

TdD Mountain Bike Series RULEBOOK

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I: PURPOSE:

The TdD is a mountain bike championship series run by racers for racers. The mission of the TdD is to provide an annual series of competitive cross country (XC) mountain bike races in or near Oklahoma, whereby a point accumulation process will determine series awards for racers of various ages and skill levels. The TdD is the official USA Cycling Oklahoma State Mountain Bike Championship XC Series so series winners will be OKLAHOMA STATE CHAMPIONS!

II: RULES and SCORING:

A: Helmets:

Helmets are required of all competitors and non-competitors any time they are on their bike.

B: USA Cycling Rules:

All races follow current USA Cycling (USAC) mountain bike rules. (For more information, go to www.usacycling.org)

C: Points and Standings:

Tour de Dirt series points will be tracked and tabulated for all categories/classes including KIDS KUP (see chart below). Points are tallied based on the competitor's finish order at each individual TdD series race.

****New 2023: We are trying points straight across without the bonus system using the number of riders per class. This will aid in quicker standings updates and if my math is correct it really appears that it only impacts placings in the 4th, 5th, 6th, etc... placings.**

All PRO, CAT 1 and CAT 2 riders must hold an annual USAC MTB license to accumulate TdD series points and to be eligible for season end TdD series rankings and awards, and to qualify for USAC state championship medals and titles. Points will begin to accumulate only after an annual license has been purchased. Novice riders may accumulate TdD series points racing on one-day licenses.

For ALL racers, the "2 drop rule" will be used to determine overall standings.

"2 drop rule" explained

Your lowest 2 scores (this includes missed races) will not count towards the overall standings. You must compete in a minimum number of five (5) TdD events in a specific category/class to be eligible for overall series awards.

If a race(s) is canceled for any reason, the 2 drop rules still apply.

If a racer upgrades during the season the previous races **will** count toward the five minimum.

D: Awards Presentation:

Overall TdD Oklahoma State Championship Mountain Bike XC Series awards will be presented at the last race in the TdD Series.

E: Points:

Series points are awarded in the following manner:

Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	60	12th	18
2nd	54	13th	16
3rd	48	14th	14
4th	42	15th	12
5th	38	16th	10
6th	34	17th	8
7th	30	18th	6
8th	26	19th	4
9th	24	20th	2
10th	22	21st	0
11th	20		

Bonus Points:

A racer will receive 1 bonus point for every racer in his/her class at each TdD race. For example, if the racer wins (60pts.) and also has a field of 15 in their class, the racer will be awarded 75 (60 + 15) series points for that race.

****We are suspending this for 2023. We are going to tally based on only the base points listed above. This will speed up standings updates and impact calculations very minimally.**

F: In the event of a tie:

If a tie exists for an overall class at the end of the series, the following rules will be used in the following order until the tie is broken:

- 1) Number of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. until tie is broken in all races that are used for series points.
- 2) Head-to-Head results in all common races.
- 3) Head-to-Head result in the most recent/last race. This rule is applied by starting at the last race and going backward to find the first common race. Once found, that result will be used to break the tie.

G: Promoter's / Official's Points:

1. Promoters may receive 60 series points for promoting an event, if the promoter doesn't compete in their event. One event per season per promoter is allowed.

2. USAC Officials willing to officiate a TdD race may receive 60 series points for officiating an event, if they don't race that event. One event per season per official is allowed.

III: TOUR de Dirt SERIES LICENSING REQUIREMENTS:

The Tour de Dirt is the official USA Cycling Oklahoma State Mountain Bike Championship XC Series. All USA Cycling rules apply.

All Professional (PRO), Category 1 (CAT 1) and Category 2 (CAT 2) racers must hold an annual USAC MTB license to accumulate TdD series points and to be eligible for season end TdD series rankings and awards, and to qualify for USAC state championship medals and titles. Points will begin to accumulate only after an annual license has been purchased.

