

# HOODOO 500 OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS (Updated September 7, 2023)

**Attention Riders & Crew:** You are responsible for reading and knowing the Rules. The sole purpose of Rules is to strive for safety (although road cycling is inherently dangerous), ensure competitive fairness and to comply with various permit requirements. Rule violations may result in time penalties or disqualification. Automatic DQ offenses are noted below.

## GENERAL RULES

A. We trust that every Hoodoo entrant understands that the consequences for breaking or even bending a rule is less a measure of time (even if you get a penalty) than a measure of personal integrity. So, the #1 rule is: Don't be a jerk. That covers a lot. Everything below is important enough to put in writing. For anything else that comes up, we will attempt our best to do what is right and what is fair.

B. This paragraph is required by UDOT: Hoodoo 500 is a "rules of the road" event. Riders 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 a 1-hour penalty and a warning that the next time will be a DQ.

C. All riders and crew must download from the Hoodoo website and bring with them to check-in **all** applicable required documentation, filled out and signed.

D. Attendance at Check-In (2-5pm Friday) and the Event Meeting (Friday at 5:15pm) is **mandatory** for all racers, and at least one crew member.

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

F. To be an Official Finisher, entrants must complete the course by 7am MDT on Monday.

G. The clock will not stop for any reason.

H. 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*. Sprint finishes are discouraged. In the event of a tie, the most senior rider or the team with the highest combined age will be the winner.

I. Awards are presented to winners in each division with 3 or more competitors/teams. Awards are presented to top 3 in each division with 5 or more competitors.

J. If the overall winner in any division is also the 50+ or 60+ winner, 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. If the overall winner is female, there is no male winner.

## 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. 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
- D. All bicycles must have a taillight which is ON at all times.

## 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 helmet and carry the GPS tracking device.
- C. Circling, meaning riding any portion of the course in the reverse direction, is prohibited.
- D. A rider or crew must immediately notify Directors if they abandon.

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

- A. Drafting is prohibited. Riders must maintain a distance of 5 yards from one another, except when passing, or riding alongside one another as described below.
- B. Except in Special Ride Zones (below) and/or where riding side-by-side would impede traffic, two riders may ride together for a maximum 15 minutes per 24-hour period; but may not draft each other at any time.

## SUPPORT VEHICLES

- A. "Support Vehicle" is a motorized, street-legal vehicle with at least four wheels. A small RV may be used as a Support Vehicle (but is discouraged).
- B. "Follow Vehicle" is a properly equipped Support Vehicle, no wider or taller 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 must have 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. The rider's or team's name must be visible and legible on all four sides of each vehicle.

E. Follow Vehicles must be equipped with the following:

- i) Two amber (not red) flashing lights, visible only from the rear, mounted on the roof at the back of the vehicle. These lights must be on at all times when following the rider, and off when not following.
- ii) A rear-facing CAUTION BICYCLE AHEAD sign, ordered from Planet Ultra (at least two weeks prior to race) or made with **reflective** 5-6 inch lettering.
- iii) A standard **reflective** "slow moving vehicle" triangle must be displayed while following the rider. The triangle *must* be removed or covered when the vehicle is not directly following.

## SUPPORT CREW RULES

- A. A crew person is anyone who actively assists a rider in any manner at any time during the event. One person shall be designated crew captain and will be the spokesperson for the rider(s).
- B. Each rider is responsible for the actions of their crew; and may be penalized or disqualified as a result of crew misconduct.
- C. During hours of darkness, every crew member must wear a reflective vest or sash when outside of their vehicle.

