraft to plan multiple trips annually. Normally events we target include National XCO Champs, National Enduro Champs, Oceania Champs (XCO), National XCO Series, Mammoth Enduro, Capital Enduro, 3 Peaks Enduro, Pheonix Enduro and Karapoti. North Island and National School events may be included in this list on demand and if there is enough interest. We suggest you add the events you are interested in attending into your application.

Once we have an idea of numbers, we organise DSC members, generate cost estimates and start bookings for accommodation, flights, rental cars etc. From here we send an invitation to everyone interested in each event. In this invitation you are issued with flight booking details, travel dates & times, costs, framework details, rider and DSC estimates, and travel plans. Upon accepting this invitation, you are issued with the **first 50% estimate deposit** invoice. This covers your child's share of food, accommodation, vehicle hire, logistics, fuel etc.

Around 2 weeks prior to the event occurring you are issued with a confirmed list of attendees, travel limitations (i.e. space for luggage, bike bags vs boxes etc). We will also notify you if we have a travelling mechanic for this trip and which tools & spare parts we are taking.

On the week of the trip, during or just after, we will send the **second 50% balance invoice** which may range a little from the first, but normally is pretty accurate (within 10%). Please promptly pay this invoice.

We aim to have a mechanic on each race trip, or at least a DSC or rider who has good mechanical knowledge. This is to alleviate stress during event week. Good preparation can avoid 80% of issues we face. I.e. have your bike serviced a week prior to leaving etc. We educate the kids on what is needed and provide a resource to pass on to parents. Along with this we also have listed spare parts and a toolbox. Which aims to cover most of the parts we may need to replace when things go amiss (crashes etc). We will notify you of what these items are, so we don't double up on bringing the same equipment and tools.

DSC are volunteers. They value the vision of DirtCraft and commit their time and energy to helping. DSC costs are covered by fundraising that occurs during AIMS Games and other events. So, your funds are only going towards your child's share of expenses. DSC costs are covered to ensure we make it as affordable as we can for your child to attend.

Rider expectations

Select, commit and train for selected event to the best of their ability. Enjoy the trip, uphold DirtCraft values and help make the trip more pleasant for everyone involved.

Parent expectations

To assist with selection of the trip. Pay the deposit and balance payments promptly. It helps if parents are organised with flight bookings, race entries and race licencing etc. Most events don't require race licencing and most families opt not to purchase travel insurance for domestic events.

Standalone events

A stand-alone event is a local event that families or friends can take the rider to. These include but not limited to: Whaka 100, 2W Gravity Enduro, WaiBOP schools, local club races.

Expectations

DirtCraft DSC may or may not attend. This will be on a case-by-case basis. Some of these events the DSC may offer to take riders too, but this is done on a personal level external of the Development Squad. Thus, only ambassadors need to represent DirtCraft to the level in that contract. In most of these cases it is polite to offer fuel money to the driver. DirtCraft may or may not have venue support including mechanic, spare parts and tools, feeders etc. We will inform you if this is the case. There is no charge for this service.

Local Events

An event within the Bay of Plenty or Waikato region is considered a local event. Common locations include Tauranga, Rotorua, Taupo, Cambridge and Whakatane. Normally families or friends can take the rider to these events. These include but not limited to: Whaka 100, 2W Gravity Enduro, WaiBOP schools, local club races, local national level events.

Expectations

DirtCraft DSC may or may not attend. This will be on a case-by-case basis. Some of these events the DSC may offer to take riders to, but this is done on a personal level external of the Development Squad. In most of these cases it is polite to offer fuel money to the driver. DirtCraft may or may not have venue support including mechanic, spare parts and tools, feeders etc. Dynamic communication will occur regarding this.

Camps and workshops

Camps are planned to occur in Tauranga twice a year. Once in December, around a week or so prior to Christmas and sometime in the T1/T2 School Holidays. We are always open to other camp venues so if you have contacts or a location that could accommodate us at an affordable rate please get in touch. If there is need and demand, there is a chance that a camp can occur in Rotorua. If this is the case then there will be an additional cost to cover venue usage, transport and accommodation. This cost is around \$150 but will be communicated in due course.

We'll be dynamically assessing the riders, their patterns of weakness in our riders, and delivering day sessions to address said weaknesses. This will be on an organic basis with a targeted approach.

DirtCraft expectations

Different camps have different objectives. Along with the content and riding will depend on the camp objectives. We will provide riders with a camp timetable and gear list around 1 to 2 weeks out from the camp. Camp dates will be locked in at least 6 weeks prior to the camp in most cases. We will provide resources for these workshops where possible, so riders have something to take home and utilise for continued learning.

Riders' expectations

Attend camp, have fun, learn, connect and try your best. Attend all workshops that they can, engage, try their best. Put learning into practice in riding and life. Further explore areas of interest.

Parents expectations

Stay in the loop with information, schedule the camp into calendar. Facilitate attendance of their child to workshops. Prioritise having one or both parents attend parent workshops!

