

WORCA

Special Events Trail Policy: Building Sustainable Events for Sustainable Trail Use

The goal of this policy document is to provide a framework for creating positive working relationships with event organizers. It is based around the principle of sustainably managing WORCA-maintained trails for all stakeholders over the long term, while continuing to support the use of our trails for Special Events.

Course selection

Course selection for all race courses using WORCA-maintained trails will be steered by the WORCA Trails Committee, WORCA Trails and Planning Administrator, and Lead WORCA Trail Builder for approval by the WORCA BOD. WORCA representatives will engage with other stakeholders through the process in order to sustainably manage Whistler's trail network. As a result, a lengthy timeline leading up to the approval of trails for race use should be expected.

- 1) Cross-country race courses will be appraised based on their suitability for the intended skill level of the racers, condition of the trails to be used, and ability of the trail to withstand the volume/riding ability of the user group. Organizers are to present their suggested course to the Trails Committee and BOD, via the appointed *Special Events Liaison*, before submitting their permit requests to the RMOW.
- 2) Enduro events with more than 300 participants, that require multiple laps of the same trail (for practice and racing) and an intensive against-the-clock style of riding, will only be permitted to hold one event stage on WORCA-maintained trails. The number of stages allowed for enduro events with less than 300 participants will be assessed based on the exact details of that individual event.
 - a) Organizers may request a course for the following year by presenting a complete application via the *Special Events Liaison* to the WORCA BOD and Trails Committee. This will occur no later than February of the same year the race is to be held.
 - b) If the requested trail usage does not meet the Goals as laid out by the Special Events Policy, the WORCA Trails Committee will nominate three potential stages that can be used for the event. The shortlisted stages will be presented to event organizers by the *Special Events Liaison*.
 - c) Event organizers may then select one stage from this shortlist to be used for racing in the event and will communicate their selection to the WORCA Trails Committee via the *Special Events Liaison*. Race course selection will be kept confidential at all times.

- 3) Downhill races will not be permitted on WORCA-maintained trails.

As it pertains to all racing types, **WORCA retains the right to amend all race courses and/or cancel a race if conditions or unforeseen circumstances arise.**

Races are not to be scheduled before May 1st, or after September 30th in any year due to the likelihood of weather and conditions that could cause undue harm to the trails.

Race Participant Code of Conduct

WORCA expects event organizers to go above and beyond to educate race participants about respecting the trails and the importance of sustainable racer conduct required by WORCA. Behavior that is considered disrespectful, dangerous, or damaging could jeopardize the event's access to WORCA-maintained trails.

Compensation for Trail Use

Event organizers will be expected to provide compensation to WORCA for the use of WORCA-maintained trails using the following standards:

- 1) All funds intended for compensation for WORCA-maintained trail use will be directly donated to WORCA. No third-party intermediaries.
- 2) A compensation amount will be agreed upon before the event so that WORCA can plan and designate labor towards preparation and remediation work.
- 3) A minimum of \$5 per racer, per lap, per stage will be required for each event. It is estimated that two practice laps and one race lap will be completed by each participant such that each registered racer will require a total \$15 contribution per stage by the event organizer (e.g. a race event of 400 participants would cost the organizer \$6,000 per stage at 3 laps x 400 racers x \$5 per lap).

Course Marshal

WORCA advises that event organizers appoint a *Course Marshal*, whose role will be to oversee the taping of the course and to monitor trail/course conditions leading up to an event.

In the case of enduro races, a member of the WORCA Trail Crew will be appointed to assist with the setup and teardown of the race course (i.e. taping) at a rate of \$300 per day for a minimum of 3 days (minimum two days pre-race and one day post-race). The cost of this appointment is to be covered by the event organizer and the amount paid will be in addition to the compensation for trail use.

While on-the-spot maintenance during race/event period is permitted (indeed expected) the scope of work must fall within the three principles of: maintaining pre-race character of trail, ensuring lasting damage is mitigated, and work is of a quality in accordance with Whistler Trail Standards.

Remediation

The WORCA BOD/Staff reserve the right to cost/assign work on the preparation and repairs of existing trails and the construction of new trails, from funds generated through the compensation amounts detailed within this Policy.

Special Events Liaison

The WORCA Trails and Planning Administrator will act as the “*Special Events Liaison*” and will liaise between the WORCA BOD, WORCA Trails Committee and all special event organizers wishing to conduct a race on WORCA-maintained trails. They will be expected to represent the interests of the BOD and Trails Committee group to special event organizers and to report back on any meetings/discussions between both parties before making any decisions on behalf of WORCA. The responsibilities of this role will include:

- Informing organizers of suggested trails for the event;
- Informing the WORCA BOD and Trails Committee group about the trails that event organizers intend to use;
- Reporting on race trail status; and,
- Communicating any changing circumstances.