## SUPPORTING / FOLLOWING YOUR RIDER

- A. Vehicles may follow riders **during hours of darkness only**; except for self-crewing 2-person teams, which may never follow. On any Utah State Highway, daytime following is a DQ offense, as it is specifically forbidden by UDOT. Nighttime following is prohibited in the "Special Ride Zones" noted in these rules and/or in the turn-by-turn instructions.
- B. Vehicle-to-rider handoffs during daylight are prohibited; only leapfrog support is allowed. During daylight, vehicles must travel at the speed limit and may never travel alongside a rider.
- C. At the rider's discretion, a properly outfitted vehicle may follow at night, except in "Special Ride Zones." The Follow Vehicle must stay as far to the right as conditions allow so that drivers approaching from behind can see past the Follow Vehicle. Follow vehicles may not take the entire lane and must as quickly as possible pull over to allow traffic to safely pass.
- D. Under no circumstances may more than one vehicle follow behind a rider. If two riders are 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."
- E. If there is no traffic to the rear, during hours of darkness, support vehicles may briefly travel alongside a rider for the purpose of passing along food, beverage, or information.
- F. Support vehicles may not use a PA system or other loudspeaker. No sound amplification allowed.

## RIDING AT NIGHT

- A. All bicycles 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. Both front and rear lights must be visible from 500 feet. –DQ

B. All bicycles not accompanied by a Follow Vehicle, must be equipped with at least two headlights, at least one of which is attached to the bicycle, and at least two taillights, which must be ON at all times. All front and rear lights must be visible from 500 feet. -DQ

C. All bicycles must have reflective material facing all four directions –DQ (Hint: When using reflective tape, to avoid paint damage, put electrical tape on first, then 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. All support vehicles must enter the course by driving south on I-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 on the exit or entrance ramp for River Road. –Mandatory 1 hour penalty.

B. 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.

C. Support vehicles must not stop and no rider exchanges allowed 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.

D. Riders must use the 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. No rider exchanges allowed while riders are on the bike path, except at Time Station #2. Emergency mechanical support only. –Mandatory 1 hour penalty

E. 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 the Chevron Station / Time Station #2 for the next 4 miles. This is a fast downhill section; no support should be required. –DQ

F. Support vehicles must not stop, and no rider exchanges are allowed beginning at mile 399.5 on UT-143 at the pullout with the Cedar Breaks National Monument sign, until mile 402, entering the town of Brian Head. This section is also a NO FOLLOW zone. –DQ

G. Support vehicles must not stop, and no rider exchanges are allowed beginning at mile 476.6 (the left to stay on UT-18 in Enterprise) until mile 481.9 (the summit of the climb- where there's a large pullout). After the summit, leap-frog support only to the top of Snow Canyon. -DQ

H. Rider support ends at the top of Snow Canyon when the rider makes the right turn from UT-18 onto Snow Canyon Parkway. Team members who wish to ride to the finish together may proceed down Snow Canyon together. 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

## 2-PERSON TEAM 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 5pm the night before the start.
- B. 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.
- C. When performing exchanges, the incoming rider must overlap wheels with the rider heading out and exchange the GPS tracker.
- D. 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*.
- E. Relay teams may self-crew if each team member is a licensed driver, over the age of 18.

## 4-PERSON TEAM 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: A 4-man team is comprised of either 4 males or 3 males and 1 female. A 4-mixed team is comprised of either 2 males and 2 females, or 3 females and 1 male. A 4-female team is 4 females.
- 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. One or more riders from the same team may cycle at any time. If teammates are on course together, they must ride single file and stay within three feet of one another. Exception: Only one rider may start.
- D. Drafting with other teams is permitted; but never more than two abreast; except when a rider pulls off and goes to the back. 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.
- G. 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*.
- H. Relay teams may self-crew provided that at least 2 team members are licensed drivers, over the age of 18.

## OFFICIALS AND TIME STATIONS

Time Stations are located along the course, as noted in the Official Route. Some will be manned and some will not. Each rider 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's name, the Time Station location, and the time the rider passed the Time Station (in military time). Headquarters must be contacted within 15 minutes of a rider passing an unmanned Time Station. Exception: Rider or crew must *immediately call (not text)* Headquarters before descending into Snow Canyon at TS7.

## 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- 1 hour; 3rd 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 our event charity. 15-min time penalty for failure to turn in an envelope.

D. Riders or crew who observe another rider or support crew violating the law or any Rules are encouraged to 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 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.