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2026 RULE BOOK

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

TEAM MTB

GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

2026 RULE BOOK OVERVIEW

This Georgia Cycling Association Rule Book edition is effective March 1, 2026. All prior rules and regulations are superseded as of this Effective Date.

The Georgia Cycling Association Rules Committee has created the rules outlined in this document: Mark Legaspi, Dave Ablashi, Marty Speight, Christie Hunt, and Steve Herlocher.

The Executive Director and the Georgia Cycling Board of Directors reserve the right to supersede a Rules Committee decision if doing so is deemed in the organization's best interest.

Rules Committee members serve a minimum two-year term. Candidates will be invited, as applicable, by the existing members of the Rules Committee, Executive Director, or Board of Directors. The Rules Committee is open to all adult members of the Georgia Cycling Community, regardless of their role within the community. Candidates interested in serving on the Rules Committee should contact the Rules Committee or the Executive Director for consideration.

Should you have a question regarding a rule or wish to seek clarification for the purpose of understanding, you should submit your question via email to rules@georgiacycling.org

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Throughout this rulebook, registered student-athletes are referred to as a "rider" or, in the plural, as "riders." These rules apply to all riders during all "Georgia Cycling events" which includes team practices, league races, individual training rides, and any other event when riding a bike during the Georgia Cycling pre-season and regular season.

The Georgia Cycling pre-season and regular-season schedules are generally set each year as follows:

- Pre-season: April 1 – June 30
- Regular Season: beginning on July 1 and concluding two (2) weeks after the last race event

In addition to rules applicable to Riders, some rules herein govern the behavior and conduct of other persons, such as riders' parents, relatives, siblings, and other event attendees.

Georgia Cycling has the discretion to take disciplinary action concerning any Rider, any Rider's family member(s), and other event attendees for failing to comply with the standards in this rulebook. The consequences associated with specific rules are detailed in this document. The consequence levels are listed in Appendix A of this document.

The rules and guidelines outlined in this rulebook are in addition to any other rules, policies, and guidelines adopted by Georgia Cycling and those of the specific venue for the event or sanctioned activity. A Georgia Cycling sanctioned event is defined as any Georgia Cycling sponsored event during preseason activities and regular season activities that Georgia Cycling approves.

Nothing contained herein shall be construed to limit, supersede, or override any provision, obligation, covenant, representation, warrant, or other term of any Code of Conduct or any agreement between the Rider (or such Rider's parent or guardian) and Georgia Cycling or any Georgia Cycling team, including without limitation any Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnification Agreement.

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CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 1: POLICIES GOVERNING PARTICIPATION

RELEASE FORMS

All Riders must complete the TeamMTB registration within CCN prior to participating in Georgia Cycling events.

The registration process includes acknowledging and accepting The Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnification Agreement, Code of Conduct, Insurance Summary, and Refund Policy. Riders under 18 years of age must have the signature of a parent or legal guardian.

CONCUSSION & INJURY RETURN-TO-PLAY POLICY

- **Concussion:** A Rider who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a Georgia Cycling activity or who is suffering the effects of a concussion sustained outside of Georgia Cycling activity shall be immediately removed from participation. The Rider shall not be permitted to participate until they are evaluated by a licensed health care professional and provided a [Return to Play Clearance Form](#). Read our [Concussion Management Policy](#).
- **Injury:** If a Rider sustains an injury resulting in a visit to a healthcare provider, that Rider must provide the [Return to Play Clearance Form](#) to their Head Coach or Team Director before they can resume participating in team events.

BANNED SUBSTANCES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Georgia Cycling student-athletes are subject to all U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) rules about anti-doping. Using performance-enhancing substances will result in immediate disqualification from one full season or the equivalent number of races spanning two seasons. A full list of banned substances can be viewed [here](#).

ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

The consumption of alcohol or illicit drugs, including cannabis or unprescribed pharmaceutical drugs, at any sanctioned Georgia Cycling event or activity is prohibited. Riders found in violation of this policy will face consequences laid out below under Substance Use Policy Violations.

TOBACCO AND NICOTINE USE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

The use of tobacco and nicotine products, including vaping, by Riders and spectators is strictly prohibited.

Any Rider caught violating this rule shall remain eligible for participation only if they provide evidence that they have enrolled in a tobacco cessation class, which must begin immediately. After completing this class, the Rider must provide written documentation to their Head Coach or Team Director. The Rider must pledge to refrain from future use. Continued use will result in consequences laid out below under Substance Use Policy Violations.

Spectators are expected to set the example and encourage our student athletes to make healthy choices, therefore Georgia Cycling will not permit smoking, vaping or other forms of tobacco /nicotine at our events.

SUBSTANCE USE POLICY VIOLATIONS

First Violation: The first violation of the Georgia Cycling Substance Use Policy will result in the Rider losing eligibility for three races. If a season ends before completing the three races, the loss of eligibility will carry over into the next season.

- If the Rider wishes to continue participation, they must continue to attend and participate in regular practice with their team.
- The Rider will also be required to attend at least six educational group sessions regarding alcohol and drug abuse. Georgia Cycling will approve classes at the time of enrollment. Documentation of attendance must be provided to Georgia Cycling before the student is permitted to return.

Second Violation: The second violation will result in the student's loss of eligibility for an additional three races.

Third & Subsequent Violation(s): The third and subsequent violations will result in the student's loss of eligibility for an additional six races. If the Rider becomes a participant in an alcohol and/or drug treatment program on his or her own volition, the Rider may be eligible for participation after a minimum suspension of six weeks.

CAFFEINE & OTHER BANNED SUBSTANCES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Caffeine is an addictive substance that enhances performance. Georgia Cycling deems caffeinated products as inappropriate for Riders. As such, riders are prohibited from consuming any caffeinated products before and during Georgia Cycling events. This includes, but is not limited to, caffeinated energy drinks, sodas, sports drinks, bars, and gels.

Creatine, Guarana Root, and Taurine are substances banned from consumption before and during Georgia Cycling events.

POSITIVE SPORTING BEHAVIOR

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Riders, coaches, parents, guardians, and spectators must always display mature and positive behavior during Georgia Cycling events and in all interactions with other Riders, parents, coaches, and Georgia Cycling officials.

Adults serve as role models for Riders, and therefore, Georgia Cycling expects that coaches, parents, guardians, and spectators demonstrate a fair and calm response to protests, complaints, conflicts, or emergencies. Displaying this behavior will assist Riders in developing positive character traits, learning valuable life lessons, and growing into healthy young adults.

Failing to exhibit respectful behavior may restrict the coach, parent, or Rider's ability to participate. Georgia Cycling officials have complete and total discretion in implementing the rules regarding sporting behavior.

UNPROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR/ETIQUETTE

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The use of a bike or any other equipment to threaten or injure anyone is prohibited.
- Unsafe and abusive conduct includes, but is not limited to: intentional swerving or sudden braking with the clear intent to frighten or impede another Rider, willful colliding with another Rider, physically grabbing another Rider, or pushing another Rider with your body or any equipment with the intent to harm, threaten, or scare that Rider.
- Engaging in unsafe and abusive conduct may result in referral to the appropriate law enforcement.
- Throwing or spitting any object, fluid, or debris at an athlete near the race course is prohibited.
- Coaches, Riders, and attendees at Georgia Cycling events are expected to remain aware of their surroundings at all times in the vicinity of the race course infield and designated race course. Everyone must follow course markings, only cross at official course crossings, and obey the volunteers overseeing the course crossings to ensure the safety of the riders on the course.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

Head Coaches and Team Directors are empowered and responsible for maintaining discipline at the team level, for both athletes and coaches, during all team-related practices, meetings, and activities. Team disciplinary actions are outlined in the Rule Book governing the Team's program.

Georgia Cycling retains the authority to impose disciplinary action for athlete infractions occurring at Georgia Cycling-sanctioned races, pre-rides, and other events that are hosted, staffed, or administered by Georgia Cycling. Applicable infractions and associated penalties are outlined in the Rule Book governing the Team's program.

Georgia Cycling further reserves the right to impose disciplinary action, up to and including removal, suspension, or revocation of coaching privileges, for conduct by a coach that may jeopardize the safety of participants, violate organizational policies, or threaten Georgia Cycling's reputation, operations, or standing in the community.

There are no limits on Georgia Cycling's ability to take action when required to comply with applicable laws, policies, or safeguarding obligations.

The disciplinary action process for athletes and coaches is outlined below. All official disciplinary actions taken on the team level must be approved by the Head Coach and/or Team Director.

ATHLETE DISCIPLINE

- Verbal Warning: Engage in a conversation with the student or provide a time-out for reflection on making better choices.
- Referral for Conference: Request a conference with the student's parents or guardians.
- Written Performance Improvement Plan: Place the student on a behavior contract. (Note: this should never be used as competition based improvement plan)
- Written Warning: Provide a written warning to the student and their parents or guardians.
- Suspension: Suspend the student from practice, activity, or event.
- Recommendation for Removal: Refer the situation directly to the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee.

A copy of all written disciplinary actions for athletes should be provided to Georgia Cycling's Programs Director.

COACH DISCIPLINE

- Verbal Warning: Provide a verbal warning to the coach regarding the specific behavior that requires correction.
- Written Warning: Issue a written warning that outlines the observed misconduct and expectations for future behavior.
- Coaching Evaluation: Conduct a formal performance evaluation to assess the coach's suitability for their role, which may involve feedback from team members and other staff.
- Referral for Conference: Request a conference involving the coach, the Head Coach/Team Director, and relevant supervisory personnel to discuss conduct concerns and potential corrective actions.
- Temporary Suspension: Place the coach on temporary suspension from coaching duties pending further review of the situation.
- Recommendation for Dismissal: Recommend to the Georgia Cycling Association that the coach be dismissed from their position if the conduct is determined to be significantly detrimental to the Team or its members.