Financial

Ambassador

In return for us putting 100% effort into the individual we would like some support back in the way of lifelong ambassadors for DirtCraft. Check out the 'DirtCraft Ambassador Contract' for details to see what this entails. Anyone who passes the Development Squad selection criteria is eligible to be an ambassador. Discount Value -\$555

DirtCraft Partnership Finder's Fee

If you can obtain a financial sponsor/partner for DirtCraft then you are able to retain up to 20% of the value of the sponsorship as a credit to your account. This can be a great way to organically work with your network to support our cause. More details can be found in the 'DirtCraft Partnership Proposal'. -\$ variable

Rider Assistance Initiative

The RAI is in place to help committed riders who face higher deprivation. We don't want finances to be a barrier for our services. Don't be shy, go ahead and apply. You can apply for up to \$1000 annually. Discount Value -\$ variable

Cost Breakdown

Event trip payments are determined by the athlete's commitment to the trip or not.

External costs include race entries, flights, bike and equipment purchasing, travel insurance, race licencing, all of this is outlined in our free budget guide resource. External costs need to be covered directly by families unless agreed otherwise.

Annual Payment

As the rider must commit to the whole year, payment termination may be negotiated in extreme situations. Annual payment can be made in one lump sum at the start of the season or in 3 lump sums by negotiation. Even if a rider gets injured, they are still encouraged to take part in the Development Squad as there is plenty of value and support available in this situation. Renew occurs in June 2025 for the 2025/2026 season.

Event Trip Payments

Event trips are optional. Families are only invoiced for trips that their child plans to attend. Event trip payments are broken down into two parts.

1. **Deposit invoice** (this is nonrefundable) and is sent out once the trip is planned.
2. **Balance invoice** is sent out a few days' prior, during or just after the event has occurred. It is expected that this be paid promptly.

If a rider is injured, in most cases we still encourage them to attend the trip to retain the learning and experience beyond riding. If they choose not to, then they are not entitled to pay the balance payment.

Future years

Please note that annual costs will change each year. This will be determined by:

- Additions of services to the programme.
- Subtractions of services to the programme.
- The rate of inflation +1%.
- Change in value or quantity of services to the programme.

This will be done at the start of the season, and we will be transparent.

Declarations

Rider Declaration

The athlete agrees to comply with the DirtCraft Development Contract and has read and acknowledge all behavioural boundaries within the contract and understand their responsibility to represent DirtCraft to the best of their abilities both on and off the bike. The athlete understands that mountain biking and related training and learning methods require a high level of risk and the athlete is expected to complete the challenges to the best of their abilities, but may sustain physical injuries in doing so, the athlete will complete these activities, races and training sessions at their own risk to the best of their abilities. The athlete am responsible for attempting these sessions to the best of their abilities and for their own safety under the supervision of a DSC when applicable.

The athlete understands the DSC takes all reasonable precautions to ensure participant safety during the sessions but accept there is still risk of injury/accident. The athlete understands that the DSC in charge of the group will be acting in 'Loco parentis' and in the event of an accident, where the riders parents are not present.

Supervisor Declaration

The Parent/Caregiver give permission for them to take part in the DirtCraft Development under the parental consent conditions and the code of behaviour points both noted above. The Parent/Caregiver have read and acknowledged all behavioural boundaries and understand the child's responsibility to represent the DirtCraft Development to the best of their abilities both on and off the bike. Parent/Caregivers understand that mountain biking and the related training and learning methods involve a high level of risk. Riders are expected to complete the challenges to the best of their abilities, but may sustain physical injuries in doing so, they will complete these activities, races and training sessions at their own risk. The Parent/Caregiver have considered the nature of such sessions and have discussed them with their son/daughter. The Parent/Caregiver is satisfied that their son/daughter is sufficiently responsible and competent to assume full and entire responsibility for his/her own safety, under the supervision of a DSC when available.

The Parent/Caregiver acknowledges that throughout the year their child will face challenging situations, due to the nature of mountain biking and sporting teams, or may face adversity on their own as dictated by the Coach. Riders will be tested mentally and physically to grow and develop into well rounded young adults who are passionate about the sport. In some cases, riders may face these challenges on their own and not succeed. We ask that the Parent/Caregiver are patient and trust the process DSC is putting them through to develop different areas of their mental and physical growth. Some of these challenges will be artificially created by DSC, and some will be organically generated from the environment for the child to work through, grow and overcome. Organic adversity will be monitored by DSC to challenge the child, not demoralise the child. There will be health and safety risks that have been/are mitigated by the Coach and Manager, these challenges will teach their child to take ownership, show independence, courage, tenacity, demonstrate passion, self-belief, life planning and develop as a young person.

Should a parent be concerned about this development process they should contact the Coach or Manager immediately to discuss and resolve the issue, and in doing so not seek to influence the riders learning process. In these challenging situations we endeavour to always keep the child safe from any preventable external harm. Parents need to understand the Coach takes all reasonable precautions to ensure participant safety during the sessions but accept there is still

a risk of injury/accident. Parents understand that the Coach in charge of the group will be acting in 'Loco parentis' and in the event of an accident, where I am not present. The whole purpose of this platform is to make racing more accessible along with character development on an individual level by using situational learning with the three key areas being.