

# HOODOO 500 OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Updated August 10, 2019)

**Attention Riders & Crew:** You're responsible for reading and knowing these rules before arriving in St. George.

These rules are meant to ensure safety and competitive fairness as well as to comply with various permit requirements. Any rule violation by rider or crew will result in time penalties or disqualification. Automatic DQ offenses are noted below.

## GENERAL RULES

- A. The Event Directors ("Directors") may, at any time, alter these rules or invent new ones. Directors have final say over rules, their interpretation and enforcement. If a rider or crew plans to do something not explicitly covered by these rules, they should inquire in advance.
- B. All riders and crew must download and bring with them to check-in all applicable required documentation, filled out and signed. Documents are available on the Hoodoo 500 website.
- C. Attendance at Check-In (2-5pm Friday) and the Event Meeting (5:15pm Friday) is **mandatory**. Solo entrants must be represented by the rider and at least one crew. Team entrants must be represented by at least two riders or one rider and one crew. –DQ
- D. No animals other than ADA defined service dogs are permitted at rider check-in, at the pre-race meeting, or at any Time Station along the route.
- E. To be declared an Official Finisher entrants in all divisions must complete the course by 7am Mountain Daylight Time on Monday.
- F. Divisional riders start simultaneously (Voyager at 5am; Solo and Tandem at 7am; 2-Person or 2-Tandem Teams at 8am; and 4-Person or 4-Tandem Teams at 9am Mountain Daylight Time). Directors have discretion to combine the relay starting times so that all teams start at 9am.
- G. The clock will not stop for any reason; however, Directors may make time adjustments for extenuating circumstances.
- H. A "contingency" is an unplanned event such as traffic lights, traffic jams, detours, road construction, high winds, storms, or other "acts of God." Directors are not responsible for contingencies and will not issue time adjustments.
- I. Riders or crew may not be naked outside of their support vehicle for any reason. Please use discretion when urinating outside.
- J. No rider or crew may wear clothing or display signs that are in poor taste with respect to style, brevity or inappropriate/offensive graphics or language.
- K. Every crew must carry at least one cell phone, and provide the number to Directors at check-in.
- L. Safety must be the single most important concern of everyone. In an emergency where human life is in jeopardy, all concern should be directed to the injured. If a rule is violated in an emergency situation, Directors may make allowances and issue time credits if appropriate.

- M. IV fluids, controlled or illegal drugs, prescription stimulants, and alcohol are not permitted. –DQ
- N. Riders and crew members must be familiar with and obey all laws of Arizona and Utah, where applicable. A full, legal stop is required at all stop signs and red traffic lights.
- O. The rider or team in each division with the fastest total time (including penalties) is the winner. **Note:** Finish times are rounded down *to the minute*. *Seconds are disregarded*. Accordingly, sprint finishes are highly discouraged and will result in a time penalty if unsportsmanlike conduct occurs at the finish line. In the event of a tie, the most senior rider or the team with the highest combined age will be declared the winner.
- P. An engraved plaque is awarded to the fastest male and female in both the Solo and Voyager divisions. For each Solo and Voyager category other than overall (age group, bicycle type, weight division), plaques will be awarded only in categories with at least three riders. In the team divisions, the top 2-person and 4-person teams receive awards. If there are more than 3 teams in any particular category (2 or 4 mixed, 2 or 4 women or age groups), the category winners will receive awards. If the overall winner in any division is also the 50+ or 60+ winner, that winner is the overall winner and there will be no age group winner. Same holds true for records. If a 50+ or 60+ time is faster than the previous overall time, that time becomes the record.

## **BICYCLE REGULATIONS**

- A. Bicycles must be propelled solely by human force.
- B. Any number of bicycles may be used during the event. However, in the fixed gear division, all bicycles must be of the same gearing; and in the recumbent division, the rider must ride only a recumbent bicycle.
- C. Devices attached to the bicycle or rider designed to reduce wind resistance or increase speed, e.g., airfoils, windscreens, fairings or sails, are prohibited. –DQ
- D. All bicycles must be equipped with a functioning braking system on both wheels. A fixed-gear bicycle drivetrain is not considered a braking system. -DQ

## **RIDER RULES**

- A. Each rider or team must ride every inch of the course. In the event of a wrong turn, the rider may be driven back to the exact spot where he/she left the course and continue riding from there.
- B. At all times while on the bike, riders must wear a properly fastened helmet. –DQ
- C. Solo riders must carry on their person the assigned GPS tracking device at all times while cycling. For relay teams, the rider taking his/her turn must carry on his/her person the assigned GPS tracking device and then must hand off the tracker to the next rider during the exchange.
- D. A rider may not receive any type of push-off from a person or vehicle.
- E. A rider may walk or run as long as they push or carry their bicycle.
- F. Circling, meaning riding any portion of the course in the reverse direction, is prohibited. –DQ

G. A rider or crew must notify Directors if they abandon. Riders who abandon may join another rider's crew after notifying Directors.

