18-22 MARCH | MT BULLER, VICTORIA

2026 GWM MOUNTAIN BIKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS TECHNICAL GUIDE

National Championships AusCycling | GWM | VICTORIA | MtBuller

AUSCYCLING | ARA | GWM

Event Details 4
Overview 4
Membership/Licence Requirement 4
Entries 4
Rider Registration 5
Rider Responsibilities 5
Race Categories 5
Awards and Prizing 6
Presentations 6
Results 6
Severe Weather Guidelines 7
Social Media 7
Event Crew list 8
Venue Details 8
Venue Overview 8
Parking 9
Downhill 9
Cross Country 9
Food and Beverage 10
Competitor Information 12
Event Schedule – Downhill 12
Event Schedule – Cross Country 13
Downhill Racing Groups 14
Rules and regulations 15
Race Numbers & Body Numbers 15
Medical & Hospital 16
Rider Emergency Contact 16
Courses Information and Maps 17
Downhill (DH) 17

Cross-Country Olympic (XCO) 18
Cross-Country Short Course (XCC) 19
Starting Order and Seeding Policies 20
Cross Country Olympic (XCO) 20
Cross Country Short Track (XCC) 20
Downhill (DH) 21
Technical Information - Downhill 23
Rider Uplift 24
Safety Equipment 24
Technical Information – Cross Country 25
Marshaling & Start 25
Safety Equipment 26
Technical Assistance Zone (TAZ) & Servicing 26
Technical Information – E-MTB 26
Regulations for E-bikes 26
E-Bike Requirements 27
Compliance Checks 27
Technical Information – Team Relay (XCR) 27
Team Composition 27
Technical Information - General 28
Therapeutic Use Exemption 28
Images 28
Sport Integrity Australia App 29
Sport Integrity Australia Notification 29
Policy Notice 29

GWM GO WITH MORE

COMING SOON

BE MORE TANK

GWM Tank 300 Plug-In Hybrid with Hi4T

STARTING FROM **$55,990 DRIVEAWAY***

Proud partner of AusCycling and the 2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships

AUSCYCLING

Event Details

Overview

The 2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships is the premier event on the Australian Mountain Bike racing calendar, with riders competing for national recognition. In each event, the first-place Australian rider shall be acknowledged as the National Champion for the discipline and will be presented the National Champions jersey. All Elite, U23 (XC) and U19 events are registered on the UCI calendar for both Downhill, Cross Country Olympic and Cross Country Short Track.

For further information about the National Champions Jersey and Kit please read the following policy: National Championship Jersey

Membership/Licence Requirement

Riders will be required to hold one of the following:

- An active and current AusCycling 'Race - Off-Road' or 'All Discipline' membership (for al National Championship events), OR
- A 2026 UCI licence issued by a UCI National Federation

No Temporary memberships are permitted for any category and a failure to provide one of the above will result in the rider having to pay to renew their membership at registration.

Further information regarding AusCycling memberships can be found at the following link
- https://auscycling.org.au/membership

Note: International riders are eligible for medals but not for Australian championships title or national jerseys.

Entries

Entries for all events close **Friday, 13 Mar 2026 11:59 PM AEDT**

XCO:	2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships - Cross Country Olympic - EntryBoss
XCC:	2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships - Cross Country Short Track - EntryBoss
XCR:	2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships – Cross Country Relay – Entry Form
DHI:	2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships - Downhill - EntryBoss

Rider Registration

Registration/ Event Sign will take place at the 'Mount Buller Alpine Central' (Alpine HQ) building, 1 Summit Road, Mount Buller. Registration will be open each day from Tuesday 11 – Sunday 16 March. Refer to registration opening times below. Riders can register any time within this window. Riders must register before riding in any official race or practice.

Chairlift Waiver
All downhill riders must sign a mandatory chair lift waiver when collecting their race plates. **Each rider must collect their own individual race pack** as a result. All riders under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a legal parent or guardian to sign the waiver on their behalf.

Rider Responsibilities

Riders shall, at all times:

- Obey instructions from the Event Organisers, Commissaires and event marshals/officials.
- Employ correct etiquette and ride safely in all situations.
- Be required to wear minimum safety gear including appropriately approved helmet.
- Ensure that their bicycle is in good working order.
- Ensure they have an adequate supply of water, sports drink and nutrition as required for the activity they are to participate in.
- Be responsible for ensuring they are fit enough for the activity.

Race Categories

The below age categories are for the XCO, XCC & DHI races, unless otherwise stated and include Mens & Women's categories.