NOVICE racers can accumulate TdD series points and be eligible for season end TdD series rankings and awards using one day licenses. Only annual USAC MTB license holders receive USAC recognition (annual USAC membership is strongly encouraged).

KIDS KUP

- No license required for 5 & Under age group, but must have a signed USAC release.
- **For 6-12 racers it is now required to have a one-day license (\$15) or an annual junior/youth license. This is to keep us in compliance and insured.**

Go to www.usacycling.org to create your USAC account and to purchase your annual USAC MTB license online (best way). You may also purchase your annual USAC MTB license on race day (not recommended). One-day licenses are available during online registration or race day for Novice only. One-day licenses for Cat 1 and Cat 2 can be purchased online only.

Both annual USAC licensed racers and one-day licensed racers are required to register with the Tour de Dirt and purchase (KIDS KUP participants free) a season Tour de Dirt number plate to participate in any TdD sanctioned race. Racers must show their number plate when registering for each TdD race. This is a one-time registration fee of \$10 (per season), and that number plate will be used at all TdD races for the season (don't lose it). Number plates will be available for sale at all TdD races. These fees are used to help cover expenses related to the TdD and end of season awards. A parent or guardian must sign the TdD registration form for all minors.

2023 Update: Plates are online purchase only using the link below.

<https://runsignup.com/tourdedirt>

If you lose/forget your TdD number plate, we will issue you a new number plate for a \$10 fee :)

If you upgrade to a more difficult category during the season we will issue you a new number plate specific to your new category at no additional charge.

- Deciding to race in one of the open categories requires a new plate and you will be required to pay the \$10 fee.

Competitors need to bring their annual USAC MTB license (USAC members), legal ID and TdD number plate to event registration for each race in the series. All competitors are required to complete and sign a USA Cycling Competitive Event Release Form at each event to race. Minors must have a parent or guardian signature as well. If you register online then your waiver is considered signed and should not have to sign on the day of the event.

IV: CATEGORIES AND CLASSES:

A: Categories:

Category 1 (CAT 1): A mountain bike category where racing skills, strength and stamina have reached an exceptional level; racing is very competitive. Riders must have a racing age of at least 15 to race as a category 1 in an endurance discipline.

Category 2 (CAT 2): A mountain bike racing category that reflects improved skills and developed strength and stamina. A Category 2 rider must advance to Category 1 as described in the upgrade section.

Novice Category (NOVICE): A mountain bike category designed for the entry-level rider. Novice races help the rider understand the subtleties of the sport allowing one to experience the thrill of mountain biking. A Novice racer must advance to category 2 as described in the upgrade section.

B: Classes:

The Categories/Classes for the Tour de Dirt Series are:

PRO/CAT1	CAT 2	Novice	KIDS KUP
Jr Men 13-18	Jr Men 13-15	Jr Men 13-15	4 to 5
Men 19-39	Jr Men 16-18	Jr Men 16-18	6 to 7
Men 40-49	Men 19-39	Men 19-29	8 to 9
Men 50 Plus	Men 40-49	Men 30-39	10 to 12
Women 19-99	Men 50 Plus	Men 40-49	Training Wheels
	Jr Women 13-18	Men 50 Plus	
	Women 19-39	Jr Women 13-18	
	Women 40 plus	Women 19-39	
	Single Speed open **	Women 40 Plus	
	E-Bike	Clydesdale ***	
	60 Plus open ****		

NOTE: New for 2020! Cat 2 men 19-39 will be a combined field.

PRO Competitors will be placed in the CAT 1 19-39 category and class and payout will be done based on this age group.

** Single Speed open is a category for competitors riding single speed bicycles. A single speed bike is a type of bicycle with a single gear ratio. These bikes are without derailleur gears, hub gearing or other methods for varying the gear ratio of the bicycle. This is an official USAC category and can compete for the USAC OK State Championship. This class races the Cat 2 distance.