All disciplinary actions involving coaches must be documented, including the rationale for decisions made. This documentation shall be submitted to Georgia Cycling's Programs Director.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

The Georgia Cycling Association strictly prohibits sexual harassment, including verbal, physical, and visual harassment. Sexual harassment includes but may not be limited to unwanted sexual advances, visual, verbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, leering, making sexual gestures, display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures, verbal conduct such as making or using derogatory comments, epithets, slurs and sexual jokes, verbal sexual advances or propositions, and physical conduct such as touching or blocking the movement of another person.

Sexual harassment includes many forms of offensive behavior, including harassment of a person of the same sex or based on gender.

If any person feels they have been sexually harassed or has been the victim of abuse, assault, or battery at a Georgia Cycling event, they should report the incident immediately to the Georgia Cycling Executive Director, Kenny Griffin, kenny@georgiacycling.org. All reports will be handled discreetly and in a confidential manner.

NON-DISCRIMINATION IN PARTICIPATION STANDARDS

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

The Georgia Cycling Association recognizes the value of participation in Georgia Cycling events for all Riders. Georgia Cycling prohibits all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on a Rider's race, religion, actual or perceived sex, and gender.

TeamMTB teams are co-ed. As an interscholastic sport with school-based teams, Georgia Cycling obeys state law and aligns with the Georgia High School Association's Constitution. As such, a participant's sex/gender is determined by the sex noted on his/her certificate at birth. Riders who race in the wrong category shall be disqualified from that race.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 2: TEAM RULES & RIDER ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

The TeamMTB Program, its associated race series, and other connected events are open to all Georgia residents who are enrolled in middle school (grades 6-8) or high school (grades 9-12) at a public or private institution. Homeschooled students who live in the state of Georgia are also eligible for participation. The Georgia Cycling Rules Committee rules@georgiacycling.org must approve any exceptions.

STUDENT AGE AND GRADE

To be eligible to compete in a fall school year season, a rider must:

- Be enrolled in middle school (grades 6-8) or the homeschool equivalent and be no younger than 10 and no older than 15 years of age at any time during the entire school year.
- Be in high school (grades 9-12) or the homeschool equivalent and be no younger than 13 and no older than 19 years of age at any time during the entire school year.
- Not have a high school diploma, general education diploma (GED), or otherwise be graduated from high school.

Riders who have skipped or been held back:

- A single grade is placed into categories according to their grade levels, so long as age eligibility requirements are met.
- Any Rider who has skipped or been held back more than one grade must consult with the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee and obtain a ruling from the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee regarding placement into the appropriate categories.

TEAMMTB DIVISIONS

TeamMTB teams are categorized as either a Division I or Division II team and are scored independently:

- Division I = School-based Teams
- Division II = Composite Teams

TEAM COMPOSITION

SCHOOL-BASED TEAMS

- Team is based upon a single high school and ridership is comprised of high school students who currently attend that school and middle school students who will attend that high school.
 - A school-based team may be formed with a minimum of five (5) Riders.
 - After the first season, a school-based team may continue with a minimum of one (1) Rider to sustain the team for future seasons.
- Only one team may represent a school.
- Team name is comprised of the school's name, such as Springfield High School unless an exemption is requested by the school administration.
- Georgia Cycling does not require school-based teams to be officially or otherwise formally affiliated as a club or sports team.
- Teams are responsible for acquiring school permission to use school names, colors, mascots, logos, and other identifying school-related imagery or graphics.

COMPOSITE TEAMS

- Team is comprised of full-time students from more than one school.
- Composite teams may not draw Riders from a school-based team nor may they overlap in geographic coverage with another composite team.
- Teams are limited to a maximum of fifteen (15) high school riders. Middle school riders do not count toward the team maximum.
 - Composite teams with registration above the cap stated above will be required to split into at least two teams that do not exceed the maximum number of Riders.
 - The subdivided teams may not split Riders from the same school. Example: all 10

- Riders from Springfield High School must be kept together.
- Subdivided teams may not split based on the experience or ability of riders.
- A “flex year” may be granted to a composite team before the team is required to officially split into smaller teams. Teams must submit the request to rules@georgiacycling.org by June 15 prior to the July 1 start of the season.
- If the membership of a composite team includes eight (8) high school Riders from the same high school, those riders must be broken off into a school-based team.
- Team name must include the word “composite”

RIDERS MUST JOIN EXISTING SCHOOL-BASED TEAMS

Riders who are enrolled at a school with an existing TeamMTB team must participate with that team. Riders may not join a team outside of their school nor may they participate as an independent rider.

HOMESCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPTION

In order to determine team eligibility for a homeschool student, the following question must be answered: “Is the homeschool student enrolled in at least one class at a public high school?”

- If yes, the rider is required to participate on the team aligned with the school in which they are enrolled as required by Georgia law (see below).
- If no, the rider must participate on the composite team for the public high school they would attend, if not homeschooled, based on their home address.

GEORGIA HOMESCHOOL PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOL SPORTS

Senate Bill 42 also known as the Dexter Mosely Act, which has become law, provides that home study/ homeschool students can participate in extracurricular activities and sports with public schools within criteria established by the General Assembly in the SB42. Click [here](#) to view the criteria for a homeschooled student to join a school sports team or extracurricular activity.

For participation in Georgia Cycling programs, students will need to complete the process to enroll at a school as required by the law and provide documentation of school enrollment to the Georgia Cycling Programs Director

Once enrolled at a school, the student would join the school-based team or the composite team for that high school. If a homeschooled student chooses to attend a public school for a portion of the coursework, they must join the team for that school

PROOF OF ATTENDANCE

Georgia Cycling and/or a rider’s team may request proof of a rider’s attendance at their school. Any school-published material (school ID, report card, letter from administration, etc.) will suffice as proof of attendance.

DUAL ENROLLMENT

Riders enrolled or otherwise taking classes in a college remain eligible to compete so long as they have not attained graduation status at their middle or high school and are enrolled or taking classes at the college as middle or high school students and not as college students.

MID-SEASON TRANSFERS

- A rider who transfers teams mid-season will retain all points earned before the transfer, which will be combined with points earned afterward to determine individual standings.
- For the purpose of determining team standings, the rider’s original team shall retain all points earned by the rider before the transfer. The rider’s new team shall not be credited with any points earned by the rider prior to their transfer.

PETITION TO DEVIATE FROM ASSIGNED TEAM

Georgia Cycling policy states that a student-athlete must participate on a team, either composite or school-based, as established by the high school they currently or will attend. We recognize that under certain conditions, participating on a student’s assigned team may create a hardship for a family that jeopardizes that student’s overall ability to

participate in the program. Therefore, we have established a process for families to petition to deviate from their assigned team based on hardship. The petition process is not to be used to alleviate inconveniences associated with participation.

- **Composite Team Participants are eligible to utilize this petition.** Families may outline their hardship in a petition to move to a different composite team.
- **School-based Team Participants are not eligible to utilize this petition.** Participation on a school-based team is restricted only to students who currently attend or who will attend the team's high school following middle school. Therefore, student-athletes are not allowed to join a school-based team if they are not a student at that school. Likewise, student-athletes are not allowed to join a composite team if there is a school-based team formed at their high school.

The following are examples of potential hardships that will be considered:

- Extended and unmanageable drive time to the team's practice location that threatens student's ability to participate.
- Siblings that reside in the same house but have been assigned to different Georgia Cycling teams - seeking to have both students on the same team.
- Enrollment in a daily afterschool program that is an extended distance away from the evening practice location.
- Short-term or temporary living arrangements.

All petitions must be reviewed and approved before any deviation takes place. For a deviation to be approved, it must be demonstrated that participation with the student's assigned team creates an extraordinary burden on the family. Team deviations are considered extremely rare, and Georgia Cycling has intentionally set the bar high to prevent a high volume of student transfers, which would cause a burden on volunteer coaches.

The petition to deviate from the assigned team can be found [here](#).

TEAM REGISTRATION

All teams must register annually with Georgia Cycling. Riders are not permitted to register with their team until the team has completed all steps in the team registration process.

- Newly created teams must have a Team Director and Head Coach attend the Georgia Cycling Leadership Summit before the team's second season starts.
- Teams cannot conduct practices without registering and obtaining insurance through Georgia Cycling.
- Georgia Cycling will publish the deadline for team registration annually. An exception to this deadline is automatically granted in the case of a team forming out of an existing composite team.

TEAM LEADERSHIP RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

To promote continuity of team leadership and reduce the risk of simultaneous leadership vacancies, two different individuals serving in the roles of Head Coach and Team Director may not reside in the same household.

Teams with a Head Coach and Team Director residing in the same household as of October 31, 2025, are permitted to continue under this structure under a grandfather provision. This allowance remains valid only while both individuals maintain continuous annual registration as Georgia Cycling coaches in good standing. Any lapse in annual registration by either individual will terminate the grandfathered status, and the team must thereafter comply with the Team Leadership Residency Requirement.

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

All coaches and riders participating in the TeamMTB program must register annually with Georgia Cycling. Georgia Cycling's insurance does not cover any individual participating without completing the registration process. Georgia Cycling is not liable for any accidents, crashes, or other incidents resulting in injury, damage, or other negative impacts caused by an unregistered individual.

The registration process includes acknowledging and accepting The Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnification Agreement, Code of Conduct, Insurance Summary, and Refund Policy. Riders under 18 years of age must have the signature of a parent or legal guardian. The Georgia Cycling Association reserves the right to modify, supplement and amend its registration requirements from time to time.

