

Texas Off-Road Series

Series Guide

INTRODUCTION

We're excited to announce the inaugural season of the Texas Off-Road Series, a collection of mountain bike races in the Houston/Austin regions of Central Texas. Brought to you by the organizers of WORS, America's Largest Off-Road Series, the aim of TORS is to offer riders of all backgrounds and abilities a competitive, fun, and family-friendly environment to test their skills on Texas's finest trails.

Each race weekend will feature multi-day racing with Time Trial, Short Track, and Cross-Country formats. Racers competing in the various disciplines will compete for Weekend Overall titles, while a series-long scoring championship will encourage participants to take on all three events.

Reduced entry fees for juniors, women's only fields, and free "Newbie" racing all highlight the series' commitment to lowering barriers of entry and creating an inclusive environment for all.

Whether it's for the racing, the activities, the camping, the community, or simply just the vibes, we invite you to join us in 2024 and enjoy everything the series has to offer.

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1... Calendar

TORS 2024 Calendar and Racing Breakdown:

October 19-20, 2024	<i>Bluff Creek Ranch</i>	<i>Warda, TX</i>	<i>XC Short Track Time Trial</i>
November 23-24, 2024	<i>Spider Mountain</i>	<i>Burnet, TX</i>	<i>XC Short Track Time Trial</i>
December 7-8, 2024	<i>Brazos River Park</i>	<i>Sugar Land, TX</i>	<i>XC Short Track Time Trial</i>

2024 Standardized Racing Schedule:

**SATURDAY
Time Trial + Short Track Racing**

8:00AM – 10:00AM	Pre Ride: Morning Session
10:00AM – 12:00PM	Time Trial: All Categories
12:00PM – 4:00PM	Pre-Ride: Afternoon Session
4:30PM	Short Track: Kids Comp
5:00PM	Short Track: Citizen + Sport Men
5:30PM	Short Track: Citizen + Sport + Comp + Elite Women
6:00PM	Short Track: Comp + Elite Men

**SUNDAY
Cross-Country Racing**

8:00AM	Newbies
8:30AM	Kids Comp
9:00AM	Citizen Men
10:00AM	Citizen + Sport Women
11:30AM	Sport Men
1:00PM	Elite Women + Comp Women
2:30PM	Elite Men + Comp Men

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2... Venue Layouts

We're working on finalizing Venue Layouts and will publish updates for all three events by September 20, 2024.

3... Festival | Expo | Food & Drink

EXPO

The Texas Off-Road Series will often host expos at its events. These are great opportunities to interact with people and brands that support mountain biking in the state of Texas. Centrally located will always be the Trek Tent, home to registration, results postings, and a hospitality lounge.

Standard Expo Hours:

Saturday: 10am - 6pm

Sunday: 8am - 2pm

FOOD COURT

Food Options:

Bike racing is hard work! So is watching bike racing, for that matter. That's why we've got you covered with a variety of food options. We're doing our best to ensure a balanced selection of different food types, including options that are vegetarian or vegan friendly.

We're in the process of booking food vendors for the TORS series. Check back by September 20, 2024 for a detailed list on who will be joining us and what their menus will be.

On-Site Complimentary Water:

1. Water Monsters
 - a. Free water is offered at all TORS events. You can locate the refill stations by viewing our venue maps, which will be published in the coming weeks and found on the previous page in this Guide.

Interested in being a sponsor or vendor? Get in touch with us at tors@trekbikes.com or fill out [this](#) form.

4... Courses

We're working on finalizing Course Maps and will publish updates for all three events by September 20, 2024.

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5... Race Information (Registration, Categories & Classes, Pricing)

Registration

Registration is quick, easy, and facilitated online through BikeReg. We will have on-site computers and tablets that you can do this on if you choose to register day-of at the venue.

All registration links can be accessed from the home page on our web site, found [HERE](#).