Categories			
Elite	Under 13	Masters 4 (45-49)	Masters 9 (70-74)
U23 (XC Only)	Expert (19-29)**	Masters 5 (50-54)	Masters 10 (75+)
Junior (U19)	Masters 1 (30-34)	Masters 6 (55-59)	Adaptive (XCO & DHI)
Under 17	Masters 2 (35-39)	Masters 7 (60-64)	E-MTB (XC) – Open
Under 15	Masters 3 (40-44)	Masters 8 (64-69)	

*** Where ability (Expert) categories are offered medals will be awarded, however not jerseys.*

Cross Country Team Relay (XCR)	**Club Trophy (Open) XCR** (4x riders from a single club) Rider 1 – Open Rider 2 – Women's category rider Rider 3 – Masters rider over 40 Rider 4 – Rider aged Under 19	**Open XCR** (4x riders from any club/team) Rider 1 – Open Rider 2 – Women's category rider Rider 3 – Masters rider over 40 Rider 4 – Rider aged Under 19
	Club Trophy (Junior) XCR (4x U15/17 riders from a single club) - One rider must be female (as a minimum) - One rider must be U15 (as a minimum)	

Awards and Prizing

The following awards and prizes are offered at this event;

- Green and Gold National Champion Jersey – All Age Categories (DH, XCO, XCC – except expert category)
- First place medal – All Age Categories (DH, XCO, XCC, XCR)
- Second place medal – All Age Categories (DH, XCO, XCC, XCR)
- Third place medal – All Age Categories (DH, XCO, XCC, XCR)
- Perpetual Shield – Club Trophy (Open) & Club Trophy (Junior) (XCR)

There are no cash prizes available at this event.

Presentations

Presentation ceremonies will take place in the Buller Ski Village, adjacent to the XCO Start & Finish line, as per the times listed in the event schedule. All riders who finish 1st to 5th in Elite or 1st to 3rd in all other categories must be present at their presentation.

Results

Results will be available at: https://results.auscycling.org.au/

All race plates will have a QR code on them for results tracking during the race. There will be signs in the event village with these codes on them.

Severe Weather Guidelines

When looking at weather conditions, the safety of the athletes, spectators, staff, and volunteers is the utmost priority. While often providing an additional challenge, adverse weather in its extremes may result in hypothermia, heat exhaustion or other dangerous conditions. In all cases the event will follow the AusCycling Extreme Weather Guidelines.

Social Media

Please help us extend the reach of the MTB National Championships by using the hashtag #GWMMTBNats26

AusCycling	
Facebook	@AusCyclingMTBCX
Website	https://mtbnationals.org.au/
X/Twitter	@AusCyclingAus
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/@AusCycling
Instagram	@auscyclingaus

Victorian Government
#visitvictoria #visitmelbourne @visitmelbourne
#changeourgame @changeourgame @sportandrecvic

Alpine Resorts Victoria & Mt Stirling Alpine Resorts
@MtBuller @bullerstirling.resorts

Event Crew list

Event Delivery Team	
Event Director	Lukas Matys (lukas.matys@auscycling.org.au)
Operations Lead	Harry Fortune (harry.fortune@auscycling.org.au)
Event Coordinator	Clare Kelly (clare.kelly@auscycling.org.au)
Race Director	Andy Miller
Assistant Race Director	Chris Clarke
Media Operations Manager	Jo Mackey (jo.mackey@auscycling.org.au)
Commercial Lead	Bryce Dehn (bryce.dehn@auscycling.org.au)
Timing & Results Contractor	Chris Naunton – Living it Live Timing
Audio Contractor	Russel Baker – DURT Pty Ltd
Commentator XC	Stuart Plant
Commentator DH	Rhys Ellis
Commissaire Panel	
President of the Commissaire Panel	Susan Mitchell
Secretary	Bradley Higgins
DH Chief	Shane Currie
XCO Chief	Darryl Cram
Commissaire Panel Member	Allie Smith
Commissaire Panel Member	Lorraine Schutz
Commissaire Panel Member	Ash McAulliffe
Commissaire Panel Member	Damien Tresidder
Commissaire Panel Member	Tony Scott
Commissaire Panel Member	Jeff Hughes

Venue Details

Venue Overview

Mount Buller's Resort Management Team have worked with us to centralise the event operations within the event village area and the XC courses have been designed so that they are spectator friendly and interact with the design of the event village.

The Event Village, located near to Alpine HQ and Village Square, will serve as the central hub, featuring team pits, expo spaces, the media centre, rider services and podium presentations. The XC Start/Finish area (for XCO, XCC and XCR), referred to as 'XC Commons' for the event, will be positioned in Village Square, providing a highly visible and accessible focal point for racing.

The Downhill (DH) village, the 'Downhill Drop Zone' and will be positioned above the 'International' race course (where most racing will take place) based near Spurs Restaurant, serviced by rider uplift and nearby parking, near to the Arlberg Hotel.