The registration process is conducted online through [CCN](#) and must include the following:

- **RIDER:** A rider's TeamMTB program registration fee must be paid and the liability waiver must be accepted and signed. A parent or guardian must sign a minor's liability waiver. Riders who are 18 years of age may sign their own waiver.
- **COACH:** A coach's registration fee must be paid and the liability waiver must be accepted and signed. In addition, all coaches must complete an annual background check and, at a minimum, complete the level 1 Coach Licensing training requirements within CCN.

All participants must accept and acknowledge the Georgia Cycling Code of Conduct in addition to any other documents, forms, or releases displayed during the registration process.

Should a rider wish to participate in the TeamMTB race series, they must complete a separate registration to compete at races. The TeamMTB race series is an optional add-on component to the TeamMTB program and is not a requirement. Georgia Cycling will post the race registration deadline for each race on their website.

RIDER CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTIFICATION

It is the responsibility of a student rider's parent or guardian to keep contact information (email address, mailing address and phone) up to date in Georgia Cycling's registration system. Any changes should be updated within CCN as soon as possible.

Since team eligibility is based on where a student rider goes to or will go to high school, it is essential that Georgia Cycling be made aware of any change of school. Following such a change, a student rider's parent, Coach, or legal guardian must provide the new school information and details to the Georgia Cycling Programs Department within 30 days of said change. The details should be emailed to support@georgiacycling.org

SCHOOL CHANGE DURING RACE SERIES

The following eligibility rules apply to student-athletes who are registered for the full-season race series and change schools after the completion of Race #1.

- **Completed Race #1 as a member of a composite team and has changed to a school that feeds to a composite team:** Student-athletes may finish the race series with their original team.
- **Completed Race #1 as a member of a composite team and has changed to a school that has a school based team:** Student-athletes must join the school-based team immediately and will finish the race series as a team scoring member of their new school-based team.
- **Completed Race #1 as a member of a school-based team and has changed to a school that feeds to a composite team:** Student may finish the race series as a non-team scoring member of their original school based team provided Georgia Cycling has written approval from the Head Coach or Team Director. Local school district eligibility rules may prevent such a situation from occurring. In that case, Georgia Cycling will follow the school administration's lead.
- **Completed Race #1 as a member of a school-based team and has changed to a school that has a school based team:** Student-athletes must join the school-based team immediately and will finish the race series as a team scoring member of their new school-based team.

SENIOR STAY EXCEPTION

The following eligibility rules apply only to a student-athlete who has participated in multiple Georgia Cycling seasons and who has experienced a school change prior to or during their senior year.

- If the student-athlete has been participating as a member of a composite team and has moved to a school that feeds to a different composite team, that student will be allowed to complete their senior year as a team scoring member of their original composite team.
- If the student-athlete has been participating as a member of a composite team and has moved to a school with a school-based team, that student is required to join the school-based team for their senior year.
- If the student-athlete has been participating as a member of a school-based team and has moved to a school that feeds to a composite team, that student may seek approval from their current Head Coach or Team Director to remain on their current team as a non-team scoring member.
- If the student-athlete has been participating as a member of a school-based team and has moved to a school that has a school-based team, that student must join their new school-based team for their senior year.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 3: EQUIPMENT RULES AND RIDER PROTOCOL

WEARING HELMETS IS STRICTLY ENFORCED

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

All individuals on a bike at a Georgia Cycling event must wear an approved helmet. Under no circumstances should any person be without a helmet securely fastened to their head, even when riding a short distance.

During a race, riders must wear helmets when walking or running on the course with a mechanical issue. Riders warming up on bikes that are securely mounted to stationary trainers and are not located on a race course or area of ingress or egress thereto are not required to wear a helmet.

Rider helmets must adhere to the following standards:

- Helmets must meet one of the following standards:
 - U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standard for bicycle helmets.
 - Snell Memorial Foundation Standard “B” or “N” series.
 - American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard F-1447.
 - European Committee for Standardization (CE EN1078) standard for bicycle helmets.
- Helmet straps must be adjusted so that two fingers can be pushed under the strap, whereas inserting of three fingers would not be reasonably possible.
- Helmets may not have cracks or dents from previous falls or mishandling.
- Helmets must be sized correctly to the Rider’s head with minimal side-to-side or front-to-back movement.

Full-face helmets are not allowed without prior written permission from the Rules Committee. Requests to wear full-face helmets [must be submitted to the Georgia Cycling Association Rules Committee](#). All requests must clearly state the need to wear a full-face helmet and include a picture of the helmet along with the brand and model number.

All requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. No Rider shall use a full-face helmet until they receive written approval from the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee. Please keep in mind the following:

- Full-face helmets increase the risk to riders’ safety and health due to their limited visual field of view, audiological constraints, and reduced cranial cooling.
- Medical conditions that warrant the use of a full-face helmet will require medical documentation/endorsement to accompany a written request.
- Examples of full-face helmets that reduce the three primary safety risks are those that provide significant air cooling, the capability to hear clearly while riding, and at least a 180-degree field of view. These key characteristics of a full-face helmet serve as mitigation safety measures for the rider wearing the full-face helmet and other riders in the vicinity.
- Full-face helmets designed for the “Down Hill” discipline increase the risk to riders participating in cross-country mountain biking

FOOTWEAR

Riders must wear appropriate footwear that is fully enclosed and fastened with either straps, buckles, or laces.

EYE PROTECTION

Eye protection is strongly recommended unless wet, foggy, and/or muddy condition impair vision,

MOUNTAIN BIKES ONLY

The rider should thoroughly inspect their bicycle before every race, and team coaches shall oversee and assist in such inspection processes.

Riders must compete using mountain bikes that have 26-to-29-inch wheels with tires not narrower than 1.75 inches. Additional requirements are as follows:

- Tires must have off-road tread (knobbies) – no slick tires are permitted.
- No road bikes or mountain bikes equipped with drop bars.
- No cyclocross bikes.

- No bar ends (forward pointing handle grip extensions) may be used

If a rider is unable to ride a mountain bike with 26- to 29-inch wheels due to his or her height or other physical limitations before participating in a TeamMTB race, that rider must submit a [request in writing to the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee](#) seeking an accommodation to compete on a mountain bike with smaller wheels.

FRONT AND REAR BRAKES

- Bicycles must have fully operational front and rear brakes.
- Brakes must be properly maintained and adjusted to provide significant stopping power.
- Brake pads must not be worn below recommended limits for disc and rim breaks.

HANDLEBAR END PLUGS AND STEM CAPS REQUIRED

For safety reasons, intact and undamaged handlebar end plugs and stem caps are required.

RACE PLATES

Riders must affix an official Georgia Cycling race plate to the front of their bikes and affix the rear race plate to the rider's back (shown below) during all TeamMTB races and pre-rides. The number plate should be attached with at least three fasteners and must always be on the bike before and after competing, including the pre-ride, and should also remain on the bike at any time the Rider is riding at the event.



VERTICALLY MOUNTED RACE PLATE ON THE FRONT OF A PARTICIPANT'S BIKE.



ALL RIDER MUST HAVE THEIR NUMBER PINNED TO THE BACK OF THEIR TEAM SHIRT/JERSEY.

TEAM JERSEYS

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

All members of a team (athletes and coaches) must wear a jersey or T-shirt displaying their team name while on course at a TeamMTB event. This apparel does not need to match, as teams may have multiple designs worn at the same time.

- Teams may choose to include sponsor logos on their jerseys. Sponsor logos are permitted within the identified areas of the graphic shown below. (See right.)
- All logos and graphics should be appropriate to an audience of middle and high school-aged children.
- The team's official name, as registered with Georgia Cycling, must appear on the team jersey/t-shirt.



LEADER JERSEYS

Riders with the most individual points within a race category will be awarded a leader jersey. Riders in grades 6 and 7 will be awarded a leader jersey for Races 2-5. All other categories will be awarded a leader jersey for Races 2-4. A leader jersey is not awarded for wearing during the Peach State Championship

- Each points leader is expected to wear the jersey at all TeamMTB races, so long as they remain the top points holder.
- In the case of a tie, both riders wear the leader's jerseys.
- The overall winner of the series is not permitted to wear the leader's jersey during the first race of the next season.

PROHIBITED EQUIPMENT AND ITEMS

SINGLE-SPEED BIKES

Bikes must have multiple functional gears, including at least a five (5) cog cassette in the rear.

E-BIKES

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- E-bikes and any bike modified for pedal assistance are prohibited for student use in races, practices, and any Georgia Cycling event.
- Coaches and Georgia Cycling designated race officials can ride class 1 electric (pedal assist) bicycles during practices, pre-rides for racecourses, and while serving as a race course official.
- Coaches are required to review and follow all local trail guidelines about electric bicycles before using them on the trail.

MUSIC PLAYERS & HEADPHONES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders cannot race or ride with headphones, earbuds, speakers, and other portable musical devices.
- Riders cannot play music on their cell phones while riding.

CELL PHONE USAGE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders may not answer a cell phone or make cell phone calls while riding a bike.
- Riders must safely come to a complete stop, have both feet on the ground, and be clear of traffic flow to use their cell phones.
- The exception to using a cell phone while riding is a coach who utilizes hands-free capability for team management or safety purposes.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 4: RACING RULES AND EVENT CONDUCT

RACE REGISTRATION

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders must be registered for a TeamMTB race prior to the race registration deadline published by Georgia Cycling. There are no on-site registrations on event day.
- Registration is completed [online](#). Registrations are not conducted over the phone or in-person at an event.
- Penalties apply if riders competes in a TeamMTB race without being registered for that race.