### **DRAFTING / SPACING RULES (All Divisions Except 4-Person Relay)**

A. Drafting is prohibited. Riders must maintain a distance of 10 yards from one another, except when passing, or riding alongside one another as described below.

B. Riders may ride alongside one another for a maximum 15 minutes per 24-hour period, but may not draft each other at any time. Example: Rider A rides alongside Rider B for 15 minutes. Rider A and Rider B then cannot ride together until 24 hours pass. However, Rider A may ride with Rider C for 15 minutes, and so on.

C. Riders may not draft any vehicle and must try to maintain a distance of 15 yards from another rider's support vehicle, unless passing.

### **SUPPORT VEHICLES**

A. "Support Vehicle" is a motorized vehicle with at least four wheels. An RV may be used as a Support Vehicle (but is discouraged).

B. "Follow Vehicle" is a properly equipped Support Vehicle, no wider than 82", used to directly follow a rider in hours of darkness, if a rider so desires, and where permitted. Cargo Vans, RVs and Step Vans cannot be used as Follow Vehicles. Follow Vehicles may not pull a trailer.

C. Each rider or team (other than Voyager and Nomad riders) must have at least one Support Vehicle and may have two vehicles, and at least two licensed drivers. The primary Support/Follow Vehicle must have two licensed drivers at all times. A secondary Support Vehicle may have one licensed driver. -DQ

D. All Support Vehicles must be legally registered and meet the minimum requirements of property damage and personal injury liability insurance for the state of registration. -DQ

E. The rider's or team's name must be visible and legible on all four sides of each vehicle. Lettering should be at least 4-6 inches high.

F. Follow Vehicles must be equipped with the following:

i) At least two amber (not red) flashing lights, visible only from the rear, mounted on the roof at the back of the vehicle on both the left and right. The flashing roof lights must be on at all times when following the rider, and off when not following.

ii) A rear-facing CAUTION BICYCLE AHEAD sign, purchased from Planet Ultra or made with **reflective** 3 to 5 inch lettering.

iii) A standard **reflective** equilateral "slow moving vehicle" triangle (minimum height of 12" with a reflective border not less than 1.5" wide) must be displayed while following directly behind the rider. The triangle *must* be removed or covered when the vehicle is not directly following.

G. Bike racks mounted on the rear of a Follow Vehicle must not obstruct the required signage.

H. Additional spotlights may not be mounted higher than the standard built-in headlights of the Follow Vehicle, except for a pass-off light mounted on the right side, which may be used to light the road when passing off supplies.

## **SUPPORT CREW RULES**

- A. One person shall be the designated crew captain, and will be the spokesperson for the crew and rider(s).
- B. There is no restriction on the maximum number of crew, but at least two licensed drivers are required for each primary Support/Follow Vehicle on the course. Relay teams may self-crew (subject to restrictions below).
- C. All crew must sign and submit the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability prior to the start. A crew person is anyone who actively assists a rider in any manner at any time during the event, including cheering or taking photographs. - DQ
- D. Each rider is responsible for the actions of their crew; and may be penalized or disqualified as a result of crew misconduct.
- E. During hours of darkness, every crew member must wear a reflective vest or sash when outside of their vehicle.
- F. In the spirit of sportsmanship, any crew may offer assistance to any rider or crew at any time. **Caveat:** A crew member or rider *must* report to Directors any assistance given to a Voyager or Nomad regardless of the perceived significance.
- G. Crew members may not run, walk or ride along with, next to, in front of, or behind their rider for any reason (except during water bottle and/or food hand-offs).

