

HOODOO 500 STAGE RACE OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Updated August 4, 2022)

Attention Riders & Crew: All riders and all crew members are 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 disqualification or time penalties. Automatic DQ offenses are noted below.

GENERAL RULES

A. Hoodoo 500, and every category and division, is a “rules of the road” event. Riders and crew members must be familiar with and obey the law. Under Utah law, a bicycle is considered a vehicle and with same rights and responsibilities as an operator of a motor vehicle. This includes obeying traffic signals, stop and yield signs, and all other traffic control devices; yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks; stopping for school buses with flashing red lights; and pulling over and stopping for any emergency vehicles (police, fire, ambulance or other). Bicyclists must ride as far to the right as practical except when passing another bicycle or vehicle, preparing to turn left, going through an intersection past a right-turn-only lane, or avoiding unsafe conditions on the right-hand edge of the roadway. Please familiarize yourself with all Additional Rules of the Road, here: <https://www.bikeutah.org/bicyclelaws>. Any violation of State law will result in DQ without warning.

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. Attendance at Check-In (3-5pm Thursday) and the Event Meeting (5:15pm Thursday) 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

E. No animals other than ADA defined service dogs are permitted at rider check-in, at the pre-race meeting, at any Time Station or in any hotel room along the route, or at the post-event breakfast.

F. To be declared an Official Finisher entrants in all divisions must complete the course by 9pm Mountain Daylight Time on Sunday with a total combined time of 48 hours for all three stages.

G. Stage #1 begins Friday at 7am Mountain Daylight Time in St. George. The clock stops when the rider checks in at the Time Station in Escalante. Stage #2 starts in Escalante Saturday at 7am. The clock stops when the rider checks in at the Time Station in Panguitch. Stage # 3 starts in Panguitch Sunday at 7am, The clock stops when the rider crosses the finish line in St. George.

H. The clock will not stop for any reason; however, Directors may make time adjustments for extenuating circumstances. Traffic lights, traffic jams, detours, road construction, high winds, storms, or other “acts of God” are not extenuating circumstances.

I. Riders or crew may not be naked outside of their support vehicle for any reason without coverings or curtains. 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, or promoting any political agenda or issue.
- 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 to the rules and issue time credits if appropriate.
- M. IV fluids, controlled or illegal drugs, prescription stimulants, and alcohol are not permitted. -DQ
- N. 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.* Sprint finishes may 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.
- O. Awards are presented to top finishers in all divisions with 3 or more competitors/teams. Awards are presented to top 3 in each division with 5 or more competitors. In each division, awards will also be presented in categories (age group, bicycle type, weight division, gender) with 5 or more competitors in that category.
- P. If the overall winner in any solo division is also the 50+ or 60+ winner, that winner is the overall winner and there is 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.
- 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 the race. Riders who abandon may join another rider's crew after notifying Directors.

DRAFTING / SPACING RULES

- A. Except in Special Ride Zones (below), drafting is allowed; but *never more than two abreast*. Riders must single-up when traffic approaches from the rear. –Mandatory 1 hour penalty.
- B. *Riders must ride single file at all times on US-89 and UT-18*; except when a rider pulls off and goes to the back of the line. -DQ
- C. Unless drafting in a paceline, riders must maintain a distance of 10 yards from one another, except when passing.
- D. If two or more riders are drafting, no rider other than the person at the front of the paceline may use aerobars.
- E. 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 solo rider is allowed one Support Vehicle and must have at least one licensed driver. Teams must have one, but may have two Support Vehicles and at least one licensed driver per vehicle.
- 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.
- E. The rider's or team's name must be visible and legible on all four sides of each vehicle. Racers will receive one name sign which must be placed on the driver's door. Racers are responsible for all other signage. 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 (at least one month prior to the race) 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 members, but at least one licensed driver is required for each Support Vehicle. Solo riders may share crew and relay teams may self-crew, subject to restrictions below in the section Supporting / Following Your Rider.
- C. If solo riders share crew, any rule violations resulting in a time penalty or DQ will affect all riders sharing the crew.
- D. All crew members must sign and submit the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability prior to the start. A crew member is anyone who actively assists a rider in any manner at any time during the event, including cheering or taking photographs.
- E. Each rider is responsible for the actions of their crew; and may be penalized or disqualified as a result of crew misconduct.
- F. During hours of darkness, every crew member must wear a reflective vest or sash when outside of their vehicle.
- G. 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.
- H. 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 hand-offs).

SUPPORTING / FOLLOWING YOUR RIDER

- A. Vehicles may follow riders **during hours of darkness only**. Following is prohibited at all times in the "Special Ride Zones" noted in these rules and/or in the Official Hoodoo Route Book. -DQ
- B. Vehicle-to-rider handoffs during daylight 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.