*** Clydesdale is an open class for any **Cat 2 or Novice** competitor weighing 225 pounds or more with cycling clothing on, no equipment. Weigh-in may be required prior to the event. Clydesdales are not a recognized class by USA Cycling and therefore will not receive points towards the USA Cycling OK State Championship, but will receive points towards TdD Series overall points standings. **This class races the Novice distance.**

NOTE: Change beginning in 2017: Weight limit raised to 225

**** 60 Plus open is an open class for competitors 60 years of age and over. Competitors in this class will compete for TdD awards and series points.

NOTE: Change beginning in 2023: This class races the Cat 2 distance.

V: MOUNTAIN BIKE UPGRADES/DOWNGRADES:

- Riders may advance as quickly as they wish up to category 1. However, once a rider has upgraded, he or she will not be permitted to downgrade to a less difficult category without making a formal request to USA Cycling. While upgrading can be done race day we ask riders to do their best to take care of that BEFORE the event. It will make things go much smoother and it's very easy to do online.
- Novice riders must move to Category 2 after placing in the top five in five races.
- Category 2 riders may move up to Category 1 after two top five finishes by presenting an upgrade request and a resume to USA Cycling.
- Category 2 riders must advance to Category 1 after placing in the top five in five races.

For upgrading purposes, classes must consist of the following competitors:

CLASS	Men	Women
Junior 15-18	10	5
Senior age 19-29	15	10
Master age 30-39	15	10
Master age 40-49	10	5
Master age 50+	5	5

Upgrades will be based on a rider's placing in his/her category/class over a calendar year. The TdD will allow you to finish out the series before requiring you to upgrade.

NOTE: ALL USAC races count when looking at upgrades. This means out of state races count.

NEW in 2023: You may carry points with you during an upgrade. You can move up anytime during the season. You can carry full points earned from your first two races only. For every other race you will receive 50% of your points.

To upgrade or downgrade online: log onto your membership account at www.usacycling.org and select the "license info" tab. Then, in the right hand column, click on "Upgrade/Downgrade".

- Riders that upgrade during a calendar year will not be charged an additional TdD number plate fee. Exchange your number plate for the correct category:
- **CAT 1 Red**, **CAT 2 Blue** and **Novice Green**
- SS = **Blue**
- 60 Plus = **Blue**
- Clydesdale = **Green**

NOTE: Regardless of what your license indicates, once you race in a more difficult category, you may not race in a less difficult category in the future (unless you follow USA Cycling guidelines to downgrade). Doing so will disqualify you from that event and the TdD series.

VI: COURSES:

Cross country courses vary according to the geography of the area, and the amount of single track available. In general, a race should last:

PRO/CAT 1	2 to 2.5 hours
CAT 2	1.5 to 2 hours
NOVICE	1 to 1.5 hours

- CAT 1 JR, & all PRO/CAT 1 Women race the CAT 2 distance
NOTE: 2023 = Cat 1 50+ men will now race the normal Cat 1 distance!
- Single Speed & 60 Plus Open open race the CAT 2 distance
- Clydesdales will race the NOVICE distance.
- For all classes in all categories, start times must be separated by a minimum of one minute per Tour de Dirt rules. NO MASS STARTS!
 - **2-minute gap between categories in the Novice field. This solved the congestion issue and will continue.**

- **New for 2018: We will run a Unified Start for all C1/C2 Women (not Juniors). All women will stage and start together in the normal start time/spot for C2 Women. This will make ALL C1/C2 women eligible for overall payout. However, they will still be scored separately and receive awards & TdD points for their specific category.**

VII: PRIZES AND AWARDS:

A: PRO/CAT 1 Payout and Awards:

A minimum payout is set for all TdD races. Follow the payout chart available to all promoters online. ***Additional prize money is encouraged to attract quality competitors.***

Payout Chart is available on the Tour de Dirt Website

New for 2018: A small addition for 2018 is that we will now pay Top Three regardless of numbers in the field.

New for 2018: We will run a Unified Start for all C1/C2 Women (not Juniors). All women will stage and start together in the normal start time/spot for C2 Women. This will make ALL C1/C2 women eligible for overall payout. However, they will still be scored separately and receive awards & TdD points for their specific category.