On-site packet pickup will be:

- Saturday: 8am – 5pm
- Sunday: 7am – 2pm

CATEGORIES & CLASSES:

Cross-Country (XC)

1	Newbie	Men; Women;
2	Kids Comp (Juniors)	GIRLS: 7-8; 9-10; 11-12; 13-14 BOYS: 7-8; 9; 10; 11; 12; 13-14
3	Citizen Men	U13; 13-14; 15-18; 19-29; 30-39; 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70+
4	Citizen Women	U15; 15-18; 19-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60-69; 70+
5	Sport Men	U15; 15-16; 17-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49; 50-59, 60-69, 70+
6	Sport Women	U15; 15-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70+
7	Comp Men	19-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59; 60+
8	Comp Women	19-29; 30-39; 40-49; 50-59, 60+
9	Elite Junior Girls	15-16; 17-18
10	Elite Junior Boys	15-16; 17-18
11	Elite Men	29 & under, 30-39, 40-49, 50+
12	Elite Women	29 & under, 30-39, 40-49, 50+

Short Track (XXC) & Time Trial (TT)

1	Kids Comp	All Ages
2	Citizen Men	All Ages
3	Citizen + Sport Women	All Ages
4	Sport + Comp Men	All Ages
5	Elite Women	All Ages
6	Elite Men	All Ages

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Category Descriptions:

Cross-Country Category Descriptions:

Newbie: (All ages and genders) a non-series category for individuals looking for a casual initial experience of mountain bike racing. Race distance is approximately 3-5 miles on a beginner-friendly course. For beginners, racing in the Newbie category is ABSOLUTELY FREE. You will need to register and sign a waiver, but no entry fee is required to race. This is a fun, inclusive, and pressure-free category that will kick off our Sunday racing.

Kids Comp: (Boys and Girls, racing age 7-14) Racers in this category must be able to ride without direct parental supervision and should be able to complete a five-mile trail in less than 1 hour. Races for this category are typically 3-5 miles, with the winning time typically being approximately 25 minutes.

Citizen Men: (Boys and Men, all ages) A Citizen competitor shall be a new or recreational racer with limited riding time. It is designed to be a category for novice and beginner riders, with races typically being 8-12 miles in length. Winning times for most races are approximately 40 minutes.

Citizen Women and Sport Women (Girls and Women, all ages) A Citizen competitor shall be a new or recreational racer with limited riding time. It is designed to be a category for novice and beginner riders, with races typically being 8-12 miles in length. Winning times for most races are approximately 50 minutes. A Sport competitor is an experienced racer of average ability. Races will typically be 12-16 miles in length. The Citizen and Sport Women will each ride the same course. Girls/Women wishing to ride the more challenging course will be able to do so in the Comp category - which will be the same number of laps and very similar distance as the Sport race, but on a more challenging course.

Sport Men (Boys and Men) A sport competitor is an experienced racer of average ability. Races will be 12-18 miles, and winning time in this category will generally be approximately 60 minutes.

Comp & Elite Women (Girls and Women) Participants in this category will race on the same course, with Elite riders doing one additional lap. A Comp competitor is an experienced racer of above average ability. An elite competitor is a seasoned racer with ample racing experience. Winning times for the Comp and elite categories will be approximately 75 minutes and 90 minutes, respectively. An international pro or USA Cycling Mountain Category 1 Annual License is required to compete in the Elite category. Elite Jr Girls (15-18) will race one less lap than the Elite Women.

Comp & Elite Men: (Boys and Men, ages 15+) Participants in this category will race on the same course, with Elite riders doing one additional lap. A Comp competitor is a racer of above average ability. An elite competitor is a racer looking for the highest level of competition in WORS. Either an International Pro or USA Cycling Mountain Category 1 annual license is required to compete in the elite category. Winning times for comp and elite will typically be around 90 minutes and 100 minutes, respectively. Cat 1 Jr Boys (15-16 & 17-18) will race the TORS Comp distance.

Short Track & Time Trial Category Descriptions:

All racers will participate on the same course for short track and time trial racing, regardless of category.

Racers are encouraged to enter the same category that they race in the cross-country format for Short Track and Time Trial racing.

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Additional Category & Class Information:

In-season Category Transfers

If you want to move up or down a class throughout the season, you may do so, but series points will not transfer. Your points accrued in the previous class will remain. For example, if a Citizen rider chooses to advance to the Sport category after their second race, they will start their third race with zero points in Sport. However, whatever the number of points they scored in Citizen will stand for the remainder of the year.

To initiate an in-season category transfer, please see the Trek team at the registration tent at one of our events, or email us at tors@trekbikes.com. We are happy to quickly facilitate these changes free of charge.

Advancing Categories Policy

TORS does not have mandating criteria that specifies when a rider must advance categories. However, it is strongly encouraged that any rider consistently placing in the top 10 overall or top 3 in their age class advance to the next category.