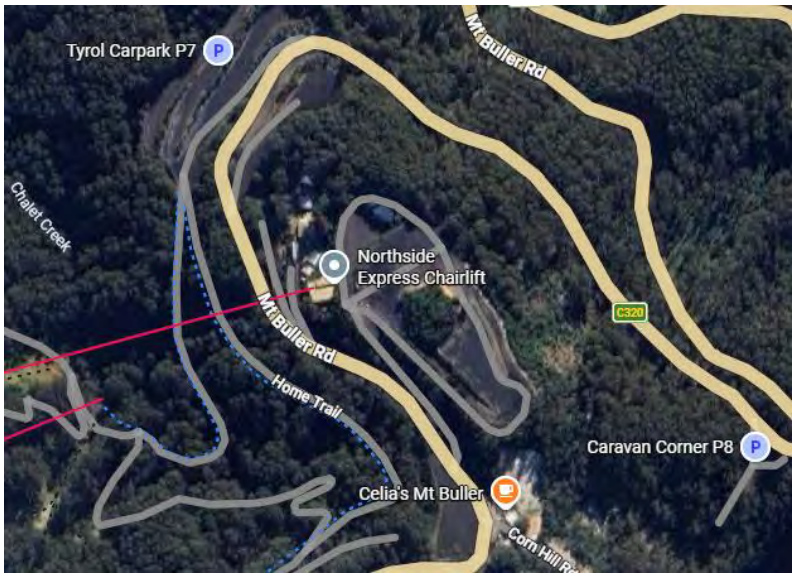
Parking

Riders who are staying on the mountain in hotels, apartments or lodge accommodation are encouraged to keep vehicles at your accommodation and move about the mountain by bike or on foot, where possible. For those arriving on site and staying 'off-mountain' parking at the venue will be split into two parts. Please respect the parking instructions online and on-site.

Downhill

DH competitors are asked to park at the carpark behind the Northside Express Chairlift and use their lift passes to journey up to the race village. Spectators will need to purchase a sight seeing pass from the Mt Buller Website (see rider uplift in this guide for more information.)

Google Maps Link



Cross Country

XC riders are predominantly based out of Village Square and will be encouraged to utilise street parking on Mount Buller Road remaining 'below' the village. Some roads and parking areas will be closed in the village to facilitate the event and course operations so you are asked to avoid parking near to the village itself.

Google Maps Link

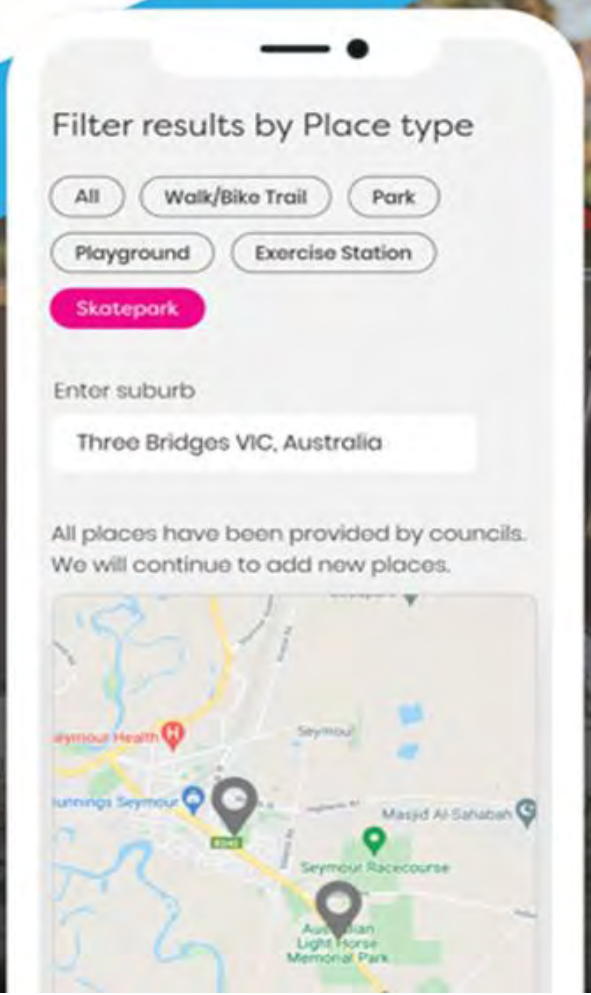
Food and Beverage

This year's championship event will engage with the existing businesses on the mountain to provide food and beverage offerings for athletes and spectators. Stop in and grab a coffee, pull up a chair for some lunch or stock up on supplies at any of the venues listed below;

Kooroora Hotel	XCO Race Village
Buller Grocer	Athletes Walk
Ski Club of Victoria Café	Summit Rd
Arlberg Hotel	Summit Rd
Spurs Restaurant	DH Race Village

Move more, explore the outdoors

Discover Places



Search trails, parks, playgrounds, skateparks and exercise stations located within Victoria.

Find your next destination to be active on our interactive map.

Competitor Information

Event Schedule – Downhill

Wednesday 18th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Downhill Race Village Opens	8:00	17:00
Registration Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	17:00
DH: Village Bump-in (vehicle access)	9:00	11:00
DH: Adaptive Practice	9:00	12:00
DH: Village Bump-in (vehicle access)	15:00	17:00
DH: Course Walk	15:00	16:30
Thursday 19th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Downhill Race Village Opens	8:00	17:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	17:00
DH: Chair Lift Operational	8:00	18:30
DH: Official Practice – Group B (15, U13)	8:00	9:30
DH: Official Practice – Group B (U17, Masters 1-10)	9:30	11:30
Compulsory U15 & U13 Integrity Session	10:00	11:00
DH: Adaptive Practice	11:00	12:30
DH: Official Practice – Group B (All Categories)	11:30	13:30
DH: Adaptive Seeding	12:30	14:00
DH: Official Practice – Group A	13:30	18:30
Friday 20th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	18:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	12:30
DH: Chair Lift Operational	8:00	19:00
DH: Adaptive Racing	8:00	10:00
DH: Official Practice – Group B	8:00	11:30
DH: Official Practice – Group A	11:30	14:30
DH: Seeding – All Groups	14:30	19:30
Saturday 21st March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	18:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	10:00
DH: Chair Lift Operational	8:30	17:00
DH: Official Practice – Group B	8:30	10:30
DH: Official Practice – Group A	10:30	12:30
DH: Racing – All Groups	13:30	17:00
Presentations	17:00	18:00