## **SUPPORTING / FOLLOWING YOUR RIDER**

- A. Vehicles **may not** follow riders during daylight on Saturday, but **may** follow during daylight on Sunday, except in "Special Ride Zones" noted in these rules and/or in the Official Hoodoo Route Book, and except for self-crewing 2-Person teams which *may never follow*. Vehicle-to-rider handoffs during daylight on Saturday are prohibited. Only leapfrog support is allowed. While providing leap-frog support, vehicles must travel at or near the speed limit and may never travel alongside a rider.
- B. A Support Vehicle must always park with all four wheels completely off the roadway.
- C. At the rider's discretion, a properly outfitted vehicle may follow at night (except for self-crewing 2-Person teams which *may never follow*). "Night" is defined as between 8:15pm and 6:45am. When following a rider, the Follow Vehicle must be positioned as far to the right as conditions allow so that drivers approaching from behind may see past the Follow Vehicle.
- D. Support Vehicles may not travel closer than 20 yards in front of any rider, day or night. If a rider is approaching from behind expecting to pass, the vehicle of the rider being passed must pull over and allow the approaching rider to pass.

- E. Under no circumstances may more than one vehicle follow behind a rider. If two riders choose to ride together (for up to 15 minutes), only one rider's crew may follow both riders. The other must temporarily pull over. Both riders will be penalized if two crews are "caravanning."
- F. If there is no traffic to the rear during hours of darkness and on Sunday, support vehicles may briefly travel alongside a rider for the purpose of passing along food, beverage, or information.
- G. A support vehicle may not create any advantages for a rider by breaking the force of the wind to the front or side.
- H. Communication with a rider may be accomplished with a two-way radio, but not by a public address system or other loudspeaker. No sound amplification is allowed. -DQ
- I. If traffic cannot pass the rider and Follow Vehicle safely, the vehicle must pull over as quickly as possible and allow traffic to pass.
- J. Support vehicles must dim their front headlights for oncoming traffic. Lights must also be dimmed when following within 300 feet behind another vehicle, or when another vehicle passes.

## RIDING AT NIGHT

- A. All bicycles ridden at night, accompanied by a Follow Vehicle, must be equipped with a headlight, *attached to the bicycle*, and at least one taillight (two are better), also *attached to the bicycle*, which must be ON at all times during hours of darkness. Both front and rear lights must be visible from 500 feet. -DQ
- B. All bicycles ridden at night, not accompanied by a Follow Vehicle, must be equipped with at least two independent lighting systems, at least one of which is attached to the bicycle, and at least two taillights, which must be ON at all times during hours of darkness. All front and rear lights must be visible from 500 feet. -DQ
- C. All bicycles must have reflective material facing all four directions (meaning reflectors, or reflective tape on crank arms, seat stays and fork). -DQ (Hint: When using reflective tape, to avoid damage to paint, put electrical tape on first, and place the reflective tape on top.)
- D. When riding at night, riders must wear a reflective vest or sash and reflective ankle bands, and must have reflective tape or dots on all four sides of their helmet.

## SPECIAL RIDE ZONES

- A. Riders begin under neutral conditions, escorted by a pace rider or vehicle that may not be passed. The escort will pull off and signal the start after **all riders** have made the left turn onto Washington Dam Road (about mile 9).
- B. All support vehicles must enter the course by driving north on Interstate 15, exiting Green Springs Drive (Exit 10) and following instructions in the Hoodoo Book. Support and/or rider exchanges may begin at mile 9, which is .1 miles after the left turn onto Washington Dam Road. No support vehicle may stop on the route or provide any support before Mile 9. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.
- C. Support vehicles must not stop, and no rider exchanges are allowed on the course beginning at

mile 11.9 (the left turn onto SR-7 / Southern Parkway) until beyond mile 15.3. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

D. Support vehicles must not stop, and no rider exchanges are allowed on the course beginning at mile 26 (the right turn onto SR-59 in Hurricane) until beyond the top of the climb at approximately mile 28.5. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

E. Riders must use the bike path which parallels Hwy 12 beginning at mile 130.1 all the way to Time Station #2 at the Chevron Station, and then beyond the Time Station to the junction of UT-63. Riders exit the bike path at the Subway Restaurant to continue on UT-12. DO NOT turn right toward Bryce. No rider exchanges allowed while riders are on the bike path, except at Time Station #2. Emergency mechanical support only. -DQ

F. Support vehicles shall not follow their rider, but must provide leap-frog support only, during daylight hours beginning at the Time Station in Panguitch until the left turn from SR-143 onto FH-050. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

G. Support vehicles shall not follow their rider, but must provide leap-frog support only, during daylight hours beginning at the right turn from FH 050 onto UT-14 at mile 395.7 until beginning of the descent to Cedar City at mile 410. While following is not prohibited during daylight hours on UT-14 descent, *it is highly discouraged*. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