Category Size Policy

Effective permanently moving forward, a class will be split in two when it averages 20+ riders throughout the entire season. For example, if Sport Men 40-49 had an average of 27.4 riders throughout the 2024 season, it would then be split into two distinct classes - Sport Men 40-44 and Sport Men 45-49 – for the next year.

PRICING

XC Racing			
	Early Registration	Late Registration	Series Registration
Newbie	FREE	FREE	N/A
Kids Comp + ALL U19	\$35	\$45	\$100
Citizen	\$45	\$55	\$115
Sport	\$45	\$55	\$115
Comp	\$45	\$55	\$115
Elite	\$45	\$55	\$115

XCC & TT Racing			
	Early Registration	Late Registration	Series Registration
Kids Comp	\$15	\$20	\$40
Citizen	\$25	\$30	\$60
Sport	\$25	\$30	\$60
Comp	\$25	\$30	\$60
Elite	\$25	\$30	\$60

Early Registration begins when registration opens and ends on Tuesday of event week, at 10:59PM.

Late Registration begins on Tuesday of event week, at 11:00PM. From Tuesday at 11:00PM, late registration fees will apply.

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6... Race Information (Staging | Waves | Call-Ups)

Staging Times & Waves – Effective for 1st TORS Race

SUNDAY			
<u>Category</u>	<u>Staging Time</u>	<u>Race Start Time</u>	<u>Waves</u>
Newbies	7:50AM	8:00AM	Mass Start
Kids Comp	8:20AM	8:30AM	1: Boys & Girls 13-14 2: Boys & Girls 11-12 3: Boys & Girls 9-10 4: Boys & Girls 7-8
Citizen Men	8:50AM	9:00AM	1: Boys 14 & Under 2: Boys 15-18 3: Men 20-39 4: Men 40-49 5: Men 50+
Citizen + Sport Women	9:50AM	10:00AM	1: Sport Women - all classes 2: Citizen Women - all classes
Sport Men	11:20AM	11:30AM	1: Men 40-49 2: Men 19-39 3: Boys 14 & Under 4: Boys 15-18 5: Men 50+, Clydesdale, Fat Bike & SS
Comp + Elite Women	12:50PM	1:00PM	1: Elite Women - all classes 2: Elite Jr Girls - all classes 3: Comp Women - all classes
Comp + Elite Men	2:20PM	2:30PM	1: Elite Men - all classes 2: Jr Elite Boys - all classes 3: Comp Men - all classes

STAGING

Staging for every category will begin 10 minutes prior to the start of the first wave. Riders are highly encouraged to be at the start line no later than 10 minutes prior to the start of their race.

WAVES

We will introduce a grid setup in 2024 – eight spots wide, and five rows back. In general, we will aim to start 3-5 rows (24 - 40 riders) per wave, taking total category size, course layout, and lap distance into account when making this decision.

Both the classes that make up each wave and the order the waves start in will most often be determined by average finishing times for each class.

CALL-UPS & START ORDER

Call-Ups will simply bring the highest ranked riders to the front of the starting line. We will call up the top 5 in every class, as ranked in the series standings at that point. Under the circumstance of nationally ranked riders attending a single TORS event, they will then get call ups behind these riders, in the order of their USAC ranking.

Most waves feature multiple classes. When this is the case, the order of operations will be to rank the riders according to their overall ranking within the full category.

For example, the elite men all start together in one wave. But in the elite men field, there are four different age classes. So the top five riders in each of these four classes will get called up (twenty riders total), but instead of calling them up 1-5 in one class and then another and so on, the twenty riders will get called up in the order of their overall placement within the category.

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7... Results | Scoring | Awards

Results

RESULTS will be hosted on Race|Results. They will be linked through our website.

ON-SITE RESULTS will be both digitally displayed and posted via paper copies in the Trek Tent. Results are live and can be viewed during the race or immediately thereafter via the links on the website. QR Codes will be available at the venue as well.

Series Standings will be available for viewing on our website. Please expect several days between races and standings being updated.

To challenge the results, or to identify a mistake, please report as soon as possible to the timing tent. Award ceremonies are held ~20 minutes after the end of the race, and awards will be final at that point.

Scoring

Three (3) races will count towards a rider's overall score in the cross-country series. Bonus points are available for completing all 3 events. For the competition of all three races, riders will earn 5 bonus points.