B: CAT 2, NOVICE, Single Speed, Clydesdale, 60 Plus open Awards:

CAT 2, Single Speed open, and 60 Plus open: The top three places (minimum) in each class shall receive a trophy, plaque or award. Merchandise prizes awarded on the basis of placing are customary.

NOVICE and Clydesdale: The top three places (minimum) in each class shall receive a trophy, plaque or award. Merchandise prizes awarded by raffle are customary.

VIII: ENTRY FEES:

These are the maximum entry fees allowed. Each individual race promoter may charge less at their own discretion.

Racer Class	Entry Fee
PRO/CAT 1*	\$35
CAT 2, Single Speed, 60 Plus Open Men	\$35
NOVICE, Clydesdales,	\$30
Juniors	\$20

***New in 2023 - For the first time in over 20 years we have increased our fees by \$5. For this we apologize, but I'm pretty sure this is still better than most any other event:)**

*Only PRO and CAT 1 racers are required to hold an annual USAC license to race. However, CAT 1 and CAT 2 racers must have an annual USAC license to accumulate TdD Championship Points.

The fee for a one-day license for non USAC members is not included in the entry fees listed above.

- One-day license fee is \$15 for Novice riders & \$35 for C1 & C2 riders.
- C1 & C2 One-day licenses can only be purchased online!

The maximum charge for race day registration (late entry fee) is \$10. **There is no late entry fee allowed for Junior categories.**

***New for 2023 - we have increased the late entry fee from \$5 to \$10.**

IX: TdD AMBASSADOR PROGRAM:

The ambassador program is here to help with some of the logistics of your event. Right now this will consist of Tom and Debbie Uglean, Corey White, and Jeremy Collins. Tom, Debbie, and Corey are co-directors of the TdD and can assist with most things. Jeremy is our Kids Kup director and can assist with Kids Kup related items.

X: TEAM CHALLENGE:

Each team will consist of a Team Captain and limited to 25 total team members of any USAC category. Fees will be the same for each team. Each captain must register their team and members with the TdD by the third sanctioned race of the season. A blank team roster form is available on our website (tourdedirt.com).

Adding team members will be allowed, up to the 25-member limit, throughout the season. Team additions after the second race will be \$10 per new member. Results for team members added during the season will not count retroactively.

All CAT 1 and CAT 2 team members must hold an annual USA Cycling MTB license. Registration fee is \$50 per team. **The top 4** finishers of each team in an event will add their race points together. All the series races count. The State Championship Team Cup will be given out at the TdD Series awards ceremony. The winning team will have the cup on display at a local bicycle shop selected by the Team Captain. The Team Captain must send the following information to the Team Challenge Coordinator prior to the first event of the season: Team name, Team Captain name and contact information, each team member's name, racing age, gender, racing category/class and USA Cycling license number. Payment for the team competition is due no later than the third event of the season.

Bonus System:

The points system will be the same structure as individual race points, 60, 54, 48, 42, etc. including bonus points. A Team Challenge scoring racer will receive 1 bonus point for every racer in his/her class. For example, if the racer wins (60pts.) and also has a field of 15 in their class, the racer will be awarded 75 pts towards his/her team point total.

***New in 2023 - Following suit with overall standings changes, we will do this just like standings now. We will follow base points only with no bonus system.**

The team trophy has to be returned to the Team Challenge Coordinator 2 weeks prior to the last race in order to prepare it for the next season.

Code of Ethics:

- Team Captains will not "stack" their roster with racers that are not actually part of the team. Adding racers that are not involved with the Team Challenge is not allowed
- Team Captains agree to encourage their racers to move from Novice to Cat 2 and from Cat 2 to Cat 1 when they meet the mandatory upgrade requirements, or when the racer's ability obviously warrants an upgrade.
- Team Captains will not encourage "sandbagging" by asking racers to stay down for points.