H. Support vehicles shall not follow their rider, but must provide leap-frog support only, during daylight hours beginning at the left turn onto SR-18 in Enterprise until the town of Veyo. While following is not prohibited during daylight hours between Veyo and the top of Snow Canyon, *it is highly discouraged*. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

I. Rider support ends at the top of Snow Canyon when the rider makes the right turn from Hwy 18 onto Snow Canyon Parkway. When riders descend into Snow Canyon State Park, all support vehicles *must* proceed straight on Hwy 18, which becomes Bluff Street, and return directly to the finish line to wait for their rider. -DQ

J. There are no relay team rider exchanges or additions after the right turn into Snow Canyon State Park. Team members who wish to ride to the finish together must proceed down Snow Canyon together. Self-crewing relay teams who wish to finish together may leave their support vehicle in the parking lot at the top of Snow Canyon and retrieve it later. -DQ

## **2-PERSON TEAM DIVISION RULES**

The Hoodoo 500 Rules above apply to 2-Person Team riders, in addition to the following:

A. Each team must enter with two riders, but only one must finish. Substitutions are allowed to the team roster until 7pm the night before the start.

B. There is no requirement as to how many miles each team member must ride.

C. One or both riders may cycle at any time. If both teammates are on the course together, they must ride single file and stay within three feet of one another. Exception: Only one rider may start. There are no exchanges or additions until riders join their support vehicles at the first support zone.

D. When performing exchanges, the incoming rider must overlap wheels with the rider heading out

and exchange the GPS tracker. Exception: If a team rider makes a wrong turn, the other rider may begin cycling at the point where the wrong turn was made.

E. Riders may make a rolling exchange at cycling speed and momentarily ride side by side. Riders may not push each other or assist in acceleration in any way. The retiring rider must pull off the road and wait to be picked up; and *must not circle back to a waiting vehicle*. –DQ

F. If one team is about to pass another, the team being passed must yield right of way and both teams must resume 10-yard splits.

G. Relay teams may self-crew if each team member is a licensed driver, over the age of 18.

#### **4-PERSON TEAM DIVISION RULES**

The Hoodoo 500 Rules above, other than those forbidding drafting, apply to 4-Person Team riders, in addition to the following:

A. Teams are classified as follows (for fairness): A 4-man team is comprised of either 4 men or 3 men and 1 woman. A 4-mixed team is comprised of either 2 men and 2 women, or 3 women and 1 man. A 4-women team is 4 women.

B. Each team must enter with four riders, but only one must finish. Substitutions are allowed to the team roster until 5pm Friday night.

C. There are no requirements as to how many miles each team member must ride.

D. One or more riders from the same team may cycle at any time. Exception: Only one rider may start in St George. There are no exchanges or additions until riders join their support vehicles at the first support zone.

E. Drafting with other teams is permitted; but never more than two abreast; except when a rider pulls off and goes to the back of the line. Riders must single-up at any time when traffic approaches from the rear.

F. If two or more riders are drafting, no rider other than the person at the front of the paceline may use aerobars.

G. When performing exchanges, the incoming rider must overlap wheels with the rider heading out and exchange the GPS tracker. Exception: If a team rider makes a wrong turn, the other rider may begin cycling at the point where the wrong turn was made.

H. Riders may make a rolling exchange at cycling speed and momentarily ride side by side. The retiring rider, if drafting in a group, must fall back to the rear of the group to slow down then stop and wait for their crew. Whether drafting or not, riders must pull over and stop off the road to wait to be picked up. Riders *must not circle back to a waiting vehicle*. –DQ

I. Relay teams may self-crew provided that at least 2 team members are licensed drivers, over the age of 18.

#### **VOYAGER DIVISION RULES**

Participation in the Voyager Division is by Director's approval only. Riders who have previously completed the Hoodoo 500 either Voyager or Solo are guaranteed entry so long as spots are available.

The Hoodoo 500 Rules above apply to Voyagers, except those related to support crews and vehicles, in addition to the following:

A. To request a Voyager entry spot, potential riders must submit a detailed resume which shall include ride/race/life experience over the past 3 years. Qualification details are on the website.

B. Riders must read, understand, accept all terms, sign and submit to Directors the Voyager Waiver Letter before starting. No Voyager rider will be allowed to start without submitting the Waiver and complying with any new rules included therein.