3rd race = 5 bonus points

Cross-Country Series Points Scale (Category & Class)

1st place = 100 points	18th place = 66 points	35th place = 49 points	52nd place = 32 points	69th place = 15 points
2nd place = 96 points	19th place = 65 points	36th place = 48 points	53rd place = 31 points	70th place = 14 points
3rd place = 93 points	20th place = 64 points	37th place = 47 points	54th place = 30 points	71st place = 13 points
4th place = 90 points	21st place = 63 points	38th place = 46 points	55th place = 29 points	72nd place = 12 points
5th place = 88 points	22nd place = 62 points	39th place = 45 points	56th place = 28 points	73rd place = 11 points
6th place = 86 points	23rd place = 61 points	40th place = 44 points	57th place = 27 points	74th place = 10 points
7th place = 84 points	24th place = 60 points	41st place = 43 points	58th place = 26 points	75th place = 9 points
8th place = 82 points	25th place = 59 points	42nd place = 42 points	59th place = 25 points	76th place = 8 points
9th place = 80 points	26th place = 58 points	43rd place = 41 points	60th place = 24 points	77th place = 7 points
10th place = 78 points	27th place = 57 points	44th place = 40 points	61st place = 23 points	78th place = 6 points
11th place = 76 points	28th place = 56 points	45th place = 39 points	62nd place = 22 points	79th place = 5 points
12th place = 74 points	29th place = 55 points	46th place = 38 points	63th place = 21 points	80th place = 4 points
13th place = 72 points	30th place = 54 points	47th place = 37 points	64th place = 20 points	81st place = 3 points
14th place = 70 points	31st place = 53 points	48th place = 36 points	65th place = 19 points	82nd place = 2 points
15th place = 69 points	32nd place = 52 points	49th place = 35 points	66th place = 18 points	83rd - 100th place = 1 point
16th place = 68 points	33rd place = 51 points	50th place = 34 points	67th place = 17 points	
17th place = 67 points	34th place = 50 points	51st place = 33 points	68th place = 16 points	

Three (3) races will count towards a rider's overall score in the short track and time trial racing series. Bonus points area available for competing in all 3 events. For the competition of all three races, riders will earn 5 bonus points.

Short Track Series Points Scale (Category)

1st place = 50 points	13th place = 29 points	25th place = 17 points	37th place = 5 points
2nd place = 46 points	14th place = 28 points	26th place = 16 points	38th place = 4 points
3rd place = 43 points	15th place = 27 points	27th place = 15 points	39th place = 3 points
4th place = 41 points	16th place = 26 points	28th place = 14 points	40th place = 2 points
5th place = 39 points	17th place = 25 points	29th place = 13 points	41st - 50th place = 1 point
6th place = 37 points	18th place = 24 points	30th place = 12 points	
7th place = 36 points	19th place = 23 points	31st place = 11 points	
8th place = 35 points	20th place = 22 points	32nd place = 10 points	
9th place = 34 points	21st place = 21 points	33rd place = 9 points	
10th place = 33 points	22nd place = 20 points	34th place = 8 points	
11th place = 31 points	23rd place = 19 points	35th place = 7 points	
12th place = 30 points	24th place = 18 points	36th place = 6 points	

Riders completing ALL 9 events (XC, XCC & TT) will earn 10 bonus points for each discipline.

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Awards

Awards will be distributed to the top 3 riders in each class for ALL racing in TORS - XC, XCC, and Time Trial.

2024 TORS AWARDS

PER-RACE AWARDS		SERIES AWARDS	
Cross-Country	Medals - Top 3 Podium - Top 5	Cross Country	Plaques & Podium - Top 5
Short Track & Time Trial	Medals – Top 3 Podium – Top 5	Short Track & Time Trial	Plaques & Podium – Top 5
Weekend Overall Titles	Medals – Top 3 Podium – Top 3		

To be eligible for a series award, racers must have competed in the minimum number of races required:

- XC, XCC & TT: 2 Races

Riders who don't meet the minimum number of races required will be removed from series award contention. For example, if the 5th place rider in the standings finishes with 100 points in 1 finish, and the 6th place rider finishes with 95 points in 2 finishes, the 6th place rider will win the 5th place series award, assuming the 1st - 4th place riders all completed at least two races themselves. The rider with 100 points will maintain their results and position; they will simply just not be eligible for the series award.