ONLY REGISTERED RIDERS ON RACE COURSES

Only registered riders and coaches may ride a bike on a TeamMTB race course. Unregistered riders, including parents, siblings, and other spectators, are not permitted at any time. Georgia Cycling staff and volunteers may ride the course with signage or apparel that clearly designates them as representatives of the organization.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

The Georgia Cycling Peach State Championship is open to all 8th grade and high school student-athletes that start three of the four conference series races AND meet one of the requirements below:

- Be a Varsity Rider
- Be among the Top 50 JV1 riders within the student-athlete's conference (Top 50 from East and Top 50 from West)
- Be among the Top 50 JV2 riders within the student-athlete's conference (Top 50 from East and Top 50 from West)
- Be among the Top 50 Freshman riders within the student-athlete's conference (Top 50 from East and Top 50 from West)
- Be a Senior
- Be among the Top 50 8th-grade riders within the student-athlete's conference (Top 50 from East and Top 50 from West)

A list of students who have qualified for the Peach State Championship will be published on the Monday before the Championship.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION

During the 2026 season, students who choose to register for the full Race Series (all four conference races on a single transaction) will receive complimentary registration for the Peach State Championship. Once the list of qualified riders has been published, that complimentary registration will be automatic for students who qualify for the Peach State Championship.

Qualifying student-athletes who do not receive complimentary registration may register by following the directions announced when the list of qualifying riders is published.

STAGING AND RACE START

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Riders must adhere to the following guidelines when lining up at the start line for the start of a race:

- All riders must start with one foot on the ground; no track-stands.
- Holding onto the snow fence inside the starting zone is prohibited.
- Riders cannot pass other riders until they cross the starting line. The starting line is at the front of the start zone snow fence and is marked with bright orange paint.
- Riders must follow the posted staging times. If a rider is not in staging on time and misses their call-up, they will automatically be placed in the back of the field, with no exceptions.
- Riders must position themselves in designated start lanes without overlapping the wheels of the rider in front of them.
- Riders must enter the staging area at the designated entrance for their category. Riders cutting into the side or front of the group will be required to start in the last row.

If a coach assists a rider in cutting into the side or front of the group or if a rider in clear view of his or her coach is breaking the staging rules without intervention, a team point penalty of 200 points shall be applied to that rider's team.

PRE-RACE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pre-race announcements address critical information regarding rules and course-specific information. Riders must be present and attentive during pre-race announcements at race staging, race start line-up, and race start.

Riders who miss the pre-race announcements may be required to stay after the start to hear them. Riders who are disruptive and/or talk over the announcements may be relegated to the back of the group.

START LINE POSITION CALL-UPS

PRIOR TO RACE 1

At the beginning of the season, all teams will be randomly assigned a team staging number. The team staging number will remain the same for races 1-4 during the season. For example, if there are 64 total teams, then each team will be assigned a number between 1 and 64.

- The number will be sent via email to all Head Coaches and Team Directors prior to Race 1.
- At staging, each team will have a staging number sign for each team to stand behind in a single-file line.

START LINE CALL-UPS

Start line call-ups for all riders take place at all races. At the first race of the season, high school category call-ups will be based on the series points from the previous season, regardless of the category in which the points were earned. Middle school category call-ups are all done in order based on their team's randomly assigned number. At all subsequent races, the start line call-up is based on the rider's finishing place per race (also known as the ranking number; see below).

If a Rider is in the top 5 start position for Race 1 is not present, they will be sequenced in after the top 5 finishing Riders from Race 1 of the current season for Race 2. All other Riders not present outside of the top 5 Riders will sequence in at their Race 1 start position call up based on the previous season standings. This exemplifies fairness for those Riders attending Race 1 and recognizing the achievements for Riders from the previous season.

Example: Rider in the 1st start line position for Race 1 is not present, they will start in the 6th start line position for Race 2.

RANKING NUMBER

To determine a Rider's ranking number for a start line position call-up, we will take each finishing place that the rider has achieved within that season. We will add those numbers together and divide the sum by the total number of races completed. This will give us the rider's ranking number. We will drop the lowest finishing place after race 3. A missed race or DNF is considered the lowest score during calculation.

- Race 1: Determined by previous season point standing
- Race 2: Determined by Race 1 finish result
- Race 3: Determined by combining Race 1 and 2 results divided by the number of races finished
- Race 4: Determined by combining Race 1, 2, and 3 race results (Dropping the lowest score) and dividing by the number of races in the race series
- **Example: Race 1 = 5th place, Race 2= 5th place, Race 3= 6th place.**
5+5 = 10 divided by 3 = 3.3 the ranking number that will be used for Race 4 call-ups.
- Missed races resulting in a 0, will not be used within the formula to calculate ranking numbers.
- **Example: Race 1 = 4th place, Race 2 = (0) missed race.**
4+0 = 4 divided by 1 = 4.0 the ranking number that will be used for Race 3 start position

Riders with the same ranking number will be staged in alphabetical order, by last name.

If a high school rider does not attend the first race, we will take the call-up number and merge it into the call-ups for race 2 only. The rider must provide written notice to the Georgia Cycling Programs Director, mark@georgiacycling.org by 11:59 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to a race.

RACE 1: HIGH SCHOOL CATEGORIES

All series points from the previous year will be used for the call-up order in each high school category. Call-ups will be in order of total series points, regardless of the prior year's category. Riders who have petitioned to a different category will still be placed in order of his/her total points from last season. After point call-ups, riders will be called from their teams in the order that their team is in the staging area.

- The team coach should have riders form a single line with riders in call-up order, followed by rider without a call-up number from fastest to slowest. Our goal here is to minimize the number of passes by students, allowing for a safer athlete experience.
- Head Coaches should determine the “fastest to slowest” arrangement for riders without a call-up before entering the staging area.
- For Example: The Staging official calls “JV 2 Boys-Team 1, send your rider to Lane 1”. Team 1’s fastest rider should already be at the front of the team’s line when this announcement is made, and the rider should be prepared to proceed into Lane 1.

RACE 1: MIDDLE SCHOOL CATEGORIES

There are no call-ups for middle school categories at the first race. All racers will be called up in the order of the Team’s staging numbers.

- The team coach will have riders in a single file line from fastest to slowest for each category. (Our goal here is to minimize the number of passes by students, allowing for a safer athlete experience)
- Head Coaches should determine the “fastest to slowest” arrangement before entering the staging area
- For Example: The Staging official will call “8th Grade Boys-Team 1, send your rider to Lane 1”. Team 1’s fastest rider should already be at the front of the team’s line when this announcement is made, and the rider should be prepared to proceed into Lane 1.

RACES 2 – 4: 8th - VARSITY CATEGORIES

Races #2- #4 will include call-ups for each category, based on

- Rider ranking number
- New students who haven’t competed in a race will be arranged from fastest to slowest behind their team number, except for those who were assigned a staging place for Race #1 and could not attend.
- Call-ups will be published the week of each race. Please arrive at staging in order of your published call-ups.

RACES 2 – 5: 6th & 7TH GRADES

Races #2- #5 will include call-ups for each category, based on:

- Rider ranking # based on rider ranking #
- New students who haven’t competed in a race will be arranged from fastest to slowest behind their team number and will then be called up in order of their team number.
- Call-ups will be published the week of each race. Please arrive at staging in order of your published call-ups.

STAGING AREA RULES FOR ALL GRADES & ALL RACES

For all races, a published staging time is included on the wave time schedule. All participants (two team coaches and all racers) should be in the staging area, behind their designated team number, at the published staging time.

- Only riders participating in the wave should be in staging – no other student-athletes should be present in the staging area
- If a student athlete is not present when the staging official calls the student-athlete’s name or calls the team’s number, they will automatically be placed at the back of the field. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- All students should walk their bikes into the staging area.
- Only two coaches per team are permitted in staging with riders
- Spectators are not permitted to be in the staging area as their presence may impede an orderly call up of riders and potentially delay the start of a race.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP CALL-UPS

The call-ups for the State Championship will be based on the conference series points from highest to lowest after the final race for each conference. Riders with the same number of points will be staged alphabetically by last name.

HANDS ON BARS

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

All riders must race with their hands holding the bars within reach of the brake levers.

PASSING SLOWER RIDERS

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

When overtaking a rider on the racecourse, the passing rider should do so safely, respectfully, and without rider contact utilizing the 4 Step Process for Passing:

1. Approaching Rider - Announces loudly "Rider Back. Can I Pass?"
2. Lead Rider - Replies with either, "Yes. Pass left/right" or "No. Not safe."
3. Approaching Rider - Acknowledges "OK." If given the OK to pass, "Passing left/right."
4. Lead Rider - Holds line to allow the pass. Both riders say, "Thank you."

Passing in a manner that compromises the safety of other Riders will not be tolerated.

RIDERS BEING PASSED MUST YIELD

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders being passed must yield to Riders overtaking them.
- Riders being passed must move over as quickly, efficiently, and safely as possible while still progressing forward.

LEADER OWNS THE TRAIL BUT CANNOT BLOCK

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- If two Riders are vying for position, the leading Rider does not have to yield to the challenging Rider.
- However, a Rider may not bodily interfere with the intent to impede another Rider's progress.
- Traditional racing rules apply: the leading Rider "owns the trail."

BIKE PUSHERS MUST YIELD

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders riding bicycles have the right of way over Riders pushing bicycles.
- When practical, Riders pushing must stay on the least rideable portion of the trail when being passed.
- Riders pushing or carrying bicycles may overtake Riders riding their bicycles provided pushing Riders do not impede the progress of the riding racers.

