

DINO Mountain Bike Series

Race Guide Book

Updated 5/13/22

Recent additions / changes highlighted in yellow

1. BEFORE THE RACE

1.1. Registration

- 1.1.1. Online Registration: The least expensive way to register is online. A link is available on the calendar page and on each event's page. Online registration closes Wednesday night prior to each race. The Season Pass will save you money if you plan to race the majority of the series, as well as eliminating the need to register for each individual race.
- 1.1.2. Mail-in Registration: If you prefer to mail a check or money order, print the online form and mail it to the address on our Contacts page. Or call 317-336-7553 if you need it mailed to you.
- 1.1.3. Race day registration: You can register and pay with a check, cash, or credit card (usually) beginning at 8 am on race mornings. This will cost \$10 more than registering online and you will need to fill out a paper form available at the check-in desk.
- 1.1.4. Refunds and transfers: No refunds are given for event fees under \$25 and no refunds are given after close of online registration. A \$20 service fee will apply to any refund. We will transfer your entry to another event of equal or less value, if we are notified prior to close of online registration.

1.2. Racing age & Gender

- 1.2.1. Racing Age Entry forms ask for your date of birth. Your age group and start time are determined by your age at the END of the current year. For example, if you will turn 40 in the fall, you will race 40-49 all season even though you will be only 39 years old.
- 1.2.2. Riders must indicate gender for Expert, Sport, Base, or Junior category. Any transgender athlete must race in a Male division.

1.3. Categories

- 1.3.1. Kids Race: Kids age 12 and under may ride the free kids race, which is usually ¼ to ½ mile. "pushbikes" and training wheels are welcome, but the parent may need to follow along and help. Sign up at the registration table. There are small prizes given at the award ceremony.
- 1.3.2. Intro: First-time racers who are new to the sport can enter Intro. This is the shortest race, usually 5-8 miles. There are no gender or age group divisions. The top three finishers in Intro are asked to register in Base at their next race. If you have never raced before, you can race Intro for free, just ask at the registration table.
- 1.3.3. Clydesdale: Riders over 200 lbs weight may enter Clydesdale. It is the same length as Base. There are no age groups or gender divisions.
- 1.3.4. Fatbike: Riders with tires wider than 3.5" width. It is the same length as Base. There are no age groups or gender divisions.
- 1.3.5. Junior: The junior category is the shortest and easiest race with awards and series points. Male and Female age groups are 10&under, 11-14, and 15-18. More advanced riders of the Junior age may race in higher levels.
 - 1.3.5.1. Adults may ride along behind 10&under Juniors for safety purposes.
 - 1.3.5.2. Adults riding with Juniors must allow the kids to do the racing. Stay behind any groups racing, not in the middle. The purpose is not to be a coach/motivator but a safety patrol.
- 1.3.6. Base: Base is for casual local competitors. Men's age groups are: 11-14, 15-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50+. Women's age groups are: 19-39 and 40+. Similar to USA Cycling Cat3 MTB.

- 1.3.7. Sport: Sport is for intermediate regional competitors. Men's age groups are: 11-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50-59, and 60+. Women's age groups are: 11-18, 19-39 and 40+. Similar to USA Cycling Cat2 MTB.
- 1.3.8. Sport Open: The top racers in Sport may qualify to race in Sport Open to contend with the fastest riders from various age groups. Sport open is for men only. Riders in Sport Open are eligible for only Sport Open awards (three deep). No Sport Open rider may win an age group award. Riders in Sport age group waves may not win a Sport Open prize, even if their time defeats the Sport Open finish times.
 - 1.3.8.1. Qualifying for Sport Open:
 - 1.3.8.1.1. Finish top three overall Sport in any race (current or prior season)
 - 1.3.8.1.2. Finish first in your age group in any race (current or prior season)
 - 1.3.8.1.3. Special approval by DINO Director. A letter must be submitted, explaining your reason.
- 1.3.9. Expert: Expert is for advanced regional competitors. Men's age groups are: 15-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, and 50+. Women compete in an all-ages group. Similar to USA Cycling Cat1 MTB.
- 1.3.10. Elite: The top racers in Expert may elect to start in the Elite wave for the highest available level of competition. Elite is for men only. Awards are three deep, and Elite riders are not eligible for Expert age group awards. Cash prizes are distributed to the combined Elite/Expert field, by posted finish time.
 - 1.3.10.1. Qualifying for Elite:
 - 1.3.10.1.1. Any rider with a USA Cycling Pro license must start in Elite Wave.
 - 1.3.10.1.2. Finish top three overall Sport in any race (current or prior season)
 - 1.3.10.1.3. Finish first in your age group in any race (current or prior season)
 - 1.3.10.1.4. Special approval by DINO Director. A letter must be submitted to explain your reason.