8... Camping | Lodging | Parking

Camping

Camping is an essential part of the TORS experience, and when available, we will offer on-site camping.

When possible, WORS will attempt to promote the separation of two different camping zones. The first zone is strictly for tent camping and/or generator-free camping. This is a quiet zone, intended to give folks the most quiet night of sleep possible. The second zone will be for RV camping and/or generator camping. This is a zone that will allow for generators. Regardless of zones, quiet hours will be in effect for general noise between the hours of 10:00pm and 6:00am.

Information on camping may vary from event-to-event. For information on camping at a particular race, please refer to the Race Pages below at the bottom of this Series Guide.

Lodging

When possible, TORS will attempt to partner with Host Hotels in close proximity to event venues.

As with camping, the best place to find accurate lodging information is to visit the Race Pages, found below at the bottom of the Series Guide.

Event Parking

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Info on parking surface, distance to venue, handicap parking and cost of parking can again be found in the Race Pages.

9... Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities

Our goal at TORS is to be the best organization to volunteer for in the world.

By volunteering with us at Trek-owned race on a 3-hr shift, this is what you receive:

- Free race entry
- Free meals while on-shift
- Free swag (may include t-shirt, hat, sweatshirt, and/or other accessories)
- Volunteer t-shirt
- Automatically have access during your shift to a dedicated "Volunteer Caretaker", so there is always somebody to help you out, relieve you for a bathroom break, or get you food. Please utilize this person!

Volunteer opportunities can be found at the following links:

- Bluff Creek Ranch: [SIGN UP HERE](#)
- Spider Mountain: [SIGN UP HERE](#)
- Brazos River Park: [SIGN UP HERE](#)

Volunteers will receive two rounds of communication prior to their shift:

- 30 days out: General reminder, with a short list of what to bring, what to expect, what to know.
- 5 days out: Refresher on the 30 days out email, in addition to last-minute updates, weather reports, and information on who to meet and where.

Volunteers will receive one round of communication after their shift:

- 3 days after: A note of thanks, in addition to an optional survey to let us know how your volunteer experience went, including what could have been done better, what we did well, and what we could change in the future.

10... Media

Photography + Videography

- TORS is working on developing a partnership with a local photographer to capture photographs of the racing action which can be provided free-of-charge to participants. More information coming soon.

Promotion Policy

- If you would like to promote your race recap or video project on our website, you may email us at tors@trekbikes.com.

Accreditations

- TORS will not offer any accreditations in 2024. Full access to the venue is available to everyone. If you are a member of the media or a publication and would like to get in touch with us, please send an email to marcus_warrington@trekbikes.com.

Drone Policy

- Drones are not allowed at TORS events without the express written consent of the Series Director. This is for safety purposes. If you would like to obtain permission, you may do so by emailing tors@trekbikes.com.

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- If you are caught flying a drone without prior permission, we will ask you to stop flying, regardless of whether or not you are licensed. If you are caught a second time, you will be asked to leave the venue. Being caught a third time in a single event weekend will result in a 1-year ban from WORS races.

11... Weather Policy

The nature of outdoor events over the course of several days in Texas throughout the fall means that weather will inevitably play an impactful role on our series. As such, we have developed a weather policy that aims to better define and increase the transparency of our decision-making process. This policy has been developed with safety in mind above all else; to a lesser degree, we will also take into consideration potential damage to trail systems and venues. While decisions will often be borderline and very difficult, we will firmly stand by our decision to err on the side of caution.

The Texas Off-Road Series reserves the right to cancel any event, at any time, due to what we deem to be inclement weather. The Series Director is responsible for the decision regarding the cancellation of a race, altering start times, and/or the abbreviation of laps. This person will work in direct collaboration with the Land manager(s) to determine the best course of action. Whenever possible, decisions will be made in a timely manner. However, the nature of fall time weather in Texas means some decisions will need to be made very quickly. With this in mind, new for this year, TORS will offer up-to-the-minute weather updates to participant's cell phones via text, available via an opt-in checkbox during registration.