**Schedule subject to change*

Event Schedule – Cross Country

Wednesday 18th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	17:00
Registration Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	17:00
XC: Adaptive Practice	9:00	11:00
XC: Village Bump-in (Vehicle Access)	11:00	13:00
XC: Official Practice, XCC, XCO *(XCC practice prioritesed in race village – 30 mins on each end)*	13:00	16:00
XC: Village Bump-in (Vehicle Access)	16:00	17:00
Thursday 19th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	17:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	17:00
XC: Official Practice - XCC	8:00	9:00
XC: Official Practice – XCO	9:00	10:00
XC: Adaptive Practice	10:00	11:30
Compulsory U15 & U13 Integrity Session	10:00	11:00
XCO: E-Bike Racing	12:00	14:00
XCR: Racing	14:00	15:30
XC: Presentations	15:30	16:00
XC: U15s XCO On Course Skills Clinic	16:00	17:30
Friday 20th March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	18:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	12:30
XC: Official Practice, XCC	8:00	9:00
XCC: U13M & U13W Racing	9:00	9:30
XCC: U15M Racing	9:30	10:00
XCC: U17M Racing	10:00	10:45
XCC: U15W & U17W Racing	10:45	11:30
XCC: Masters 6,7,8,9,10 M Racing	11:30	12:15
XCC: Masters 1, 2, 3, 4 W & Expert W Racing	12:15	13:00
XCC: Masters 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10W Racing	13:00	13:45
XCC: Masters 3, 4, 5M & Expert M Racing	13:45	14:30
XCC: Masters 1, 2M Racing	14:30	15:15
XCC: U19, U23, Elite W Racing	15:15	16:00
XCC: U19 M Racing	16:00	16:45
XCC: U23, Elite M Racing	16:45	17:30

**Schedule subject to change*

Saturday 21st March 2026	Start Time	End Time
Village Open	8:00	18:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	10:00
XC: Official Practice & XC Adaptive Official Practice	8:00	10:00
XCO: U13M & U13W Racing	10:00	11:00
XCO: U15W Racing	11:00	12:00
XCO: U15M Racing	12:00	13:00
XC: Adaptive Racing	13:30	15:00
XC: Official Practice	15:00	17:30
Sunday 22nd March 2026	**Start Time**	**End Time**
Village Open	8:00	18:00
Registrations Open (Alpine HQ)	8:00	8:30
XC: Official Practice	7:30	8:30
XCO: U17/Masters 1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9/10/Expert W Racing	8:30	9:30
XCO: Masters 1/2/3/4/5, Expert M Racing	10:00	11:30
XCO: U17M, Masters 6/7/8/9/10 Racing	11:30	13:00
XCO: U19/23/Elite W Racing	13:00	15:00
XCO: U19/23/Elite M Racing	15:00	17:00
Presentations	17:00	17:30
Event Closed		18:00

**Schedule subject to change*

- End Schedule -

Downhill Racing Groups

Group A	Group B
• Elite • Junior (Under 19) • Expert	• Masters 1 – 10 • Under 17 • Under 15 • Under 13

Here for you
Here for good

We believe assisting young women and men to achieve their best as both athletes and people makes us a better company. That's why we are the naming sponsor of the Australian Cycling Team.

At ARA, our focus is on more than just delivering essential building and infrastructure services. We're always thinking about how we can create value for our customers, support our community and enrich the lives of Australians.

Naming sponsor of the
Australian Cycling Team

Fire & Security **Property Services** **Electrical** **Products**

ARA

Essential services for your facilities and infrastructure

1300 233 305
aragroup.com.au

Rules and regulations

The event will be conducted in accordance with AusCycling's 2026 Technical Regulations, including both general regulations and those specific to mountain biking. Being a National Championship the UCI rules are also referenced and enforced, where relevant.

Competitors are expected to be familiar with these regulations, which can be accessed via the links below:

- 2026 Mountain Bike Technical Regulations
- 2026 General Technical Regulations
- UCI MTB Rules

Race Numbers & Body Numbers

For all races, riders will be issued a race plate at registration plus a separate timing chip.

Race Plates must be clearly visible and unaltered in any way. This race plate must be fixed to the rider's bike prior to commencing any practice or racing.

Race numbers must be visible to any official or rider whilst on track in either race or course practice. This means that the race plate cannot be obscured in any way. The race plate must be:

- Displayed flat, not curved.
- Free from visible obstructions such as cables or any other hardware.
- Displayed as provided, not cut, folded or altered in any way.
- Perpendicular to the ground with a slight upwards slant.

Body numbers are required for riders in UCI categories.

Elite, U23 (XCO/XCC) and U19, riders will also be issued with a body number which must be displayed on the riders back during racing and seeding (DH). The body number must be attached to the outer most part of the jersey using safety pins provided.

