



## HOW TO ENTER A BIKE RACE FAQ's

### How do I know what races are programmed?

Directly above this article in the "EVENTS" window you will find the annual road programme which gives a week by week diary of forthcoming events, both locally and elsewhere, and a brief outline of the details of the event. Avoid printing this out as it is a living document and is periodically updated throughout the year to include new events or changes to existing events. Refer to this programme regularly to plan your racing.



### Where do I get more detailed information?

Directly below this article in the "EVENTS" window you will find the detailed information for the next event on the programme - what, where, when, together with interactive course maps and profiles which can be manipulated to enable you to see how to get to the event.



### Can anyone enter these events?

Unless the event is listed as an "Open" event, or is a "Championship" event, yes, anyone can enter. We do expect, however, that if you intend to ride regularly you must join one of the local clubs and take out a BikeNZ licence. All of our races are sanctioned by our governing body, BikeNZ, and your licence permits control over your conduct in the races, and is also an important condition of the public liability insurance provided by BikeNZ.



### How do I join a Club and take out a BikeNZ Licence?

All licencing, which included the relevant club membership fee, is now undertaken on-line through our parent body, BikeNZ. In the "news" section of the website you will find a guide to lead you through the process. Once you have licenced the club will be advised immediately and you can commence racing straight away. You will receive a credit card style permanent licence usually within 4 weeks to the address you provided when licencing. Sign it and look after it and keep it safe - some races require you to present your licence at registration.



### What do I do next?

On the website page giving detailed information for the next event you will see the instructions for entering a race. For all weekly club racing you will need to enter on line (through the club website) or call in and leave your name on the Race Registration Line - 0832 43615 - by the Thursday night prior to the race. This permits time for the club handicappers and administrators to prepare for the race, produce start lists, and set up the electronic timing system.



### **How do I know what grade to enter?**

If you are a new rider, you should leave a contact number when entering on the Race Registration Line. The club handicapper will get in touch to assess your ability so as to place you in the appropriate grade. As you race more regularly our database of your results and performances will enable us to more accurately place you in the correct grade for all types of course and events, maximizing your competitiveness and enjoyment.



### **I'm not sure if I will be able to make it to the race, what should I do?**

If in doubt, enter. It is much easier for the club and the timing system to cope with "non-starters" than it is to have to process on the day "late entries". If possible please call in on the Race Registration Line to withdraw. You can do this at any time, even after the Thursday night deadline.



### **Can the race be cancelled?**

Very rarely, and only in exceptional circumstances (dangerous weather conditions, unforeseen roading issues, etc). If there are any last minute cancellations or changes they will be notified on the Race Registration Line, and, if time permits, the website and the club Facebook page.



### **What is involved with the Electronic Timing System?**

Every rider in the race must fit an electronic timing transponder (Wheel Tag) to their bike which will accurately record your result. To simplify race set up and registration processes, each rider has a wheel tag allocated, and is expected to purchase a personal tag (\$25) which remains your property so long as you remain with the club. You will be provided with a wheel tag holder which remains on your bike at all times. Remember to fit your wheel tag to the holder each time you come out to a race otherwise the timing system cannot detect you finishing and you may not appear in the results unless identified manually by the judges. If you lose your wheel tag you will need to purchase a replacement from the club.



### **What do I need to do at Race Registration?**

First and foremost, try to get to the race at least 1 hour before the advertised start time. Officials have around 30 seconds to process each rider and this can not all be done in the last few minutes before start time. It is important to try and get the race started on time, so help us by arriving in good time.

Try and bring the correct entry fee to speed up the process. We will accept cheques if necessary but do not have facilities at the event for EFTPOS or credit card payment.

Remember to bring along an extra \$25 at your first race to purchase your wheel tag.

Sign against your name on the "Sign On Sheet" providing an emergency contact number (not the number of your own cellphone please). This form will tell you your race number

You are signing that you acknowledge and will abide by the race rules which are displayed nearby.

Tell the race secretary your race number and they will exchange your entry fee for your race number and issue you with a wheel tag, if necessary.

There will be copies of the start list available at registration - please take one.



### **What happens next?**

At registration course maps will be displayed - study them and familiarize yourself with the course.

From the start sheet you will see the time you are due to start - be at the start no later than 5 minutes prior to start time to receive the race safety briefing.

Be ready to race at start time - Food? Water? Race Number? Wheel Tag?

Listen carefully to the briefing - it is for your safety.



### **What if I need to pull out of the race once it has started?**

Advise the judges at the finish line, or, if not practical, the nearest race official or marshal.

Return your race number (and wheel tag if it is not your personal tag) to registration, or, if not practical, the nearest race official or marshal.



### **What if there is an accident?**

We have first aid facilities on course, but if there is an accident you are required to stop and give assistance until a race official arrives, whilst another rider advises the nearest race official or marshal.



### **What do I do at the end of the race?**

Keep the finish area clear - other riders will be finishing after you.

Refreshments will be provided after the race whilst waiting for the presentations - please support whenever possible.

Return your race number to registrations (and your wheel tag if it is not your personal tag)

Offer your apologies to the Event Manager if you think you are a prize winner and cannot stay for the presentations.

If a prize winner try to say a few words at the presentations to thank both the event sponsors and the volunteers who helped to stage the race.

Take all your gear with you and place any rubbish in the bins provided - leave the area as you found it - we want to come back next time!!

Check the web site for full results - usually the evening of the race unless there are issues to resolve.



### **What if I have any problems or queries?**

Make these known to the Event Manager as soon as possible who will attempt to deal with them.

If you have any problems or queries other than at an event, contact your club (email address and phone numbers are on the web site).



### **How can I help on days I am not planning to race?**

We always need a number of volunteers each week as marshals or other race officials. Without their help we cannot stage events at all. If you are not planning to race please consider offering to help whenever possible - if everybody in the club volunteered to help in just one race per year we would have more than enough volunteers and some to spare. Email or phone the club to volunteer.

**ENTER ON LINE OR USE THE RACE REGISTRATION LINE 0832 43615  
AND PRE-ENTER BY THURSDAY** ✓

**REMEMBER TO OBEY THE ROAD CODE AT ALL TIMES** ✓

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN ACTIONS** ✓

**CONSIDER OTHER ROAD USERS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS** ✓

**CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT** ✓



**HAVE FUN - IT IS A SPORT**

