



DIRTCRAFT

2026 Event Rules

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General

- Schools may enter as many riders as they want per category.
- Riders cannot ride for other divisions.
- Team managers are responsible for riders, their parents, and other supporters. Please ensure that the safety and enjoyment of all competitors is of utmost importance.
- Riders cannot change their bike or helmet once the event has started without the check of approval from the Event Director or Bike Check Team first. If a rider fails to do so it will result in their individual race being DSQ (we take safety very seriously).
- Course Access - Official sweepers and riders only are permitted to ride the course during competition. Spectators are welcome to carefully access the course on foot only.
- Enclosed shoes must be worn throughout the event.
- The Event Director reserves the right to determine the number of officials.
- It is the responsibility of the competitor to have their bike in a safe working order. The bike/helmet check team and Event Director reserve the right to refuse the use of a bike and/or helmet they judge to be not fit for purpose.
- Electronic timing will be used for races, it is the riders responsibility their number plate is visible for manual timing and rider I.D.
- Rider registration packs, including number plates, are to be collected from the registration within the designated registration times as per the event programme.
- No rider or spectators are permitted to ride on the Reid Road and must cross the road at the designated crossing throughout the duration of the event.
- Bicycles used in competition must be capable of safely and efficiently completing the task and must, as a minimum, be mechanically sound, have two working brakes, one front and one rear, and all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the safety of the rider and others. As part of the latter, bar plugs are compulsory.
- No E-bikes may compete unless a specific e-bike category is outlined.
- If in the opinion of the Bike Check team or Event Director a bicycle fails to meet the above criteria the rider must take immediate steps to ensure the necessary steps are taken to remedy the shortcomings and ensure the officials requests are met. Failure to do so will result in exclusion from the competition.

- Riders must complete the entire race on the same bicycle upon which they started the race/stage. Wheel changes are allowed for all events except Enduro unless approved by the Event Director.
- Riders may stop on the side of the course. In no case should a rider go backwards on the course.
- Riders may not cut the course. If they leave the course (outside of the event tape) then they need to re-enter the course from the point they exited.
- For all riders it is the requirement of the participant to stay on course and follow the course marking. If a person has been found to deviate from the course, they will be disqualified.
- Riders that DNF must notify timing.
- For school events, all riders are required to wear school riding uniform when competing. If your school does not have specific cycling uniform, PE kit or plain kit is acceptable.
- Any rider caught riding on the road (other than across the designated crossing in an orderly fashion) prior, during or post event will face consequences that may impact their result.
- Any rider seen or reported receiving outside assistance (unless a medical emergency) from a spectator may be penalised unless done so within the feed/tech zone for XCO or on a liaison section for Enduro.
- Spectators should support in the spirit of fairness and the student's enjoyment.
- Riders should compete in the spirit of fairness and enjoyment. Any actions taken by a rider which are deemed by the Race Director to compromise the previous statement may result in a penalty or DSQ.
- Headphones, earpieces or portal speakers are NOT permitted during the event.
- Race numbers must be displayed on the handlebars of the bicycle. The number plate must be readable, so it must be fastened vertical and with as much surface area showing as possible. Do not bend, fold, cut or alter your number plate in any way as this may cause your transponder not to work.
- A minor breach of the rules will see a rider penalised between 3 - 300 seconds on to their finish time as determined by the Race Director or even disqualified.

Cross Country Events

- All entering riders need to be able to ride grade 3 trails to participate.
- Cross Country Feed Zone – The feed zone will be located by the finish line and will be clearly marked.
- Riders must have an open face helmet to compete in the Cross-Country event, which meets the NZ Safety Standard, with no signs of previous impact or go-pro mounts. No full-face helmets are allowed unless a valid medical reason is given.
- Jump start may result in penalty.
- Unnecessary contact between riders will be investigated and may result in penalties.

Enduro Event

- Each rider takes an individual start, the start interval between the riders is the decision of the individual but must be at least 20 seconds and no more than 40 seconds. The marshal will help to facilitate this.
- Riders competing in the Enduro event may have an open face helmet or full-face helmet which meets the NZ Safety Standard, with no signs of previous impact or go-pro mounts.
- Riders will need to complete the stages (and liaisons) in the correct order.
- It is compulsory to wear a protective helmet when racing or training on the course and such helmet must comply with the required safety standards as determined by the safety check team and Race Director.
- Helmets must be worn and always fastened during warmup, racing, stage liaisons, warm down and at any other time that the bike is being ridden and is making forward or backwards progression. We will not tolerate riders who undo their strap or take their helmet off on liaison sections (when riding to the next stage of the enduro).
- The helmet must be properly secured in both training and racing.
- Late return to the event village may result in time penalty.
- Some events may enable riders to have reruns others will not. This will be outlined in the event information. A rerun is the rider's decision to attempt a stage again. A priority rerun is when an external circumstance has impacted to event and the rider is enabled to ride the stage again.
- Valid priority rerun examples include timing issue, assisting an injured rider, course closure, course tampering.
- Invalid priority rerun examples include snapped chain, crash, catching another rider.
- If a rider would like a priority rerun, then they are to inform the Marshal at the bottom of the stage of their circumstance and request a priority re-run. In this scenario, the riders' numbers will be communicated with the Starter and Race Director. If the reason is deemed valid the rider(s) will be able to skip the queue for that stage to complete their priority rerun.
- Riders may only receive outside assistance inside the technical zone unless outlined otherwise.

Bike Requirements

- Bicycle must have 26", 27.5" or 29" wheels, at least 10 gears, with no stand, lights and light mounts, bike locks, carriers, or GoPro's or their mounts must not be attached to the bike or the rider's helmet.
- If there is an inspection, the Bike MUST be brought to the inspection reasonably clean; this includes a clean chain (Inspectors can deny scrutineering any bike if it is excessively dirty).
- Both axles should be tight.
- Hubs, linkage bolts, and headset must not have excessive play.
- Wheels run true (straight) without loose or broken spokes.

- Must have front and rear well working brakes with no rubbing on the rotor/rim.
- Brake pads must have enough life in them to last through the whole event.
- Gears must shift effectively.
- Handlebars have end caps, or enclosed grips.
- Tyres must have sufficient tread and are inflated to at least 15psi.
- Chain must have no bent or damaged links.
- Riders will need a second bike check to be completed if they are competing in the Cross Country and the Enduro. It doesn't matter if the rider is using the same or a different bike.

Protests

- Protests/disputes must be submitted via the protest/dispute specific procedure outlined by the event. If there is no specific procedure outlined, then the following process will take place.
- At the conclusion of the event, the results will be checked by the Event Director, then posted provisionally. This will be announced by the event MC.
- Riders, parents and Team managers will have 20 minutes from when the provisional results are published to review them.
- To lodge a protest, this needs to be done by the team manager directly to the Event Director within the 20-minute window with \$50 cash and a written protest outlining what occurred, what the outcome was and what the desired outcome is along with any supporting evidence. This information will be reviewed by the Event Director. If the desired outcome of the protestor is upheld, then the \$50 will be retained. If the desired outcome is not reached then, the \$50 will be retained by the event organisers. Either way, the protestor will be notified of the outcome before proceeding to prize giving.

