

VOYAGER ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RULES RACER SELF-SUFFICIENCY CONFIRMATION

Greetings Hoodoo 500 Voyager Racers.

We hope you've trained hard and are excited about the race! We're very much looking forward to seeing you in St. George. We also hope to greet you at the finish line after your 520-mile journey!

Please print out, sign and bring this letter with you to racer check in. We must have your original signature on this letter to complete your registration to race.

We trust that you've familiarized yourself with the Official Rules. You must understand the full extent of the Voyager division challenges. Each racer must be 100% prepared and be able to handle any contingency that may occur on the course for their own safety.

We welcome any questions. We realize that what we believe is clearly explained in the Rules may not be as clear to the reader, and that the rules may not explicitly deal with every situation.

There is NO SAG or other on-course support from the race, other than we will transport one drop bag from St. George to the Panguitch Time Station (which you may bring to racer check-in). You may opt at your own expense and effort, to mail or deliver to Race Directors, your drop bag/supplies for the Escalante Time Station no later than 5pm Thursday before the race**, and you will have access to a hotel room there and in Panguitch. These rooms are also available to other racers. If you want to shower in one of the provided rooms, please bring your own towel and toiletries, as those provided by the hotel are first come, first served. You may also opt to arrange (and may/should share) a hotel room in Loa or Bicknell and have supplies mailed there as well.

Any drop bags not picked up from Escalante and Panguitch will be available Monday morning at the banquet. They will NOT be forwarded to the next time station.

Some last-minute advice and words of caution:

A few years ago, UDOT repaved State Route 59 between Hurricane and the Arizona Border (about 22 miles). In doing so, they completely removed the shoulder in most places and added a deep rumble strip down the white line. This section is a 55-60 mph highway. While you'll be on the road early when there is little traffic, please be extra cautious riding this stretch. We highly recommend you use some form of rear-view mirror, wear bright clothing and use daytime lights for visibility.

By now your preparations should be complete and exhaustive. You should know the average high and low temperatures, as well as the record temperatures, for many places on the route – and especially for the high mountain passes, which most of you will cross in darkness. Many more unsupported racers have failed to finish because of cold than heat. You should have tested your lights to make sure they're bright enough and aimed properly to ride down steep hills when you're tired and there's no ambient light. You should have ridden your bike many miles with all the bike bags you intend to use attached and fully loaded so you're sure they'll stay put and your load is comfortably balanced. You should be confident that you have the tools, parts and know-how to repair common and not-so-common bike problems. You should know how far you have to ride without restocking on food and water and be confident that you can go this distance. You should know the answer to questions about what you will do if you can't continue at various places along the course.

As a Voyager Racer you're required to be completely self-sufficient, fending for yourself along the way, and carrying much of what you need for the duration of the race. The Voyager division is not intended to be, nor is it, simply racing without a crew. This is an extreme race and a test of far more than cycling ability. While perhaps not as difficult, the inspiration for the Voyager division are races such as the Iditarod and Trans Rockies. You'll be testing yourself against the elements, the road, and all the circumstances that may arise during this long and challenging race. The Voyager Division is intended to be somewhat like an unsupported brevet, but even tougher. There is absolutely no support provided other than the drop bags and water at manned checkpoints. While there are many places along the route to obtain food, water and lodging if need be, there are also long, difficult climbs and descents without any services and the potential for extreme weather.