COMMUNICATION & UPDATES

- Rapidly changing weather conditions might mean decisions have to be made on a moment's notice. You can opt-in to weather related updates. We will only send you text messages from this account in the following events:
 - Race delay or cancellation.
 - Race is being abbreviated or shortened.
 - Race is on as scheduled but potential weather is imminent and delays are possible.
- In circumstances where the race is already ongoing and a decision is made to adjust, shorten or outright cancel, a race official will be standing at the lap/finish line communicating the latest news with a loudspeaker. Riders are obligated to slow enough to understand this messaging, even if it is an adjusted or shortened race that will continue.
- In extreme circumstances where riders need to be evacuated from the course quickly, a marshal at a course checkpoint may direct riders to exit the course and take a shortened path back to the start/finish area. Once again, if a marshal is in the course and providing direction, a rider is obligated to slow enough to understand this messaging and follow the directions.

RAIN

- Unless torrential, rain itself will not postpone a TORS event. If in the days preceding an event, it has rained in excess of 2 inches (Thursday and/or Friday) TORS will consult with local venue officials and determine if a course adjustment is necessary. Participants will be notified of any course changes via the text system.
- If rain falls during a race and is not accompanied by thunder or lightning, the event will continue until completion.
- If rain is falling and the event is set to begin in a matter of minutes or hours, a decision on whether or not to adjust or shorten the course will be made as soon as possible and communicated with riders via the text system and via PA announcements.

THUNDER & LIGHTNING

- Unlike rain, thunder and lightning will always delay or postpone a TORS event. If there is lightning within a 15 mile radius (or 25 mile radius and coming straight in our direction) all racing will be delayed for at least 30 minutes and all riders will be asked to seek shelter in their vehicles or indoors.
- If thunder is heard in the vicinity of the event area, but is not accompanied with lightning, all racing will be delayed for 15 minutes and all riders will be asked to seek shelter in their vehicles or indoors.

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- For events that are ongoing, riders will get pulled off the course either at the finish/lap line or at a course marshal station. New for this year, we will record riders' times as they exit the course, so that if the race is able to resume in a reasonable amount of time we can still track the race results. As reiterated below, we will do our best to forecast these storms so that pulling riders off the course is of absolutely last resort.

EXTREME HEAT

- If temperatures exceed 90 degrees and/or heat indexes exceed 95 degrees, TORS reserves the right to shorten racing.
- If temperatures exceed 100 degrees and/or heat indexes exceed 105 degrees, TORS races will be canceled. This will include morning and afternoon events, even if the races in the morning do not take place during the threshold temperatures.

PROACTIVE DECISION-MAKING

- While some storms are sudden, many are not. We will constantly monitor the weather situation, especially on weekends with inclement weather forecasted, and do our best to be proactive in our decision making. The longest TORS races last approximately 90 minutes, which is often enough time to know when incoming storms will hit. When possible, we will delay the start of races rather than start them on time only for riders to be pulled off the course.

REFUND POLICY

- For events that are canceled due to weather, no refunds will be offered.
- Why?
 - This is standard across the bike racing event industry.
 - It is standard in the bike event industry because the majority of costs associated with putting on the races is incurred many months before the event actually happens. We understand the frustration this causes, and do not come to this decision lightly. We will do our best to communicate this policy upon registration to reduce confusion.

12... Rules & Regulations

As a partially USAC-sanctioned event, TORS has adopted the USAC rulebook, which can be found [HERE](#).

For especially relevant rules & regulations, please review the following list:

1. Racers shall complete the event on the same bicycle.
2. All repairs during the event must be completed by the rider themself.
3. For safety, a rider that loses an essential part on their bicycle (seat, seat post, pedal) will not be allowed to continue the race beyond completing the lap on which their part broke. Riders may complete their lap and will receive a DNF.
4. Riders must work together when one rider is rapidly approaching another, whether the takeover is happening to riders on the same lap or if one rider is lapping another. Both racers are entitled to their positioning on technical single track, but the rider being overtaken must offer a pass within 30 seconds or at the earliest place on the course safe to do so.
5. Riders must stay on the marked race course at all times. Cutting the course by 10+ feet in areas with a clearly marked trail - regardless of course marking - will result in a 2 minute penalty.

All rules will be strictly enforced in the Elite and Jr Elite races, with no exceptions. Breaking any of these rules will result in a DSQ. In the Newbie, Kids Comp, Citizen, Sport and Comp classes these rules will be enforced, but only with a 2 minute penalty.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE POLICY:

If TORS had only one rule, it would be this: Please be respectful of people around you – both on and off the course. It's okay to be competitive - it's not okay to verbally abuse others. Please help us maintain a fun and inclusive atmosphere.