CONTROLLED RIDING

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- All Riders must practice safe riding techniques and must always be in control of their bicycles.
- Riding out of control is not tolerated.
- Exhibiting an intentionally reckless attitude or assuming dangerous risks is not tolerated.

PARENTS, COACHES, AND SPECTATORS ARE PROHIBITED FROM RIDING AND PROVIDING SUPPORT ON THE RACECOURSE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A Team point infraction model

For safety and fairness to the participants, the following rules must be observed by all parents, coaches and all other people in attendance. During a race that is in progress:

- Only registered student Riders and Georgia Cycling designated race officials can ride on the course.
- No running or riding alongside the course or alongside a student while they are racing.
- No providing food or water outside of the Feed Zone.
- No outside mechanical support is provided on any portion of the race course.

A violation of this rule will result in an orange-level penalty against the team that the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee determines to be the intended beneficiary of such action.

PENALTY FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- High school riders must repair their own flat tires and mechanical problems and carry their own tools, tubes, etc.
- If outside assistance, parts, or tools are provided, a 5-minute penalty will be assessed.
- The rider must report such an occurrence of outside assistance before the end of the protest period that precedes the award ceremony. The report must be filed with a Scoring Official, Course Marshal, or other Race Official.
- If a student does not self-report, the penalty may be doubled.
- Although it is highly encouraged for 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade student-athletes to repair their own flat tires and mechanical problems and carry their own tools, etc., there will not be a penalty applied to reasonable outside mechanical assistance provided to riders in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade.
- Reasonable outside assistance is “a joint action between the rider and the person providing assistance” to fix the issue or assistance to address an apparent safety issue.
- No penalty will be assessed for any prescription medical item or device (e.g., inhalers, EpiPens, etc.) given to a rider along the course or in the feed zone for safety or verified medical reasons.

SWITCHING BIKES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

A rider will NOT be penalized during a situation that causes a rider to switch bikes once the race has started while between the start line and the designated “line of no return” on the racecourse. A rider must switch bikes at the designated neutral support zone. The rider must exit the race course and re-enter the course at the same location. In this situation, no penalty will be applied for exiting the course between the start line and the line of no return.

If a rider passes the “line of no return” on the race course, and then experiences a situation that causes the rider to switch bikes, the rider must continue forward movement on the race course and switch the bike only at the designated neutral support zone. Under this situation, the rider will incur a 5-minute penalty.

CUTTING THE COURSE NOT PERMITTED

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- In the event a rider goes off-course, whether intentionally, inadvertently, or to switch or repair a bike, he or she is not permitted to gain advantage from leaving the course and must make best efforts to re-enter the course at the same location he or she went off-course.
- If a rider re-enters the course at a different location, if the Rules Committee determines that an advantage was gained as a result, without considering the time taken for a bike switch or bike repair, a time penalty shall be assessed against the ride.
- Riders must not deviate from the edge of the trails (as defined either by ribbons or an obvious change in surface or foliage characteristics) by more than 3 feet.
- When the trail is clearly on one side of a pole, tree, or other obstacle, the rider must pass that feature on the trail side of the feature.
- A rider may not leave the marked course unless ordered or permitted by public authorities or a race official.
- In the case of mechanical problems, riders shall progress forward along the course to the finish line.
- In the case of medical emergencies, riders shall remain still and wait for a course marshal or medical help.

BIKE ACCOUNTABILITY ON RACECOURSE.

- Riders must not progress on the racecourse without a bike.
- If a bike becomes inoperable during a race, riders may safely progress along the course with their bike to the finish line.
- Riders must stay on the course and may not obstruct the progress of other riders.
- Riders who are progressing the course with a mechanical or any situation that impacts riding his or her bike, must be attentive and not create safety issues when other riders attempt to pass.

REPAIR BIKES OFF THE TRAIL

In the case of a broken bicycle, a dropped chain, or other mishap, riders must clear the way and may not block the trail.

RACECOURSE BLOCKED BY VEHICLE OR EMERGENCY

In the event a racecourse is blocked by a vehicle for an emergency, all riders should stop in a single file row without changing position.

- Only a race official can provide these instructions to Riders.
- Riders should remain in those positions until instructed to recommence racing.
- At the time the riders receive instructions by a race official to stop racing, they must follow instructions to start back up from the race official.

RIDERS MAY BE PULLED

- Race Officials may also, when appropriate, opt to pull a rider who appears to be overheated, hypothermic, overly exhausted, or in any way injured, overstressed, or at risk of injury.
- At a race official's discretion, a rider may be pulled from a race at any location on the course due to circumstances that make it unsafe for the rider to proceed.
- Riders that are pulled out of the race must not continue and will be given last place points based on the number of laps completed.
- Lapped riders and riders outside the race time limit may be pulled from the race at the finish line.
- If a rider is pulled due to time limit, they will receive the finishing position and points based on the place they are in when pulled from the race.

TIME LIMITS MAY BE IMPOSED

- Riders may be asked to withdraw at the finish line after time limits have been reached.
- Time limits are provided to the Head Coach of each team prior to the start of each race season.
- Race officials reserve the right to change these time limits at any time for safety concern.
- Time limits may be imposed for reasons that include, among others: safety, heat, cold, rain, muddy conditions, clearing the course, and relieving course marshals.
- Course closures may be announced at any time without advance notice.
- If a Rider makes the time cutoff but does not complete the final lap due to a mechanical, crash, or other reason, and is not pulled by a Race Official, it is considered a DNF.

RIDER SAFETY

- Coaches are trained by Georgia Cycling to protect the safety and well-being of the riders on their team at every Georgia Cycling event.
- A coach's responsibility for the riders on his or her team begins upon arrival of the rider at the race or event, and it ends at the conclusion of the event.
- The Head Coach, or acting head coach, must remain at the race or event venue until the last rider from his or her team has departed, except in the case of any Riders who are in the care of a parent or legal guardian.

RACE ATTENDANCE

A Head Coach or Team Director must attend each race. If the Head Coach or Team Director cannot attend a race, an interim Coach shall be appointed, and the Programs Director must be notified in advance.



AGILE

HARRISON
HIGH SCHOOL

CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 5: RACECOURSE

CROSS-COUNTRY RACE DEFINITION

A cross-country mountain bike race is a mass start competition held on a circuit course consisting of forest roads, forest or field trails, and unpaved dirt or gravel roads.

RACECOURSE

The racecourse components are the following, but not limited to:

- Infield area consists of the following defined areas: staging, timing, start line, race exit gate, weather, announcer, results and podium, neutral mechanical support, emergency medical and feed zone.
- Established marshaling points/checkpoints at various portions on the race course with Georgia Cycling race officials.
- Emergency medical ingress and egress routes.
- Race Director and Chief Referee on site.
- On site security detail.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

The ideal Georgia Cycling racecourse has a circuit short enough to require multiple laps for a race and includes terrain that can be completed by beginner riders. Each race category will be its own mass start and riders will stage and position in a five (5) row start line up. Each race category will be separated by a set time between each start.

The number of laps should be determined according to the riders' ability to complete the race within a specific time. The event times should be:

- 45 minutes or less for Middle School
- 45 to 90 minutes, Freshman and JV2
- 60 to 100 minutes, JV1
- 90 to 120 minutes, Varsity

The average distances and laps are subject to change at the discretion of Georgia Cycling.

- Average lap distance: 4.5 miles, Middle School and 5.5, High School.
- 1 lap, Middle School
- 2 laps, Freshmen Boys, JV2 Boys, Freshman Girls, JV2 Girls, JV1 Girls
- 3 laps, JV1 Boys, Varsity Girls
- 4 laps, Varsity Boys

Each race category will be its own mass start and Riders will stage and position in a five (5) row start line up.

COURSE SIGNAGE AND MARKINGS

The race course is marked where applicable to ensure all Riders understand the course route, provide situational awareness of critical areas such as technical/elevated risk obstacles, specific zones, such as the feed zones, course crossings, and course marshaling points. Georgia Cycling signs are posted along the course at least every mile to let the Riders know that they are on course.

START ZONE POINT OF NO RETURN BOUNDARY LINE

- The Start Zone Point of No Return Boundary Line is a designated line marked on the course that defines an area past the start line in which a rider can exit the course between this line and the start line to receive neutral support.
- Once a rider passes the Point of No Return Boundary Line, they must continue forward progress on the course and complete a full lap in order to receive neutral support.
- The Point of No Return Boundary Line is only active at the start of a race / first lap
- A rider must exit and enter at the same location within this area on the course after receiving neutral support assistance.

COURSE CROSSINGS

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

The race course is set up with designated course crossings at high traffic points for attendees to cross through the official race course safely and not endanger a rider on course. Course crossings are established at select areas of the race course in the vicinity of the infield. Race attendees must cross at designated points that are operated by Georgia Cycling crossing guards. The course crossing will be open when the race course is clear to cross and closed when Riders are present and re-opened when it is safe to cross. Attendees will adhere to all instructions from the course crossing guard and failure to follow instructions will result in an applicable penalty.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 6: RACE VENUE PRE-RIDE

PRE-RIDE OVERVIEW

A pre-ride is a regularly scheduled practice ride on the racecourse.

- All Riders must be accompanied by a registered Georgia Cycling coach when pre-riding.
- A pre-ride is not a race. Participants in pre-rides shall not ride at an aggressive race pace
- Riders will be given the opportunity to participate in a practice ride whenever possible.

PRE-RIDE RULES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Pre-rides on race weekends must be confined to the time designated by the Georgia Cycling.
- Pre-rides that are conducted prior to race day must comply with the rules and regulations regarding trail use at the race venue.
- Riders who violate the rules and restrictions regarding pre-riding will be subject to penalties, which may also impact such rider's team.
- Pre-ride times are published on race event pages on the TeamMTB website.
- Pre-ride pace at which riders are conducting the pre-ride will be a controlled and lower intensity pace. The lap pace will not be performed at a race day level pace. A wide range of rider experience levels will be on the course simultaneously and a high intensity pace by more experienced Riders increases risk of injury to either rider.