While this short list is not intended to be exclusive, you must be aware of and acknowledge the following:

- Time Stations do not provide meals or accommodations. Manned time stations will have your drop bags, water and the limited use of a hotel room. ***If you decide to quit racing, you're responsible for finding your own way back to St. George.***
- The course is not marked.
- Should you abandon, you may be offered transportation from either a Race Official or a supported racer's crew; but no one is obligated to help you. You should not rely or plan on any such transportation. Just because you or another racer was offered transportation at some point in the race and/or in past years does not mean that it will be available or offered again.
- You may be given other assistance (food, water, mechanical, medical) by a Race Official or from a supported racer's crew, but they're not obligated to provide any assistance; and you will receive a time penalty for asking for/accepting assistance outside of the two manned time stations. Again, you should not rely or plan on any assistance. The fact that you receive or observe another racer receiving assistance does not mean that it will be available or offered again.
- ***You're required, at the minimum, to carry photo identification, jacket, leg coverings, cell phone (although there is no service in many areas) and a space blanket or bevy sack AT ALL TIMES. We will conduct equipment inspections at some time stations; and arriving at the time station without the required gear and lights will result in a time penalty. You will be DQ'd from the race if you insist on leaving the time station without the required gear.***
- In addition to the minimum required gear, we highly recommend that you carry a credit card or sufficient funds to cover the expense of a hotel room and transportation (rental cars are generally not available, except in Cedar City) back to St. George. The required equipment list is just that - what you must have on the bike at all times. Personally we wouldn't attempt this race without at least the following additional items: full rain gear, waterproof gloves, booties, synthetic or wool insulating layer for at least your core, saddle cream, first aid kit, "emergency" food and water, heat source (either chemical packet warmers or old style burning hand warmer), map and/or gps, extra tire, tire boot, tubes, patch kit, Kevlar emergency spoke, spare shifter cable (or insure your battery(s) are full charged), extra pedal cleat, zip ties, duct tape, chain lube, chain quick link, tools for every fastener on the bike (if using a multitool, we would check that the wrenches on the tool would reach every Allen bolt as sometimes the wrenches are either not long enough or the handle gets in the way), chain tool, tire levers, and the knowledge and practice to use all of the parts and tools carried.

- We can't emphasize enough the need for carrying an insulating layer in addition to your jacket, especially over Boulder Mountain and Cedar Breaks. The #1 reason Voyagers DNF is lack of adequate warm clothing during the night over Boulder Mountain. The weather can change quickly, and racers have even had to abandon because of becoming too cold on the way to Escalante. The temperature swing during this race can be over 70 degrees Fahrenheit; and is typically between 50 and 60 degrees. As such, we highly recommend that you send a drop bag to Escalante and include plenty of warm clothes.
- The SPOT tracker you are provided and required to carry with you during the race is primarily for the benefit of race spectators and to ensure you are completing the entire route. Your tracker has an SOS button. Use the SOS only if you are physically injured/sick and require *immediate EMS*. If you have cell service, use that first as the response time will be much faster. For any other issue where you need help, please use your cell phone or ask for assistance from a passerby.

Finally, remember at racer check-in you're required to bring this fully executed Additional Information and Rules and Racer Self-Sufficiency Confirmation indicating your understanding and acceptance of the special rules and disclosures related to the Voyager Division along with a small white envelope with your name on it containing a minimum \$5 donation to Life Sports Foundation. If you don't bring this waiver and the required donation to check-in, you'll receive a 15-minute time penalty.

Have a great race!!!
 Deborah & Brian Bowling
 Hoodoo 500 Race Directors

I certify that I have read this document, and the Official Rules, and I understand the content. This document does not supersede the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability, Name and Likeness I have or will execute prior to the Hoodoo 500, but rather is in addition to it. In the event there is deemed to be a conflict between the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability, Name and Likeness and this Additional Information and Rules and Racer Support Confirmation, the Accident Waiver and Release of Liability, Name and Likeness will govern.

Signature _____

Printed Name _____ Date _____

Signature and name of parent or guardian if under 18 _____

****Regarding Escalante Drop bags:** Our Escalante Time station is manned by RD Brian Bowling, who must leave Friday morning to be in Escalante for Stage Racers. He will bring your bag out there if you either drop it off Thursday before the Stage Race Meeting at 5pm, or mail them to Planet Ultra, 250 N. Red Cliffs Dr. 4B #394, St. George, UT 84790, so that it arrives no later than Thursday 5pm.