Medical & Hospital

A dedicated Medical Centre will be located on Summit Road, staffed by an ALS paramedic and first aid team to provide medical assistance for riders and spectators. Course response teams, equipped with 4WD vehicles, will be stationed on both the Downhill (DH) and Cross-Country (XC) courses to respond to on-track incidents.

In the event of a serious injury, medical staff will coordinate with emergency services, including Ambulance Victoria and, if necessary, air evacuation. Riders are encouraged to report any medical concerns to event staff or course marshals. Hydration and recovery areas will also be available at key points across the venue.

As a general principle, medical resources will be available on site 60 minutes before the start of practice and racing, through to 30 minutes after completion.

Mansfield District Hospital in Mansfield, Victoria, serves as the nearest medical facility to Mount Buller and includes an Emergency Department.

Mansfield District Hospital – Emergency Department

📍 Address: 53 Highett St, Mansfield VIC 3722

📞 Phone: (03) 5775 8800

This facility provides urgent medical care, and in the event of a serious injury requiring hospital treatment, patients may be transported there by road or air ambulance.

Rider Emergency Contact

In the event of an emergency riders should make contact with a course Marshal where possible. The course marshal will then radio in the incident and the PCP will make a decision of whether to halt racing.

Trail Access outside of event days

The Downhill course will be closed from as early as Thursday the 12th of March 2026 to conduct course preparations. Riders must be aware that all trails will not be staffed outside of official practice and race times. Riders who access the trails at this time do so at their own risk.

Courses Information and Maps

Course Maps will be released nearer the event date but by way of overview:

The 2026 GWM MTB National Championships will feature challenging and dynamic courses designed to test riders across all disciplines while ensuring strong spectator engagement throughout the event.

Downhill (DH)

The DH competition will take place on International, a world-class downhill track featuring:

- Total Elevation Drop: Approx. 300m
- Length: Approx. 1.8km
- Average Gradient: 17%
- Key Features: Steep rock gardens, double road gaps, tight switchbacks, and high-speed technical sections.

This demanding course will challenge riders with technical precision, high-speed sections, and significant elevation changes. Adaptive DH racing will be held on Copperhead, a machine-built flow trail that offers progressive terrain with berms and rollers, making it more accessible for adaptive riders.

Cross-Country Olympic (XCO)

The XCO course has been designed to provide a true championship-level experience, incorporating a mix of steep climbs, fast descents, rock gardens, and tight switchbacks. The course will interact with Village Square, ensuring exceptional spectator access.

- Total Elevation Gain per lap: 137m
- Lap Distance: Approx. 4.24 km
- Key Trails used: Family Trail, One Tree Hill, Soul Revival, Gang Gangs, Split Rock, Chamois Ski Run

Races will start and finish in Village Square, bringing the action directly to the event village for a spectator-friendly experience.

Cross-Country Short Course (XCC)

The XCC course is a short, explosive circuit designed for fast-paced, tactical racing. It will be fully integrated into Village Square, ensuring excellent crowd engagement.

- Lap Distance: Approx. 900m
- Key Features: Tight corners, punchy climbs, and fast descents designed for high-intensity racing.

All courses have been developed to highlight Mount Buller's natural terrain while delivering an exciting racing experience for both competitors and spectators.

Starting Order and Seeding Policies

Cross Country Olympic (XCO)

Elite, U23, U19	Masters
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Recognised UCI MTB XC World Champion 3. Any rider ranked in the top 200 UCI World Rankings 4. 2026 XC National Series rankings 5. XCC results 6. All other riders in entry order	1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Recognised UCI World Champion in the format 3. 2026 XC National Series Rankings 4. XCC results All other riders in entry order
J15, J17	**E-MTB**
1. 2026 XC National Series Rankings 2. XCC Results 3. All other riders in entry order	1. Defending format class National Champion. 2. All other riders in entry order
Adaptive	**J13 & Expert**
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. All other riders in entry order	1. XCC Results 2. Order of Entry

Cross Country Short Track (XCC)

Elite, U23, U19	Masters
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Recognised UCI MTB XC World Champion 3. Any rider ranked in the top 200 UCI World Rankings 4. 2026 XC National Series rankings 5. All other riders in order entry	1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Recognised UCI World Champion in the format 3. 2026 XC National Series Rankings 4. All other riders in order entry
J15, J17	**J13 & Expert**
1. 2026 XC National Series Rankings 2. AusCycling National Champion 3. 2023/24 National Series rankings 4. All other riders in entry order	1. Order of Entry

Downhill (DH)

Seeding/Plate order is determined as follows:

Elite, U19	Masters
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Recognised UCI World Champion 3. Any rider ranked in the top 200 UCI World Rankings, in ranking order 4. 2026 National Series Rankings 5. All other riders in entry order	1. Defending format class National Champion 2. 2026 National Series rankings 3. All other riders in entry order
J15, J17	**J13 & Expert**
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. 2026 National Series Rankings 3. All other riders in entry order	1. Order of Entry
Adaptive	**For the finals (DH)**
1. Defending format class National Champion 2. Order of Entry	• In reverse seeding order with the fastest rider from seeding run starting last. • Only riders who start seeding will be classified as eligible for finals.