PRE-RIDE REQUIREMENTS

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Riders must pre-ride with at least one Georgia Cycling registered coach.

- There is no guarantee that a course will be fully marked or that course signage will be fully set up for the pre-ride.
- Riders understand that courses may not be fully marked and that if they pre-ride the course, they do so at their own risk.
- The same coach to student ratios that are required in practices apply to all pre-rides; 6:1 or 8:2
- Riders should be familiar with the course by reviewing a map, if one is available.

RIDING THE COURSE BACKWARD IS PROHIBITED

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Pre-riders must ride in the designated direction of the race during the pre-ride — no backtracking is allowed. If riders and coaches must backtrack, they must walk with their bikes and yield to other Riders.

MODIFYING THE COURSE IS PROHIBITED

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Intentionally adding obstacles or removing obstacles deemed by officials to be part of the racecourse is prohibited. Riders are required to report all extraordinary hazards to a Course Marshal or other race official.

RACE PLATES ARE MANDATORY

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Riders and coaches must always have race plates properly and securely affixed to their bicycles when they are on the course.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 7: PIT ZONE & FEED ZONE

DESIGNATED PIT ZONE AREAS

- Teams are randomly assigned predetermined areas in the race Pit Zone.
- All team equipment and trailers must be set up within the assigned areas.
- Teams may not erect tents, tables, bike stands, or mechanical stations outside of their areas in the Pit Zone.
- Team tents must be staked down and secured at all times in the Pit Zone.

RIDING BIKES IN THE PIT ZONE IS PROHIBITED

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- All riders must walk their bikes in crowded areas and designated “NO RIDING ZONES” such as the Pit Zone or spectator areas.
- Having one foot on the pedal and using the other foot to push off and glide on a bike is not permitted.
- Riders who demonstrate reckless behavior or create a risk of harm to other riders or spectators will be penalized.

ELECTRIC / MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN THE PIT ZONE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Electric vehicles such as one-wheels, scooters, skateboards, or other similar vehicles are not authorized for use in the pit-zone.
- Only Georgia Cycling support vehicles that aid in event operations are authorized for use in and around the pit zone and event operating grounds.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL VEHICLES

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Only Georgia Cycling support vehicles that aid in event operations are authorized for use in and around the pit zone and event operating grounds.
- Attendees in the vicinity of the race course, infield, and pit zone shall move to provide a clear pathway for the ingress and egress of emergency medical vehicles. Failure to comply may result in injury or delay of response to a medical situation.
- Emergency access routes are considered off limits zones to attendees. Failure to comply may result in injury or delay of response to a medical situation.

BIKE PARKING

Coaches and riders must park their bikes out of the through ways to avoid obstructing cars, pedestrians, and other riders.

AUTOS IN THE PIT ZONE

There are no vehicles permitted in the Pit Zone except during announced load in/load out times. The race will not be allowed to start if the vehicles are not removed. Entry into the Pit Zone requires a Pit-Zone pass for the corresponding race event.

GENERATORS, GRILLS, HEATERS, AND FIRE PITS IN TEAM PIT ZONE

- Commercial or high decibel output generators are not permitted for use in individual team pit zone areas as they create a noise disturbance to other adjacent teams. Generators advertised or marketed as “quiet generators” are acceptable. If fumes from generators impede an adjacent team, Georgia Cycling staff will require teams to reposition or turn the generator off.
- Grills are acceptable for use in individual team pit zones. Due to fire and personal injury hazards, all grills must not be left unattended. Position grills in an acceptable location away from objects which could ignite or melt due to flames or heat. All users must be courteous to adjacent teams on the placement of the grill apparatus. • If smoke from grills impede an adjacent team, Georgia Cycling staff will require the team to reposition or turn the grill off.

- Fire pits and heaters are acceptable for use in individual team pit zones. Fire pits and heaters must be clear of objects that could ignite or melt due to flames or heat. Gas fire pits are preferred for use as open flame wood fire pits increase the risk of fire and smoke. Certain venues may not permit the use of open flame wood fire pits. Weather wind advisories or environment conditions may limit or not permit the use of a fire pit. • If fumes or smoke from fire pits and heaters impede an adjacent team, Georgia Cycling staff will require the team to reposition or extinguish the fire pit or heater.

FEED ZONE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

LIMITED FEEDERS PER TEAM

Each team is allowed a limited number of feeders in the Feed Zone as indicated below. The number is based on the number of riders that are competing in the current wave. Failure to comply with team limits will result in a team point penalty.

# Riders	# Feeders
5 or less	2
6-10	3
11-20	4
21 or more	5

Coaches, parents, or other volunteers may only hand rider's food and drinks in the Feed Zone, while riders are in progress. Riders will be penalized for accepting food or drink outside of the Feed Zone boundaries. All bottles and food wrappers must be discarded in the Feed Zone. Failure to do so will result in a penalty

VISIBLE TEAM IDENTITY IN THE FEED ZONE

Feeders must wear a shirt, jacket, hat, vest, jersey, or adhesive name tag that identifies the team of the riders they are feeding.

FEED ON RIGHT HAND SIDE

- Feeding riders traditionally happens on the right side of the course. This allows those riders not wanting a stop to pass through the Feed Zone unimpeded.
- Some races may be forced to have a left-hand feed, due to venue limitations.
- Feeders must adhere to the feed zone boundaries and designated hand off limit lines.
- After feeding a rider, the feeder must move clear of the Feeding Zone to allow plenty of room for other feeders.
- Feeding one rider must not cause other riders to slow down or veer off course.

NUTRITION, DRINK AND COLD WEATHER CLOTHING ONLY HAND OFFS

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- Riders can receive food, drink, and in the event of cold or inclement weather, clothing in the Feed Zone only.
- Riders may not accept items (such as tools, gear, or parts) within the Feed Zone boundaries during races.
- Violation of this restriction constitutes outside assistance, and outside assistance penalties of 5 minutes per violation shall apply.
- Only cycling specific water bottles are authorized for drink hand offs and dump bottle hand offs (NO EXCEPTIONS)

NO PHYSICAL CONTACT

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- All hand-offs must be conducted hand-to-hand only — from the hand of the feeder to the hand of the rider.
- No other physical contact between riders and feeders is allowed. Such other contact will be considered outside assistance and a penalty will apply.
- It is not permitted for a feeder to place water bottles onto the bike or hydration packs onto riders nor may items be put into the rider's mouth or a rider's pockets (whether on the rider's jersey or otherwise).
- Riders who require assistance to move off course by a coach due to a medical condition / emergency will not be subject to the No Physical Contact penalty.

NO RUNNING IN THE FEED ZONE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

- The feeder must stand (feet in stationary position) when conducting a hand off to a Rider.
- Running in the Feed Zone is not permitted under any circumstances. Running increases the risk of collisions and interference with Riders and other feeders.

NO THROWING WATER ON RIDERS IN FEED ZONE

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES - Appendix A

Throwing water on Riders in the feed zone or the area immediately preceding the Feed Zone is not authorized as it could obstruct the Riders field of view or contribute to losing control of the bike and cause injury to other Riders in the feed zone.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 8: CATEGORY PLACEMENT

Category placement and division rules are designed to facilitate and promote fair, safe, and challenging competition. Placement of riders is based primarily on their race results, end-of-season rankings from the preceding year and grade during the race season. Riders do not choose their category but are placed into categories according to the rules below. Riders seeking an alternative placement may petition the Programs Director.

CATEGORIES

There are multiple divisions with the same grade level categories. TeamMTB categories are as follows:

- **Boys Categories:** 6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade, Freshman, Junior Varsity 2, Junior Varsity 1, Varsity
- **Girls Categories:** 6th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade, Freshman, Junior Varsity 2, Junior Varsity 1, Varsity

RACING IN THE WRONG CATEGORY

Riders are responsible for knowing, understanding, and following the category placement rules and the placement criteria. Any questions should be directed to the Rules Committee.

CATEGORY PLACEMENT RULES

- Categories are based on grade and ability level. A Rider’s prior performance may factor into placement. Individual race results and a Rider’s end-of-season overall standings dictate placement from season to season.
- To calculate the finishing percentile, for each separate race the finishing place is divided by the total number of Riders including DNFs, and the quotient is then multiplied by 100. Do not round off the percentile up or down.
- Riders should discuss their racing categories with their coaches well in advance of the racing season to determine if submitting a petition might be appropriate.
- Riders who did not compete in the prior year and have no results are placed into the category that corresponds to their grade level, except 10th, 11th, and 12th graders with no prior results are placed into Junior Varsity (JV2).
- Petitions for exceptions to the category placement criteria are limited for each grade level to certain categories.