1.4. Upgrades

- 1.4.1. Mandatory Upgrades
 - 1.4.1.1. Sport Men must move up to Expert under the following conditions:
 - 1.4.1.1.1. Rider placed in the top three overall in points, the prior season.
 - 1.4.1.1.2. Rider won first-place series points in age group the prior season. (i.e. all age group jersey winners). Exception: a rider placing lower than 10th overall in the series is exempt from this rule.
 - 1.4.1.1.3. Any Sport Men rider who wins top three overall, three times in the current season, must move to Expert at the next race.
 - 1.4.1.2. Base Men must move up to Sport under the following conditions:
 - 1.4.1.2.1. Rider placed in the top three overall in Base points, the prior season.
 - 1.4.1.2.2. Rider won first-place series points in Base age group the prior season. (i.e. all age group jersey winners). Exception: a rider placing lower than 10th overall in the series is exempt from this rule.
 - 1.4.1.2.3. Any Base Men rider who wins top three overall, three times in the current season, must move to Sport at the next race.
 - 1.4.1.3. Base and Sport Women must move up to the next category if they are first overall in the prior year's series.
 - 1.4.1.4. Junior Males must move up to Base under the following conditions:
 - 1.4.1.4.1. Rider placed in the top three overall in Junior Male points, the prior season.
 - 1.4.1.5. Junior Females must move up to Sport Women under the following conditions:
 - 1.4.1.5.1. Rider placed first overall in Junior Female points, the prior season.
- 1.4.2. Voluntary Upgrades: A rider may upgrade at any time he or she feels ready.

1.4.3. Downgrades: A rider may apply to the DINO director for a downgrade. Typically this will be allowed if results are in the bottom third of the category results, or a special circumstance (injury, illness, etc).

1.4.4. Points for Upgrades or Downgrades made mid-season: see Section 3.3 for Points rules.

1.5. Event Postponements

1.5.1. In some cases, weather and/or trail conditions may cause a change to the planned event.

1.5.1.1. Timeframe: The event will continue as planned until it is obvious that it cannot. "No news is good news".

1.5.1.2. Communication: As soon as any decision to postpone or change an event is made, DINO will use the following means to communicate, in this order: Twitter (@DINOseries), Hotline (317-336-7553), Facebook (DINOMountainBiking), Website (DINOseries.com), e-mail, HMBA.org.

1.5.1.3. If you are registered for an event that is postponed, you will automatically be registered for its make-up date.

1.5.1.4. If you cannot attend this make-up date, you may use the entry in another event of equal or lower cost. You must notify us at least four days prior to the make-up date or your alternate choice, whichever is first.

1.5.1.5. No refunds will be made for events postponed due to weather or conditions beyond our control.

2. DURING THE RACE

2.1. Equipment

2.1.1. Bicycle

2.1.1.1. Type: Mountain bikes, cyclo-cross bikes, (or anything in-between) are allowed. Any configuration of drivetrain and suspension is allowed. Motorized assistance is not allowed on the bicycle.

2.1.1.2. Brakes: The bicycle must have two working hand-operated brakes.

2.1.2. Helmet: Rider must wear a properly fastened helmet, certified by ASTM, Snell, or CPSC for bicycle use.

2.1.3. Shoes / Pedals: Closed shoes must be worn (no sandals). Platform pedals, clip-in pedals, and hybrids are all acceptable.

2.1.4. Gloves and Eye Protection: Gloves and eyewear are strongly suggested, but not required.

2.1.5. Clothing: No restrictions on clothing types. Any rider with clothing clearly offensive or indecent may be disqualified, and asked to leave, at discretion of race staff.

2.1.6. The rider must finish the race on the same bicycle (frame) as he or she started on. Changes of other parts (i.e. tires, wheels, etc.) are allowed, provided assistance rules in section 2.3 are followed.

2.1.7. Headphones / earbuds are not allowed. This is for the courtesy of riders asking to pass, and for your safety at road crossings, etc. Riders may be disqualified for using headphones during the race.

2.2. Assistance During Race

2.2.1. A rider MAY receive liquid or food from a spectator (or a self-placed station) anywhere along the course.

2.2.2. A rider MAY receive assistance, supplies, or tools from any source that is available to all participants (neutral mechanical support).

2.2.3. A rider MAY receive assistance, supplies, or tools from any other participant *registered* in the race in progress.

2.2.4. A rider MAY NOT receive physical assistance, supplies, or tools (other than liquid and food) from a non-racing support person or spectator for repair his or her bicycle. Verbal guidance is allowed.

2.2.5. A rider MAY return to his or her vehicle, pit area, or team tent to get supplies or tools.

2.2.6. If a rider leaves the course for repairs, or any other reason, he/she must re-enter the course at the same spot to continue the race.