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We understand that in the heat of racing words can get exchanged and emotions can flair. To a degree, this is part of racing. That said, the following behaviors are unacceptable at a TORS event and will not be tolerated.

- Swearing at other participants
- Physically pushing riders
- Verbally abusing other

Often, a challenging reality is that a complaint revolves around two individuals with two stories. In instances with no other witnesses, a rules committee will discuss the incident and come to a ruling. The ruling will then be explained to both parties, with follow-up offered after the event from the Series Director.

RULES COMMITTEE:

New for '24, a rules committee has been put together to address claims of rule-breaking and unsportsmanlike conduct. Upon receiving a report or complaint, this committee will meet within 20 minutes and deliver a ruling, with an explanation, to all involved parties within another 25 minutes. If needed, the committee will follow up the following week via email.

1. TBD (To be announced by September 20)
2. TBD (To be announced by September 20)
3. TBD (To be announced by September 20)

GENERAL RULES

Helmets - They are required at all times, even when not racing. This will be strictly enforced.

Headphones - They are not allowed to be worn while pre-riding or racing. Please respect other participants and do not carry a speaker while you are racing.

Littering - Leave no trace! TORS has the privilege of holding events at some of the most beautiful venues in the state. Please help us keep them clean.

Dogs - At TORS, we love dogs! Unfortunately, not every event is able to accommodate pets. Please refer to Race Guide sections before the event so you don't have to turn around with your pup upon arrival.

Feed Zone / Hand-Ups - Hand ups are not a crime! You are allowed to take hand ups throughout the course. Please be respectful of others and go out of your way to ensure you aren't receiving a hand-up somewhere that will interfere with someone else's race. Doing this – even accidentally – will result in a strike for unsportsmanlike conduct.

HAVE FUN - We're hosting these events - and hope you're attending these events – because they're fun! This is our most important rule. Don't forget it!

13... New Rider Information

Are you new to mountain biking? Or perhaps just new to mountain bike racing? Either way, great! We're so glad you've found your way here, and we hope that you begin your racing journey with us.

The best thing to prepare for your first race will be to review the entire Series Guide. Below you will find additional tips and tricks to get you ready for race day:

Newbie Category - Remember that we have a category designed just for you! The Newbie race takes place on the easiest course of the weekend and usually is only 3-5 miles in length. It starts right away in the morning, so you don't have to worry about the pressure of other riders coming up behind you. Oh, and did we mention this is free?

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New Rider Hangouts + Pre-Rides - For select events, we'll have "New Rider Hangouts and/or Pre-Rides"; designated times to meet up with other new riders to either practice the course together or just hang out and get to know one another. These rides will be led by Ride Leaders, Coaches, and friendly folks here to help you have a great time. To find a New Rider Hangout, please keep an eye on our website and/or social media pages.

The Right Bike - There is no such thing! If you are on a mountain bike, you are on the right bike. You'll want to be sure your bike is in working order and safe to ride – if you aren't entirely comfortable with your setup, be sure to stop at the Trek Tent where our certified mechanics will be able to give the bike a tune up and give you additional tips and tricks to ensure your ride is a good one!

Clothing you should wear - (the short answer) is whatever you are most comfortable in. Many cyclists wear Lycra while they ride or race. This is entirely optional. The advantage to Lycra is its comfort and compatibility to hard mountain bike racing. What we wouldn't recommend are jeans, baggy pants (your pant leg could get caught in your chain) or sweatshirts. Worried about what you're wearing? The Trek Tent is your place - we'll give you the thumbs up on what's probably already a great choice of comfort and style, and hook you up with some other gear if you're still not entirely comfortable.

What you should eat - There's a million nutrition tips and tricks you can surf your way through. Our recommendation? Eat something fairly light two hours before your race (Oatmeal and light cereal are common, but really anything that you're used to is good) and then a Banana or something similar 20 minutes before start time. Drink plenty the day before, but trail off an hour or so before your event.

The last thing you should do: - After you've read our Series Guide, Race Guides, and all the YouTube videos your heart desires, you should then email our Series Director - marcus.warrington@trekbikes.com. Introducing new riders to the sport is what we're all about, we want you to be able to meet someone who can offer personalized tips, and maybe even hook you up with some cool swag. The Trek team will make sure you get connected with the right people to ensure your first day racing is as fun as possible!