TEAMMTB PLACEMENT CRITERIA:

6th Grade	6th graders only
7th Grade	7th graders only
8th Grade	8th graders only
Freshman	9th graders and petitioned 8th graders
Junior Varsity 2	10th -12th graders
Junior Varsity 1	9th and previous season petitioned 8th graders graders who meet one of the following criteria: • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in a single Freshman race in the prior year AND placed in the top percentile (25% for boys; 35% for girls) for the overall standings in the prior year • Raced JV1 in the prior year but did not qualify for Varsity.
	10th graders who meet one of the following criteria: • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in a single Freshman race in the prior year AND placed in the top percentile (25% for boys; 35% for girls) for the overall standings in the prior year. • Raced JV1 in the prior year but did not qualify for Varsity.
	11th graders who meet one of the following criteria: • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in any two JV2 races in the prior year. • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in a single JV2 race in the prior year AND placed in the top percentile (25% for boys; 35% for girls) for the overall season standings in the prior year. • Raced JV1 in the prior year but did not qualify for Varsity.
	12th graders who meet one of the following criteria: • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in any two JV2 races in the prior year. • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in a single JV2 race in the prior year AND placed in the top percentile (25% for boys; 35% for girls) for the overall season standings in the prior year. • Raced JV1 in the prior year but did not qualify for Varsity.
Varsity	10th – 12th graders and those who meet one of the following criteria: • Placed in the top 25% for boys or top 35% for girls in any two JV1 races in the prior year. • Placed in the top 15% for boys or top 30% for girls in a single JV1 race in the prior year AND placed in the top percentile (15% for boys; 30% for girls) for the overall season standings in the prior year. • Raced Varsity the prior year

It is Georgia Cycling's policy that riders compete in appropriate competitive peer groups and to prevent strategic gamesmanship in category placement. Petitions for an upgrade in categories should, therefore, only be granted upon a showing that:

1. The rider's performance and experience level clearly exceed the level of all other riders competing in the category designated under Chapter 9 Placement Criteria — i.e., no other Rider in the same category has a reasonable chance of being competitive with the rider seeking the upgrade.
2. The upgrade will place the Rider into a more appropriate competitive peer group.

Riders can petition down under certain circumstances.

Successful petitions are subject to revocation at any time at the Rules Committee's discretion, in which event the rider shall be placed in the appropriate category according to the Placement Criteria. Individual and team penalties may be assessed at the Rules Committee's discretion for any change in categories for a rider that is subsequently revoked on grounds that the change was contrary to Georgia Cycling's policies.

CATEGORY PLACEMENT FOR HOMESCHOOLED STUDENTS

Based on the rider's age, a homeschooled rider shall be placed in categories corresponding to the grade level they would otherwise be enrolled in for public middle or high school. The Georgia Cycling Rules Committee must consider such age-based placement if homeschooled riders seek alternative placement under the Category Placement Rules.

PETITIONING FOR A PLACEMENT CRITERIA EXCEPTION

In general, exceptions to the Placement Criteria are discouraged and should be granted only under extraordinary circumstances.

- Middle School – Only 8th graders can petition to race in the Freshman category only.
- All 9th graders will auto set to the Freshman category and must petition otherwise.
- 9th graders may petition to race JV 1.
- 10th – 12th graders may petition to race JV 2, JV 1 or Varsity.

Parents may not directly submit a petition. Petitioning for a placement criteria exception may only be requested by a Head Coach or Team Director (see section below titled "Process for Submitting a Petition for Considerations").

PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING A PETITION FOR CONSIDERATION

In general, exceptions to the Placement Criteria are discouraged and should be granted only under extraordinary circumstances. Petitions for an exception to the Placement Criteria may be completed online by a team's Head Coach or Team Director.

- The petition must be completed online [here](#).
- The petition requires a combination of a coach's professional observations and data points derived from an athlete's performance. Please be prepared with concrete examples to justify moving an athlete to a different category.
- Petitions must be submitted with sufficient time for consideration. Last minute petitions cannot be rushed.
- Until a decision is rendered on a petition an athlete must compete in the category determined by the Placement Criteria
- The deadline for the final petition for the 2026 season is Tuesday, September 8 at 1 p.m.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 9: SCORING

INDIVIDUAL RACE SCORING

For all races, Georgia Cycling is responsible for providing the rider's finishing place. A rider's finishing time will also be provided when possible but is not required.

- Riders compete against other riders in the same category.
- Individual race scoring is not divided into Divisions I and II.

INDIVIDUAL SERIES SCORING (6th & 7th GRADES)

- Overall series scoring for individuals is based on the best 4 races out of all 5 conference races.
- The lowest score is dropped. A missed race would be the lowest score dropped.
- In case of a race cancellation in the five-race conference series, the lowest score is still dropped. Series scoring will then be based on the best 3 races out of 4 conference races.

INDIVIDUAL SERIES SCORING (8th - VARSITY)

- Overall series scoring for individuals is based on the best 3 races out of all 4 conference races.
- The lowest score is dropped. A missed race would be the lowest score dropped.
- In case of a race cancellation in the four-race conference series, the lowest score is not dropped.

TIE-BREAKER FOR INDIVIDUAL SERIES SCORING

In the event of a tie in individual series scoring at the conclusion of the conference series, the tie shall be resolved with the following protocol:

1. Considering the rider's highest finishing position in a single race during the series
2. If a tie still exists, the next determining factor will be the rider's second highest finish, followed by their third highest finish.
3. Should the tie persist, the rider with the fastest single race finishing time will be declared the winner..

Example: Rider #1 and #2 end the overall series with the same total points after the conference series. We would proceed with the following steps until we break the tie.

Step 1: Highest Finishing Position

Rider #1's Individual Finishes: Race 1: 2nd place / Race 2: 1st place / Race 3: 3rd place / Race 4: 5th place
Rider #1's Highest Finishing Position = 1st place

Rider #2's Individual Finishes: Race 1: 3rd place / Race 2: 2nd place / Race 3: 1st place / Race 4: 4th place
Rider #2's Highest Finishing Position = 1st place

Since both riders have the same best finish of 1st place, we move to the next step.

Step 2: Second Highest Finishing Position

Rider #1's Second Highest Finishing Position = 2nd place
Rider #2's Second Highest Finishing Position = 2nd place

Since both riders have the same second highest finishing position, we move to Step 3.

Step 3: Third Highest Finishing Position

Rider #1's Third Highest Finishing Position = 3rd place
Rider #2's Third Highest Finishing Position = 3rd place

Since both riders have the same second highest finishing position, we move to last and final step.

Step 4: Overall Finishing Times

To break the tie, we look at the individual times in each race:

Rider #1's Individual Finishes: Race 1 = 30 min. / Race 2 = 28 min. / Race 3 = 33 min. / Race 4 = 36 min,
Rider #1's Fastest Time = 28 minutes

Rider #2's Individual Finishes: Race 1 = 31 min. / Race 2 = 29 min. / Race 3 = 27 min. / Race 4 = 34 min,
Rider #2's Fastest Time = 27 minutes

Since Rider #2 has the fastest finishing time out of all of the finishing times, Rider #2 would be declared the winner.

This tie-breaking process ensures that a clear and fair winner is determined based on consistent performance throughout the series.

TEAM SCORING

- Division I and II scoring is based on the top four point-earners, with a maximum of three of those point-earners scoring in either the boys' or girls' categories.
- The team's score is the highest score possible out of the following boy-girl combinations: BBBG, BBGG, BGGG
- A team's overall placement is based on team point totals for the entire four-race conference series; the lowest score is not dropped for team scoring purposes.

POINT SYSTEM

- Points are awarded to all finishers; See Appendix B on Page 47 for Individual Point Scale.
- Riders that do not finish (DNF) a race will not be awarded any points for that race.
- In the event of a successful petition to change categories, individual points earned in one category do not transfer to another category.
- All points earned in the lower category are forfeited and the upgraded Rider loses standing in the lower category.
- A Rider's points scored toward team standings prior to the change in categories remain unaffected.
- Riders who successfully petition to be placed in a lower category are, by default, ineligible to score team points in that lower category for the duration of the season.
- A Rider who petitions to change to a lower category may state extenuating circumstances in the petition to be allowed to score points in the lower category.

POST-RACE MEDAL CEREMONY

- Individual medals are awarded five places deep for each category at each race, including the State Championships.
- Team trophies are awarded at least three places deep in each division at each race, including the State Championships.
- Riders are not permitted to bring to the podium during the awards ceremony any sponsorship, advertising, or product placement items including, without limitation, their bicycles.

AWARDS FOR OVERALL SERIES

- Individual overall series medals are awarded five places deep in all categories for the conference series.
- Team overall series trophies are awarded three places deep in each division for the conference series.
- Riders are not permitted to bring to the podium during the awards ceremony any sponsorship, advertising, or product placement items including, without limitation, their bicycles.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 10: EVENT WEATHER GUIDELINES

The Georgia Cycling Association has laid out detailed guidelines for how the league will conduct races in challenging weather. Our primary consideration is always the safety of our riders, race support staff, and race visitors. We must also consider any potential damage to the race venue, including the trails and infield.

Our Weather Committee is headed by long-time National Weather Service (NWS) Meteorologist Kent McMullen and six Core Staff members. In the days leading up to a race, this committee is in constant communication. The team will look at any potential weather threats that could impact a race weekend, develop any emergency plans, and send out safety information based on the type of impending weather.

The weather committee and the land manager will jointly decide whether to cancel, postpone, or alter race start times, lap lengths, number of laps, etc. Due to severe weather's unpredictable and rapidly changing nature, this decision often can't be made until the morning of the race.

WEATHER'S IMPACT ON COMPETITION

- Races are held on their scheduled dates unless the racecourse on the day of the race is deemed unrideable and/or dangerous. Georgia Cycling can alter the start of a race from its published times if the weather has created unsafe conditions.
- Courses and/or lap lengths may be altered or shortened due to weather conditions. If any changes are known at the pre-race coach meeting, they will be announced. Last-minute changes will be broadcast to riders at the start of each wave via the race announcer. If conditions require a change in the number of laps during a race, a person will be stationed at the lap line advising riders of the change.

RE-STARTING A RACE STOPPED BY WEATHER

If the race has been stopped (and the course cleared) due to lightning or another emergency, the race may be restarted or declared over depending on the schedule and number of laps completed prior to the stoppage. If time permits, racers will be able to resume laps beginning from the lap line.