2.3. Behavior

2.3.1. Passing

2.3.1.1. The overtaking rider should politely announce intent to pass. Options for passing include: "I'd like past please", "On your right", or "Trail". It may be helpful to add which wave you are in so that the overtaken rider knows you are not competing directly, for example "Sport Open leader, passing please"

2.3.1.2. The overtaken rider must allow riders from following waves to pass.

2.3.1.3. Riders are not required to allow same-wave competitors to pass, but may not physically block a pass.

2.3.1.4. Overtaken riders should communicate back, find a safe / wider spot, and drift to the side. The overtaken rider does not have to stop or pull over immediately, but should not un-necessarily delay a faster rider.

2.3.2. Sportsmanship / ethics

2.3.2.1. Language: Vulgar or abusive language is not acceptable. Violators may be subject to disqualification.

2.3.2.2. Course cutting: Riders must follow the marked route. Do not cut switchbacks or shortcut the course. In a few cases, significant optional lines are available, and if so will be marked with arrows pointing both ways. Violators subject to disqualification.

2.3.2.3. Cheating: Use of performance enhancing drugs, motors, or other "doping" methods will result in disqualification and possible ban from racing.

2.4. Starts

2.4.1. Each rider is responsible to start in the correct category and age group wave. (See section 1.2 regarding "Racing Age")

2.4.2. The official start time and race distances for each division are found in a PDF file linked from the race information page.

2.4.3. There are three lines marked, typically with orange spray chalk:

2.4.3.1. Solid Line – this is the wave that is ready for start, the actual "Start Line"

2.4.3.2. Dashed Line – this is the "on deck" or "up next" wave, which will start two minutes after the Solid Line wave.

2.4.3.3. Dotted Line – No rider should pass this line unless they are starting or "on deck". Leave space at the dotted line if there is another wave or two before you are "on deck".

2.4.3.4. Each line may advance once the Start horn blows for the solid line.

2.4.4. False starts ("Jumping the gun") are subject to a two-minute penalty. **This includes passing the dashed or dotted lines too early.**

2.4.5. Riders who start in a wave too early are subject to disqualification.

2.4.6. Riders who start in a wave too late will be given an adjusted time, possibly with a one-minute penalty at the discretion of race officials.

2.5. Finish

2.5.1. The exact finish line is typically marked with black timing mats on the ground, and a finish banner or arch overhead.

2.5.2. Exit promptly from the finish chute to make room for incoming finishers.

3. AFTER THE RACE

3.1. Timing / Results

3.1.1. Chip Timing

- 3.1.1.1. Timing “chips” are attached to the back of each race number plate. Make sure your number plate has two timing chips in good condition.
- 3.1.1.2. Number plates must be attached to the handle bar, in an orientation that can be seen and read looking at the front of the bicycle.
- 3.1.1.3. “Gun Times”: Each wave’s time begins when the starter’s horn blows, regardless of the riders’ time taken to cross the start line.
- 3.1.2. Sprint Finishes: Sprint finishes are, by default, timed by the recorded chip time. This is recorded at the handlebar, where your number is attached. If you disagree with the finish order, ask the timing staff to review the backup timing systems which were recorded by human eye.
- 3.1.3. Results errors
 - 3.1.3.1. Within a few minutes of finish, preliminary results should appear on a TV display near the finish line.
 - 3.1.3.2. If you notice any error or omission in your name, category, age group, or finish time / placing, notify the timing staff. Be prepared to tell them your name, race number, and approximate finish time.
 - 3.1.3.3. Most errors occur due to input errors. The more clearly and accurately you fill out your entry forms, and confirm details at check-in, the less likely you are to have a result error.
- 3.1.4. Protests: If, after working to resolve any data or timing issues with the DINO timing staff, you believe results are still in error, a protest may be made to the race director. Protests should be made promptly as to avoid award presentation issues.

3.2. Points

- 3.2.1. Point System: A rider’s best 4 finishes out of the 6 DINO Series races are added to calculate a series point total. Points are based on overall place within the category (not age group). 1st Place receives 200 points, 2nd 199, etc. Dropped scores are typically shown in gray font on results standings.
- 3.2.2. Eligibility: A rider must race at least three races to be eligible for series awards. All categories except Intro have series points and awards.
- 3.2.3. Ties: Ties are broken by the best finish in the final race of the series, or the most recent score.

3.3. Point transfers

- 3.3.1. Upgrades: Riders upgrading mid-season will receive “Upgrade Points” in his or her new category. Upgrade Points are equal to the last finishing rider in that race, in the new category. Therefore, it is beneficial to upgrade early if you anticipate a mandatory or voluntary upgrade later in the season. Upgrade Points are typically shown in blue font on the points standings.
- 3.3.2. Downgrades: Riders downgrading a category mid-season will retain the number of points earned in the higher level.