- C. Support Vehicle must always pull over and park with all four wheels completely off the roadway.
- D. At the rider's discretion, a properly outfitted vehicle may follow at night if not in a "Special Ride Zone." 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. Follow vehicles may not take the entire lane. -DQ
- E. If two or more riders share a crew, the Support Vehicle must pull over in one spot and wait for all riders to pass. A Support Vehicle may not double back on the route for reasons other than a medical or mechanical emergency which renders a rider unable to proceed. -DQ
- F. 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.
- G. Under no circumstances may more than one vehicle follow behind a rider. "Caravanning," or a procession of two or more Support Vehicles behind a racer, is prohibited.
- H. A support vehicle may not create any advantages for a rider by breaking the force of the wind to the front or side.
- I. 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.
- J. If traffic approaching from behind cannot pass the rider and Follow Vehicle safely, the vehicle must pull over as quickly as possible and allow traffic to pass.
- K. 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

DAY #1:

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 the traffic light at the entrance to SR-7 (about mile 6).

B. All support vehicles must enter the course by driving south on Interstate 15, taking the exit for SR-7, turning left at the traffic light and proceeding east on SR-7. Support and/or rider exchanges may begin at mile 9, on the exit or entrance ramp for River Road. –Mandatory 1 hour penalty.

C. Support vehicles must not stop on the shoulder of SR-7 for any reason in any location. Support or rider exchanges are allowed on the following exit/entrance ramps: River Road, Warner Valley, Long Valley, Sand Hollow Rd. and 3200 West. Support vehicles must not use the exit ramps for Desert Color Pkwy or Airport Pkwy. -Mandatory 1 hour penalty.

D. Support vehicles must not stop and no rider exchanges are allowed on the course beginning at mile 35.2 (the right turn onto SR-59 in Hurricane) until beyond the top of the climb at approximately mile 38. - Mandatory 1-hour time penalty.

E. Riders must be single file at all times on US-89, except when a rider pulls off and goes to the back of the line. -DQ

F. Riders must use, and ride single file at all times, the Red Canyon bike path that parallels UT-12 beginning at mile 139.4 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

G. Absent an emergency, Support vehicles must not stop and no rider exchanges are allowed in any pullout or parking area within the boundaries of Bryce Canyon National Park; beginning 4.5 miles after leaving Time Station #2 (Chevron Station) for the next 4 miles. This is a fast downhill section; so no support should be required. –DQ

DAY #3:

H. Support vehicles must not stop and no rider exchanges are allowed on the course beginning at mile 31.9 on UT-143 at the pullout with the Cedar Breaks National Monument sign, until mile 33.5, entering the town of Brian Head. –DQ

I. Riders must be single file at all times on UT-18, except when a rider pulls off and goes to the back of the line. -DQ

J. Support vehicles must not stop and no rider exchanges are allowed on the course beginning at mile 109 (the left to stay on UT-18 in Enterprise) until mile 114 (the summit of the climb- where there's a large pullout). After the summit, support may provide leap-frog support only (absolutely NO following) to the top of Snow Canyon. -DQ

K. Rider support ends at the top of Snow Canyon when the rider makes the right turn from UT-18

onto Snow Canyon Parkway. When riders descend into Snow Canyon State Park, all support vehicles *must* proceed straight on UT-18, which becomes Bluff Street, and return directly to the finish line to wait for their rider. –DQ

K. 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

TEAM DIVISION RULES

The Hoodoo 500 Stage Rules above apply to team racers, 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 5pm the night before the event.

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 the race. There are no exchanges or additions until riders join their support vehicles at the first support zone.

D. 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.

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

F. 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.

G. 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

H. Relay teams may self-crew provided that both team members are licensed drivers, over the age of 18.

SELF-SUPPORTED RIDER RULES

The Rules above apply to Self-Supported Solos, except those related to support crews and vehicles, in addition to the following:

A. Self-supported riders are treated the same for results and awards as riders with crew.

B. The bicycle intended for use must be presented for inspection during check-in Thursday.

C. Riders must deliver no later than Thursday at the Event Meeting, two small overnight duffle bags (one for Escalante and one for Panguitch), weighing no more than 15 lbs each. Suggested items for bags: Fresh bike clothes, PJs, tooth brush, casual wear for dinner and/or breakfast; food to carry on bike during next stage. Please note: Bags are not transported between Escalante and Panguitch; but bags will be returned and available for pick up Monday at the Awards Breakfast.

D. Riders must be entirely self-sufficient which includes studying the route to determine where water and food/supplies are available. While riders may ask for and accept assistance from anyone on route or at Time Stations without penalty, such assistance is not guaranteed.

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

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 along the course, as noted in the Official Route. Some will be manned and some will not. Each rider/team or their crew must check in at each Time Station. At manned Time Stations, rider or crew must report to the Official. At unmanned Time Stations, rider or crew must contact Headquarters via text, and report the rider or team name, the Time Station number, and the time the rider passed 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) head down 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've read the rules, please bring with you to check-in an envelope containing a minimum \$5 donation to the official charity of the event, Life Sports Foundation.– Mandatory 15-min time penalty for failure to turn in an envelope.

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.