14... FAQ

- What's the deal with number plates?
 - You get one number plate, and one number plate only! No matter what you're racing - cross-country, short track, time trial; you'll always keep the same number plate once you have it.
- If I already have my number plate, am I required to stop by the registration tent?
 - Nope, you are free to skip the lines at the registration tent once you have your number plate. All waivers will be signed online and required before completing your registration. Remember that you must be a registered rider to take the start line; you will not be timed if you have not registered for an event, and may be banned from future TORS racing.
- What if I get hurt or sick during the season? Can I still get a refund?
 - We have a No Refund policy, however, If you are hurt during the season or have family emergencies pop up please send us an email at tors@trekbikes.com.
- Why do you have a No Refunds policy?
 - In the mountain bike event landscape, no refund policies are mostly the industry standard. This is due to the fact that the vast majority of event expenses are incurred months before the events actually take place.

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15. Administration Information

TORS is wholly-owned by Trek Bicycles. Administration and management of the series is the responsibility of the Series Director; this individual is a Trek employee and member of the Trek Events team.

The current Series Director is Marcus Warrington.

Permitting

Our races are officially permitted under USAC. Each individual race is held under its own permit. The permits are as follows:

1. Bluff Creek Ranch – (Coming Soon)
2. Spider Mountain – (Coming Soon)
3. Brazos Creek park – (Coming Soon)

Insurance

WORS events are insured through USA Cycling.

Medical

Coming soon

For additional questions on medical support, insurance, or permitting, please contact Series staff at wors@trekbikes.com

17... Sanctioning Information

TORS permits with USAC for all racing, but only several of the categories are sanctioned events. See the following table for what events are sanctioned and what events are not:

<i>2024 WORS Sanctioning Information:</i>	
Category	Sanctioned?
Newbie	NO
Kids Comp	NO
Citizen	NO
Sport	YES
Comp	YES
Junior Elite	YES
Elite	YES

What does it actually mean to be a sanctioned race?

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Being a sanctioned race means partnering with USA Cycling; the event follows the rules and competition structure laid out by the national governing body.

What does it mean for me, the rider?

As a rider, participating in a USAC sanctioned event means that you must hold a license, either an annual license or a temporary 1-day license. The benefits, beyond the rulebook and professional structure, are that your results get reported to USAC and you are awarded with USAC points. Additionally, USAC offers exclusive discounts to 20+ brands and industry partners. More information [HERE](#).

Why aren't Newbies, Kids Comp and Citizen sanctioned?

Our highest priority at WORS is safety. Our second highest priority is maximizing participation and fostering a welcoming, inclusive racing environment. A key element to this is keeping prices low - and we've worked hard to ensure there have been no increases to entry fees for three straight years. Requiring licenses means additional costs to riders.

USAC licenses cost the following:

- Adult Annual License: \$110
- Collegiate Annual License: \$80
- Junior Annual License: \$40

For many recreational riders, the benefits of having a license aren't worth the price. For riders who only race once or twice a year, a license rarely makes sense.

Why not go entirely unsanctioned?

There are still a fair number of riders that rely on USAC points locally in order to gain call-up spots at National-caliber races. For these riders, it's important that we maintain sanctioned racing to provide them with those points.

What does this mean for the Sport, Comp, Jr Elite and Elite races?

USAC licenses are required to participate in a Sport, Comp, Jr Elite or Elite race in 2024.

What does this mean for the Newbie, Kids Comp, and Citizen racers?

You will not be required to purchase a license to race, and your results will not get uploaded to USAC. As a result of the latter, no USAC points will be awarded. There will be no rule changes or any other adjustments to your racing experience.

I've got additional questions or concerns.

We would love to hear from you! Please reach out to us at tors@trekbikes.com and we'll get back to you.

Category	Sanctioned?	License Required?	Results to USAC?	USAC Points?
<i>Newbie</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Kids Comp</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Citizen</i>	NO	NO	NO	NO
<i>Sport</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES
<i>Comp</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES

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<i>Junior Elite</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES	
<i>Elite</i>	YES	YES	YES	YES	

18... Race Guides & Information

Race Guides, and specific information on particular race weekends, including Course Maps, Venue Maps, Activities, Schedules, etc. will be coming soon! Please refer back to this Series Guide by September 20 for updates and keep an eye on our social media pages for additional information.