SEE VAPING
FOR WHAT
IT IS

UNCLOUD.ORG

Technical Information - Downhill

Rider Uplift

Rider Uplift is provided by the Northside Express Chairlift, equipped with Bike carriers. Each Chair will accommodate up to two riders and their bikes and two spectators. Competitors will be issued with a Mt Buller Ski Lift pass that must remain on their person in order to use the ski lift. Each pass will be named and provided in your race pack. In the event that a rider loses their pass, they will need to present to the registration desk where they will be issued with a new pass for a fee.

Coaches

Coaches who wish to utilise the ski lift must present to registration at Alpine Central to obtain a pass. Only one pass per coach will be issued and we are unable to replace lost coach passes.

Spectators

Spectators wishing to access the ski lift will need to purchase a sight-seeing lift pass from the BSL website for $30 per pass. This pass will be specific to the 2026 GWM MTB National Championships and will be valid for unlimited use during the event operation periods – 19th of March to 21st of March inclusive. Spectators can purchase passes online from the 18th of March 2026 onwards. Spectator lift passes can be purchased here.

Safety Equipment

Helmets

As per the 2026 AusCycling Mountain Bike Technical Regulations (Annexure A), riders must have a helmet meeting AS2063 or equivalent international standard. Equivalent international standards include;

- ANSI Z90.4, SNELL B or N Series
- ASTM F-1447
- CAN/CSA-D113.2-M
- US CPSC standard for bicycle helmets
- European CEN standard EN1078

A Full-face helmet meeting AS 2063 or equivalent standard with a fixed non-detachable mouthpiece are mandatory at all AusCycling sanctioned downhill events.

Clothing and Crash Protection

The jersey shall be a long-sleeved shirt with sleeves that extend down to the rider's wrists. Jerseys used in downhill events should be of a type specifically designed and sold for use in BMX Racing or Mountain Bike downhill events. Jerseys designed for road cycling, skinsuits, or one-piece suits comprising the jersey and the pants/shorts are not permitted for use in downhill events. The jersey must be either close fitting around the waist or must be tucked into the pants before the start to not cause interference.

Knees must be covered by full-length trousers and/or self-fastening knee or knee/shin guards expressly designed for off-road competition.

For all riders who are eligible to compete in U13, U15 and U17 categories, the following equipment is mandatory at all times while on track regardless of registered category:

- Full-finger gloves must be worn;
- Full length jersey – jersey must cover elbows at all times;
- Knee pads and elbow pads must be worn.

The use of the following for all competitors is strongly recommended:

- Neck brace expressly designed for off-road competition;
- Back and shoulder protection expressly designed for the purpose;
- Full finger gloves;
- Elbow protectors and/or long sleeve jersey to the wrist;
- Goggles expressly designed for the purpose.

Technical Information – Cross Country

Marshaling & Start

Riders are required to be present for a race briefing prior to racing. This briefing will occur during marshaling, as riders move to the starting boxes. In accordance with the technical regulations, rider staging must commence no later than 10 minutes before the scheduled start of the race.

Note that riders will be penalized in the event that they are not present when the marshal calls them at the beginning of a stage.

XCO, XCC AND E-MTB Start Procedure

- Riders will be called to the start no earlier than 20 minutes before the scheduled start of the race.
- Five minutes before a call-up an announcement will be made over the public address system to inform riders of the fact, and again three minutes beforehand.
- The riders line up in the order in which they are to be called to the start line. The number of riders on each line is decided by the president of the commissaires' panel and supervised by a commissaire. The rider themselves decides which position on the line to take.
- Once the riders are lined up, warm-up (by rollers, turbo trainer, etc.) is excluded inside or outside the start area.
- The start is given by the start commissaire using the following procedure: warnings 3, 2, 1 minutes and 30 seconds before the start, then a final announcement that the start is given within the next 15 seconds. A whistle will be given to indicate the start.
- The start commissaire is in sole control of the public address system from three minutes before the start, until the start has been given.

Safety Equipment

As per the 2026 AusCycling Mountain Bike Technical Regulations (Annexure A), riders must have a helmet meeting AS2063 or equivalent international standard. Equivalent international standards include;

- ANSI Z90.4, SNELL B or N Series
- ASTM F-1447
- CAN/CSA-D113.2-M
- US CPSC standard for bicycle helmets
- European CEN standard EN1078

Technical Assistance Zone (TAZ) & Servicing

Designated Technical Assistance Zones (TAZ) will be clearly marked and located after the Finish Line. Only in the Technical Assistance Zone (TAZ) are racers allowed to change any part of their clothing or equipment with the assistance from non-racers.

Feeding and Technical support may only be provided within these Zones. Racers are allowed to collect and drop equipment or food in the TAZ. No food is allowed to be prepared or given to a racer by a member of the racer's support crew unless the rider is in an officially marked TAZ.

Racers are only allowed to give any waste equipment to another person (this includes event or team staff and fans) in the TAZ. Racers can gain verbal assistance from anyone during a race but no one other than another racer can physically help a racer, touch their equipment or provide any supplies outside of the TAZ.

AusCycling's corporate partner, Shimano, will provide service at the event, for those requiring assistance, tools and equipment.