XI: KIDS KUP RACES (12 & under):

The young kids are the future of our sport. It is critical that we provide a safe course that is age appropriate for them. Some of our young competitors are ready and willing to step up and race the full Novice distance. But for most in this age group, racing 8 miles or more (Typical Novice Distance) is more than they can handle physically and mentally.

Age groups: 10-12, 8-9, 6-7, and 5 & Under, training wheels, & striders.

The TdD is not setting standardized distances but requests that race promoters consider offering reduced distance/difficulty events. As a suggestion, a 15-20-minute event might be appropriate for the 10 to 12 year olds, a 10- 15-minute event might suit the 8 to 9 year olds and 10 minutes or less for the 6 to 7 year olds. 100 to 150 yards of paved trail/road for the “training wheels” class is suggested (flat or slightly uphill).

The Kid's Kup Race series in the Tour De Dirt changed in 2015 to stay in compliance with USA CYCLING permitting and insurance rules. Those changes will continue and are as follows:

- **Kids 6-12 race competitively for placings and respective awards as done in the past. However, each racer will be required to have a one-day license or an annual junior/youth license. As in prior years, each event organizer will pay the USA Cycling insurance surcharge per rider, and parents/legal-guardians will sign the normal USA Cycling release form.**
 - **2023/24 - Annual is no longer free. USAC changed this and we have to follow suit. Annual license is now \$40 per child and the one-day is now \$15 per racer per event.**
- **Kids 5 & Under, Training Wheels, Striders will have a FUN RIDE, non-competitive event with no placings and any awards would be participatory. NO license is required. As in prior years, each event organizer will pay USA Cycling for insuring riders, and parents/legal-guardians will sign the normal USA Cycling release form.**

All racers 6-12 will still receive a free TdD number plate as usual that is good for the entire season. Number plates are not necessary for 5 & Under since it is a non-competitive event, but they are welcome to have one if they want:)

Get your plate online: <https://runsignup.com/tourdedirt>

The TdD will track points for all KIDS KUP classes and present series awards to the top three in each class at the last TdD race of the season.

- They will get two dropped races.
- The kids must compete in a minimum of four (4) races in a specific class to be eligible for end of season awards.

XII: PROMOTER'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

- This is spelled out in the Promoter's Packet that is available electronically on the Tour de Dirt website (oktdd.org).

XIII: VOLUNTEER INCENTIVE PROGRAM:

There will be no paid positions as part of the Tour de Dirt Management Team.

To encourage volunteers to help with organizational duties required to run the Tour de Dirt, each race promoter shall provide one complimentary race entry to the following:

- 1 entry to the Tour de Dirt Director
- 1 entry to the Results/Standings Coordinator
- 1 entry to the Tour de Dirt Race Representative
- 1 entry to the Tour de Dirt Webmaster
- 1 entry to the Tour de Dirt Kids Kup Coordinator

no one individual shall receive more than 1 complimentary entry per event

Duties of the above will include but not be limited to:

Tour de Dirt Director

- Oversee and coordinate all aspects of the Tour de Dirt
- Oversee Team Challenge rosters

Results/standings Coordinator

- Tabulate individual series standings
- Tabulate Team Challenge series standings
- Finalize individual and team series standings at the final TdD race

Tour de Dirt Race Representative

- Transport the TdD trailer and supplies to the race venue
- Coordinate and oversee TdD number plate sales at the event
- Collect racer fees from promoter after the event

Webmaster:

- Maintain and update web site

XIV: TOUR de DIRT MANAGEMENT TEAM:

Tour de Dirt Director	Corey White
Board	Chris Rodgers
Board	Jon Denton
Team Challenge	Corey White
Results/Standings	Corey White
Kids Kup Coordinator	Jeremy Collins
Officials/Board	Tom & Debbie Uglean
Web Manager	Tom Uglean

Email: info@tourdedirt.com

Website: tourdedirt.com

XV: USA CYCLING CONTACTS:

USA Cycling website:
www.usacycling.org