RACE REGISTRATION FEES

- If a race venue is moved or a race is rescheduled, race registration fees will automatically be applied to the moved or rescheduled race.
- If a race is canceled due to weather conditions, fees will not be refunded.

RACE POINTS – IF A RACE IS CANCELED: Unable to be moved or rescheduled

- No team points will be awarded, and the race will not be included in the season's overall team point standings.
- No individual points will be awarded, and the race will not be included in the season's overall individual point standings. .

RACE POINTS – IF A RACE IS PARTIALLY COMPLETED: Some complete their races while others do not

- No team points will be awarded, and the race will not be included in the season's overall team point standings.
- Individual points will be awarded in all the fields that completed their race and those fields will proceed through the season as normal.
- No individual points will be awarded in the fields where races were not completed, and the race will not be included in the season's overall individual point standings.



CHAPTER

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 11: RACE OFFICIALS & PROTESTS

APPROVED GEORGIA CYCLING OFFICIALS

The general conduct, safety, scoring, and enforcement of rules is managed at races by the following officials:

- Chief Referee
- Start/Finish Line Official
- Chief Scoring Official
- Number Plate Spotters
- Number Plate Recorder
- Chief Course Marshal
- Course Marshals - both roving and stationary
- Course Sweeper
- Rules and Appeals Committee Members

GEORGIA CYCLING RULES COMMITTEE

- The Georgia Cycling Rules Committee is responsible for the interpretation of the rulebook and the resolution of any disputes regarding the application and enforcement of the rules.
- Riders may appeal any rule decision or penalty assessed by an official to the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee.

ON-SITE PROTESTS

- All protests must be filed by the Head Coach or Team director. Protest forms must be filed prior to the protest period expiring at the registration tent.
- Parents are not to be involved with protests. The Georgia Cycling Rules Committee will communicate with the Rider and coach. In the event a member of the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee needs to speak with a parent, they will contact them directly.
- The Chief Referee will handle any protests arising at the event.
- The Chief Referee may call a meeting of all available Rules Committee members at an event to rule on any protests.
- If no members are available, the Chief Referee may defer a protest ruling until after the event.
- Such a deferred meeting must occur within five days after the race.
- If a meeting cannot be convened within five days, the Chief Referee shall act in its place to render a timely decision.

PROTESTS OF PRELIMINARY AND OFFICIAL RESULTS

- Preliminary results. Preliminary race results and penalty assessments are posted at the race venue, at or near the scoring tent, as soon as possible after each event. The posting time shall be stated on the results and penalties sheets.
- Protest period deadline on race day. Protests to the preliminary results and opposition to penalties must be submitted, using the forms provided, to a race official at the registration tent within 15 minutes of the posting time.
- Official results. After the timely protests and opposition to penalties are considered, ruled upon, and approved by the Chief Referee, the results on race day shall be official and posted at the scoring tent. Unless otherwise stated in a decision or ruling, such decisions and rulings made on race day regarding protests and penalties are conclusive. Medals will be awarded based on the official results on race day.
- Deferred rulings. At the discretion of the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee or Chief Referee, the decision and ruling on a protest or opposition to a penalty may be deferred until after race day. If such a deferred decision affects the podium results for an event, medals will not be awarded. The medals awarded on race day are final.

JUDGMENT CALLS

- Georgia Cycling Rules Committee officials must decide and rule upon protests despite often having little direct, firsthand information available regarding the underlying incident. This is inherent to the sport of mountain biking because most of the racing takes place on the racecourse out of the sight of race officials. Nevertheless, every effort is made to reach the fairest and most informed decisions possible under the circumstances for every protest that is submitted.
- Riders and their families and coaches are expected to understand these limitations and the challenges

inherent to resolving disputes of this nature, and the difficult decisions Georgia Cycling Rules Committee officials are required to make.

- It is further expected of students, family members, and coaches that they must be willing to accept what they may consider to be an unfair result. Unfair results are part of every sport no matter the efforts to avoid them and accepting them when they go the other way is considered a sign of good sportsmanship.
- All Riders, their families, spectators, and the coaches must show respect to race officials and refrain from publicly questioning their decisions at the race or event venue and from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful, or abusive manner.
- All Riders, their families and the coaches should strive to demonstrate appropriate gestures of good sportsmanship at the conclusion of a race or other event, win or lose. Nobody should interact in a negative fashion with race officials, spectators, Riders, the Riders' families, or coaches of the opposing team.
- All Riders, their families, spectators, and coaches should strive to realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its cycling ability, but also on the good sportsmanship, courtesy, and citizenship of the Riders and everyone involved with the team.



APPENDIX

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

APPENDIX A : PENALTY STRUCTURE

Georgia Cycling has the discretion to impose disciplinary action against any rider, their family members, and other event attendees for failing to comply with the standards outlined in this rulebook. If such disciplinary action leads to a suspension, the suspension period may extend until the sanctioned rider, their family member, or other event attendee is no longer eligible to participate in a Georgia Cycling event.

Disciplinary action is at the discretion of Georgia Cycling and will be administered by the Rules Committee. All decisions will be documented in writing, outlining the basis for such decisions. Potential disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to, the following in any order or combination:

- Verbal warning issued by Georgia Cycling, organization, or school official.
- Written warning issued by Georgia Cycling, organization, or school official.
- Suspension or immediate ejection from a Georgia Cycling event.
- Suspension from multiple Georgia Cycling events.
- Season suspension or multiple season suspension.
- Permanent prohibition from participation in Georgia Cycling events.

Failing to comply with the rules and regulations outlined in this rulebook may lead to consequences at one or more of the following levels: Yellow, Orange, and Red. (Refer to the chart below for a complete explanation.)

- Consequences may also be applied in other situations not expressly listed in this rulebook at the Georgia Cycling official's discretion.
- Chief Referees and the Georgia Cycling Rules Committee are responsible for enforcing consequences and may also impose sanctions and other penalties that are not specified in the rulebook but are deemed appropriate, at the discretion of the Chief Referees and Georgia Cycling Rules Committee, as applicable.
- Repeated infractions at a lesser consequence level may cumulate into consequences applied at a higher level (e.g., three orange-level infractions during a race or event may result in red-level consequences).
- These rules and guidelines are formatted with the applicable consequence level immediately following the rule or guideline.

YELLOW LEVEL CONSEQUENCES

First Offense: Warning

Subsequent Offense(s): 5 minute penalty

ORANGE LEVEL CONSEQUENCES

First Offense: 5-minute penalty or 25-point team penalty as applicable

Second Offense: 10-minute penalty or 50-point team penalty as applicable

Third Offense: Disqualification from race or 100-point team penalty as applicable

RED LEVEL CONSEQUENCES

First Offense: Disqualification from the race or event in which the infraction occurs, or the next race if the infraction occurs between races

Second Offense: Ejection from Georgia Cycling Association and disqualification from future participation in any Georgia Cycling sanctioned events



APPENDIX

TEAM MTB
GEORGIA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

APPENDIX B: INDIVIDUAL POINT SCALE

Place	Varsity	JV1	All Others
1	575	555	525
2	565	545	515
3	556	536	506
4	547	527	497
5	539	519	489
6	531	511	481
7	523	503	473
8	516	496	466
9	509	489	459
10	502	482	452
11	495	475	445
12	489	469	439
13	483	463	433
14	477	457	427
15	471	451	421
16	465	445	415
17	460	440	410
18	455	435	405
19	450	430	400
20	445	425	395
21	440	420	390
22	435	415	385
23	431	411	381
24	427	407	377
25	423	403	373
26	419	399	369
27	415	395	365
28	411	391	361
29	407	387	357
30	404	384	354

Place	Varsity	JV1	All Others
31	401	381	351
32	398	378	348
33	395	375	345
34	392	372	342
35	389	369	339
36	386	366	336
37	383	363	333
38	381	361	331
39	379	359	329
40	377	357	327
41	375	355	325
42	373	353	323
43	371	351	321
44	369	349	319
45	367	347	317
46	365	345	315
47	364	344	314
48	363	343	313
49	362	342	312
50	361	341	311
51	360	340	310
52	359	339	309
53	358	338	308
54	357	337	307
55	356	336	306
56	355	335	305
57	354	334	304
58	353	333	303
59	352	332	302
60	351	331	301

APPENDIX B: INDIVIDUAL POINT SCALE

Place	Varsity	JV1	All Others
61	350	330	300
62	349	329	299
63	348	328	298
64	347	327	297
65	346	326	296
66	345	325	295
67	344	324	294
68	343	323	293
69	342	322	292
70	341	321	291
71	340	320	290
72	339	319	289
73	338	318	288
74	337	317	287
75	336	316	286
76	335	315	285
77	334	314	284
78	333	313	283
79	332	312	282
80	331	311	281
81	330	310	280
82	329	309	279
83	328	308	278
84	327	307	277
85	326	306	276
86	325	305	275
87	324	304	274
88	323	303	273
89	322	302	272
90	321	301	271

Place	Varsity	JV1	All Others
91	320	300	270
92	319	299	269
93	318	298	268
94	317	297	267
95	316	296	266
96	315	295	265
97	314	294	264
98	313	293	263
99	312	292	262
100	311	291	261
101	310	290	260
102	309	289	259
103	308	288	258
104	307	287	257
105	306	286	256
106	305	285	255
107	304	284	254
108	303	283	253
109	302	282	252
110	301	281	251
111	300	280	250
112	299	279	249
113	298	278	248
114	297	277	247
115	296	276	246
116	295	275	245
117	294	274	244
118	293	273	243
119	292	272	242
120	291	271	241