C. The bicycle intended for use must be presented for inspection during check-in Friday.

D. Riders must be completely self-sufficient. Absent an emergency situation, riders may not ask for or accept assistance from anyone other than Hoodoo 500 Officials on route or at Time Stations. Penalties for violation of this rule are cumulative, as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> offense - ½ hour; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - 1 hour; 3<sup>rd</sup> offense - 2 hours, 4<sup>th</sup> offense - DQ.

E. At each time station, or at the Finish Line, riders must report to an Official that assistance was accepted. Failure to do so will result in an automatic DQ.

F. Riders must carry with them at all times the following items: Photo identification, jacket, cell phone (although there is no service in many areas), space blanket or bivvy sack.

G. Riders are encouraged to use the drop bag service to deliver bags to each of the four manned time stations: Kanab, Escalante, Bicknell and Panguitch. Bags are limited to 10" x 20" and 10 lbs total. All bags must be dropped off in the designated area by 7pm Friday after the Event Meeting. No bags will be accepted Saturday morning.

H. Riders may not in advance leave any items along the course for retrieval during the event. -DQ

I. In the spirit of this Division and to ensure an even playing field, riders may not have any person out on the course for any reason other than to pick them up after they've abandoned. Riders may not have any person meet them at Time Stations for any reason. -DQ

## **VOYAGERS CONJOINED DIVISION RULES**

The Hoodoo 500 Rules above apply to Voyagers Conjoined, except for those related to support crews and vehicles, in addition to the following:

A. Conjoined Voyagers are literally joined at the hip, and must ride together for the duration of the event in a paceline, side by side, or within a maximum separation of 10 feet. The only exception to the 10-foot rule is during the steep and curvy descents on Highway 12 from Boulder Mountain and Highway 14 from Cedar Breaks. Each rider may descend these sections at their own pace; but must rejoin in the flats to continue together.

B. Conjoined Voyagers must cross the finish line together. If one rider DNFs, so must the other. If one rider receives a DQ penalty, the other rider is also DQ'd.



## OFFICIALS AND TIME STATIONS

- A. Officials will be stationed along the route at select Time Stations, and will also travel the course in marked or covert vehicles. Riders and crew are expected to treat Officials respectfully and must comply with any instructions given by Officials.
- B. Any Official may give a time penalty or DQ a rider on the spot; or may report the violation to Directors who may assess the penalty or DQ the rider at a later time.
- C. Officials are instructed to keep interaction with crew and riders to a minimum; and cannot give aid or favor to any rider. Officials will only reveal riders' positions and arrival times at Time Stations, if known. Officials are not responsible for the reporting of inaccurate information.
- D. Time Stations are located in designated places along the course, as noted in the Official Route. Some Time Stations will be manned and some will not. All riders or their crews are required to check in at every Time Station. At manned Time Stations a rider or crew must report to the Official. At unmanned Time Stations a rider or crew must contact Headquarters via text, and report the rider or relay team name, the Time Station number, and the time the rider arrived at the Time Station. Headquarters must be contacted within 15 minutes of a rider passing an unmanned Time Station. Exception: A rider or crew must *immediately call (not text)* Headquarters when their rider(s) turn onto Snow Canyon at TS7.
- E. Crews will be given any messages, including notification of penalties or DQ, either from Officials at Time Stations, when they call Headquarters and/or via live Facebook or Twitter posts.

## TIME PENALTIES

- A. Non-DQ rule violations will result in the following cumulative time penalties, which will be added to the rider's or team's total time at the finish line: 1st offense- 15 minutes (unless the specific violation mandates more); 2nd offense- ½ hour; 3rd offense- 1 hour; 4th offense- DQ
- B. Ignorance of the rules is never an excuse. To prove that you read them, each rider or team must bring with them to check-in an envelope containing a minimum \$5 donation to Challenged Athletes Foundation, the official charity of the Hoodoo 500. – Mandatory 15-min time penalty for failure to bring donation.
- C. Upon observing a rider or crew's violation of a traffic law or event rule, an Official may either issue a time penalty or a DQ to the crew, whose responsibility it is to inform the rider, or report the penalty or disqualification to the next Time Station or to Directors, where the penalty will be posted.
- D. Riders or crew who observe another rider or crew violating the law or these rules are encouraged to immediately say something to the rider or crew, and also report the violation to an Official. Officials may, but are not required to, impose penalties based solely on verbal reports of cheating. Photos or videos of violations as proof will more likely result in a penalty or DQ being imposed.

**CONCLUSION:** If you have any questions, please contact us. If you don't ask, we assume that the rules are clear and you will be held accountable in accordance with them.