In the event of extreme weather (heat) a neutral water point may be located close to the lowest point of the XCO courses on Saturday and Sunday. If this occurs it will be briefed at the race start and there will be a marshal onsite at the neutral location. Riders may get bottles of water but it cannot be handed to them by spectators or their team personnel.

Technical Information – E-MTB

Regulations for E-bikes

Please note that there have been changes to the AusCycling Technical Regulations and the UCI Technical regulations regarding E-Bikes. It is the riders responsibility to ensure that the bicycle they intend to compete on is compliant with these rules and regulations.

The following rules and regulations apply to E-Bikes for this event;

- UCI General Technical Regulations – Article 1.3.010bis
- UCI Mountain Bike Technical Regulations – Articles 4.8.001 – 4.8.005
- 2026 AusCycling MTB Technical Regulations – Article 7.00.02

E-Bike Requirements

- The motor must be pedal assisted and shut off when the rider stops pedaling.
- The continuous maximum speed cannot exceed 25km per hour.
- Battery must be equal to or less than 4.5 kgs and conform with standard UN3480.
- You must use a single battery – no range extenders or additional batteries are permitted.

Compliance Checks

The following E-MTB bike compliance testing protocol will be in place:

- All E-bikes will be compliance checked prior to the race by the commissaire team.
- All bikes will be quarantined immediately after race completion. Bikes must remain switched on. Batteries being turned off on bike will result in instant disqualification.
- Scrutinization may include software, physical and ergometer testing.

Technical Information – Team Relay (XCR)

For the 2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships, the Team Relay race returns with a focus on club competition. There will be three XCR races available to enter. Two open XCR races (one club and one mixed) and a junior XCR race.

Which of Australia's premier MTB clubs will earn bragging rights and secure the XCR club trophies for 2026!

Team Composition

Race #1 Open Mixed club/shop/team riders (criteria below) - team of 4:
a) One rider eligible for under 19 at the Championships.
b) One rider eligible to compete in a Masters 3 (40 years +) or older category at the Championships.
c) One rider eligible to compete in any women's category at the Championships.
d) One rider on which there are no restrictions ('Open').
Race #2 Club Trophy – Open (criteria below) - team of 4
a) One rider eligible for under 19 at the Championships.
b) One rider eligible to compete in a Masters 3 (40 years +) or older category at the Championships.
c) One rider eligible to compete in any women's category at the Championships.
d) One rider on which there are no restrictions ('Open').
e) All riders must be registered members of the same MTB club.
Race #3 Club Trophy – Junior (criteria below) - team of 4:
a) Team made of riders eligible to compete in U15 and U17 category at the Championships
b) Team must feature one female rider as a minimum
c) Team must feature one U15 rider as a minimum
d) All riders must be registered members of the same MTB club

Where an individual meets more than one of the above criteria, they may only consider one criterion as being satisfied. A distinct different individual must fill the role of each criterion.

The team relay will have each rider complete a single lap, for a total race distance of four laps per team.

When riders transition, they must make physical contact to 'tag' the next rider to begin a lap. If this is not possible or might cause a potential accident from needing to cut across to the other side of the track, the next rider out may be considered 'tagged' if the transitioning riders are both stationery and level such that no advantage is deemed to be received.

Technical Information - General

Therapeutic Use Exemption

All competitors may be subject to anti-doping testing under AusCycling and Sport Integrity Australia regulations. If you are currently taking any medication (including supplements), please check whether this substance is banned in or out of competition via www.globaldro.com/AU/search

A TUE is an exemption that allows an athlete to use, for therapeutic purposes only, an otherwise prohibited substance or method (of administering a substance). TUE approvalmay protect athletes from receiving a sanction if a prohibited substance is found in their sample.

Who needs to complete a TUE in-advance for Cycling? Athletes who are taking, considering taking, or being prescribed any banned or prohibited substances.

Further information on the TUE process can be found on the Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) website https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/resources/therapeutic-use-exemption or by calling1300 027 23.

Images

Images taken during this event are owned by AusCycling. These images can be used for promotional purposes without any further consent being required. For further information please see the AusCycling Membership Terms and Conditions. If you do not want your image used, please opt out by emailing marketing@auscycling.org.au.

Sport Integrity Australia App

Any athlete and official can download the SIA app.

The SIA App has been designed with athletes in mind. The App gives a complete list of all supplements sold in Australia that have been screened for prohibited substances by an independent laboratory. The testing and certification of sports supplements cannot provide athletes a 100% safety guarantee but does significantly lower the risk of a positive test. For non-tested supplements the App gives athletes access to a quiz to assess the risk posed byhighlighting key risk factors. The App can also be used to report doping, check if a medication is banned in sport, give SIA feedback on testing missions, and complete online education module.

Sport Integrity Australia Notification

Sport Integrity Australia will be in attendance at the 2026 GWM Mountain Bike National Championships. Please note that SIA may randomly select athletes for testing. All Athletes must comply with SIA requirements or face disqualification and sanctions against their participation in future National and International level events. Athletes under the age of 18 may be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian through the course of this testing process.

It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of your obligations and have completed clean sport education.

All riders over 13 are strongly encouraged to complete Anti-Doping Fundamentals and the 2024 Annual Update online courses through the Sport Integrity Australia eLearning page: Sport Integrity Australia eLearning: Log in to the site.

It is recommended you also download the Sport Integrity app which can assist you to check medications, supplements and complete your education.

Policy Notice

By entering this event you agree to the following:

- AusCycling Refund Policy
- AusCycling Technical Regulations - General
- AusCycling Technical Regulations - Mountain Bike
- National Integrity Framework
- AusCycling Concussion Policy

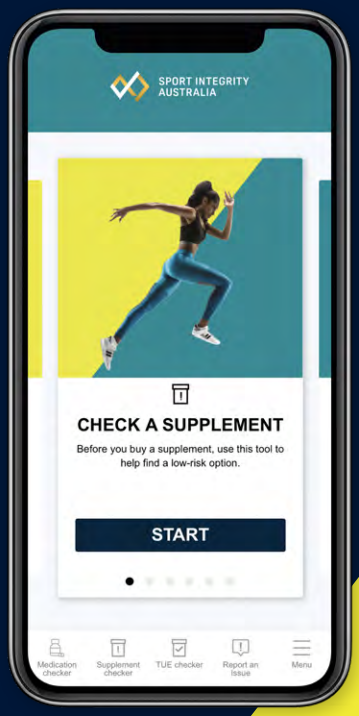
SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

CLEAN SPORT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

SPORT INTEGRITY APP

- Check medications on Global DRO
- Find low risk supplements
- Check if you need a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)
- Report an issue
- Give feedback or ask a question

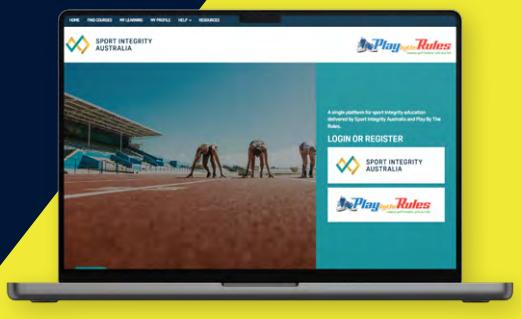
The app also has information on all sport integrity issues, anti-doping rules, testing programs, the health effects of doping, supplement and nutrition advice, overseas travel considerations and more. Just click on the menu icon.



Download the app from the Apple Store and Google Play store here.

ONLINE EDUCATION

- Sport Integrity Australia's eLearning website: elearning.sportintegrity.gov.au
- Visit the site for courses on integrity topics including: Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction, introduction courses to anti-doping, match-fixing and illicit drugs, along with specific courses for parents and coaches.



Contact Us

Email: education@sportintegrity.gov.au
Safe Sport Hotline: 1800 161 361
Enquiries: 1300 027 232
www.sportintegrity.gov.au

SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

ANTI DOPING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Medications may have banned substances in them. Check all medications on the Sport Integrity app.

As a member of your sport, you are bound by an Anti-Doping Policy and potentially subject to investigation.

If you are involved in a team sport, and an athlete tests positive to a banned substance, the team could lose competition points and championship placings.

Learn more about the sample collection process via our Virtual Reality anti-doping test experience. Found in the menu of the Sport Integrity app under 'Tools'.

All athletes are responsible for what substances they put into their own bodies - they can't blame anyone else, however if a coach has supplied the substance, penalties also apply to the coach.

There are rules that you and your athletes must follow under your sport's Anti-Doping Policy. Details are in the Sport Integrity app menu under 'Know the rules'.

Breaking the rules could result in a ban of up to four years from ALL sport - no training, no playing, no coaching.

Supplements are a huge risks. Research shows 1 in 5 contain a banned substance not listed on the label. Find low risk supplements on the Sport Integrity app. If it's not listed, don't risk it.

Anti-doping education should not be a 'tick the box' exercise - it should be an ongoing conversation with your athletes.

COMPETITION COMING UP?

MAKE SURE YOU ARE READY!

1 **Download the Sport Integrity App and use it to make your way through the following steps.**

2

TAKING A MEDICATION?

Use the 'Check a Medication' tab to access Global DRO to make sure your medication isn't banned in sport.

3

TAKING A BANNED SUBSTANCE FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES?

Use the Therapeutic Use Exemption Checker to see if you need a TUE, and complete the paperwork if required.

4

USING SUPPLEMENTS?

Use the 'Check a Supplement' tab to check the risk of your product. Supplements are the leading cause of inadvertent positive tests in Australia.

5

NEVER BEEN TESTED?

Prepare yourself by going through a virtual reality test on the App. (Search for it under the menu icon)

6

KNOW THE RULES?

A positive test is only one way to be banned from sport. Read up on the 11 Anti-Doping Rule Violations.

7

COMPLETED YOUR EDUCATION?

Access the Sport Integrity Australia online courses by clicking on the Get Educated tab.

8 **TRAIN AND COMPETE CLEAN!**

SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

CONTACT US
Please visit our website **sportintegrity.gov.au**, contact us at **education@sportintegrity.gov.au**, call our Safe Sport Hotline **1800 161 361**, or enquire **1300 027 232**

SI-EDU-0238-3