Whoop whoop the Scottish Schools' MTB Championships are very nearly here. I hope you are as excited as we are. Next Tuesday is all about the young MTB community, racing together, sharing the stoke and most of all having fun on bikes. The forecast is looking dry, and the event team has been working really hard to make sure you have an excellent race day.

Please read this email carefully, it contains everything you need to know about the event, where you need to be at what time, with what & who. It will also give details about food on site and anything else you might need to know!

1. TRAVEL

The Croft is situated just off the A85 between Crieff and Comrie, roughly an hour's drive North from Glasgow or Edinburgh. PH7 4JZ for sat nav, google dropped pin: https://maps.app.goo.gl/T1EVTX8yYj7KVcsi8

If you are travelling by coach please drop participants at Comrie Croft then coaches are to park in the bus parking Comrie (1 mile) or Crieff (4 miles).

2. ONSITE

The following facilities are onsite:

- **Gorse Café:** open from 08:30 - 16:00, with breakfast rolls served 08:30 - 14:30. Coffees, soft drinks, sausage rolls, soups and grab and go snacks available all day!
- **The Farmshop:** open from 09:00 - 17:00 selling fresh pastries; takeaway hot drinks; sweet & savoury snacks; organic fruit & veg; and gifts.
- **Comrie Croft Bikes:** open from 09:00 - 17:00 selling everything a small bike shop should. There will be mechanics onsite for any last minute repairs that are quick to do - please don't come expecting a full service that just won't be possible.
- **Toilets:** In the main building and around the back of the main building. There is also a toilet block up the hill near the Mill Pond (stage 2 finish).
- **Water:** Fresh running water can be found in front of the Gorse Café, and behind Comrie Croft Bikes along from the bike wash.

3. RACE DAY PARKING

Our parking team will be ready from 08:00 on Tuesday morning to welcome you on site. We have a plan, please follow their instructions to help the plan work and fit you all in. The Crofters are a cheery bunch, say hi, be nice and a wee bit of banter never went amiss.

4. REGISTRATION

Opens 09:00 in the Pole Barn (see map). It will be well signposted. You will be given:

- Number board - must be attached to handlebars and clearly visible.
- Timing chip - worn on right wrist.

5. RIDER KIT

All riders **MUST** have the following:

- Correctly fitted helmet, chin strap done up (open or full-face)

- Bar end plugs
- Mountain bike in good working order.
- Closed-toe footwear
- Thermal layer
- Waterproof
- Fluids & snacks to see you through the race.
- Full finger gloves
- Riding glasses/goggles
- ***All riders are to bring a packed lunch***

Please note:

- MTB is strenuous, it is essential all riders are hydrated and have enough energy for racing. Please bring a water bottle, it can be refilled on site. Bring a packed lunch and plenty of snacks. Make sure all racers have a good breakfast on the day and bring a packed lunch.
- Filming whilst racing is not permitted, all GoPro style cameras are to be removed.

6. RACE FORMAT

- This MTB XC race is insured and held in accordance with Scottish Cycling rules and technical regulations.
- **Race Briefing:** There will be a race briefing for all competitors on the start line prior to each race starting.
- **Team Events:** All schools with sufficient riders will automatically be entered in the team competition.
    - **Girls Team:** The cumulative placings of the best placed 3 riders from the races across the age groups.
    - **Boys Team:** The cumulative placings of the best placed 3 riders from the races across the age groups.
    - **Mixed Teams:** The cumulative placings of the best placed 3 riders from across the age groups, teams must include at least 1 girl and 1 boy.
    - In the event of a draw we will go to the fourth and fifth riders and then subsequent riders until we have a team winner.
- **Course Details:**
    - S1/2 - Riders will race for a maximum of 45 mins, for the leader, around a 3.4km course.
    - S3/4 - Riders will race for a maximum of 45 mins, for the leader, around a 3.4km course.
    - S5/6 - Riders will race for a maximum of 60 mins, for the leader, around a 4.9km course.
- In all races, each category will finish on the same lap as the leader of that category. After the leader finishes, all riders, including lapped riders, will finish and be placed accordingly.
- **How technical is the course:** S1/2 and S3/4 races are on blue (moderate) trails. These can be ridden by any rider with intermediate skills on a mountain bike with front suspension. S5/6 will race on some additional red graded terrain, there are some rock and root features, but everything is rollable. All riders are encouraged to complete at least 1 practice lap so they are familiar and comfortable with the course.
- **Feed Station:** There is designated feed station on the race route and this will be

clearly marked for all racers should they wish to use it during their race.
- **Gridding:** Gridded places will be pre-drawn by the race Director and called at the start of each race.

7. RACE ETIQUETTE

- If you would like to overtake a rider, politely shout “Rider!” as early as possible, wait for them to pull over at a spot that is safe for you to overtake.
- If a faster rider is looking to overtake you, pull over as soon as you can safely do so and let the rider pass.
- Dangerous or aggressive riding will not be tolerated (it's not cool) if deemed as such by the Course Marshals, it will result in instant disqualification of the rider.
- **Leave no Trace:** No excuse. If you drop something, pick it up.

8. SAFETY

Marshals: Will be wearing hi-vis jackets. They are working hard to make sure you have a great day, greet them with a smile. Please obey their instructions.

First Aid: Please help any rider in need. Everyone onsite has a duty of care to look out for others. If you see an incident, make sure the rider is okay, even if that means slowing down or stopping in a safe place to do so. If someone is injured and needs assistance, do whatever is required to alert an event official e.g. flag down an approaching rider, shout for help.

Event Medics: The course is well covered by a team of medics. All Course Marshals are in communication with them.

9. ONCE YOU HAVE FINISHED

Please make sure the first thing you do when you have finished is return your timing chip to registration. Results cannot be compiled until every chip has been handed in. If you do not we will assume you are still out on the course - none of the team want to go hunting for lost riders, who are actually enjoying a post race cool drink.

10. WITHDRAWALS

- If you are unable to continue for any reason, please inform a Marshal and report to registration.
- On returning to event registration, hand in your timing chip and report to a member of the race organising team that you have retired.
- If you do not notify us that you have retired, we will assume that you are still out on the course and this will cause a lot of issues (as described just above)!

11. SUPERVISING ADULT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Supervise pupils
- Get their riders to the start points on time - races will not wait for late arrivals.
- Attend the required briefings to make sure you have all the information.

11. SPECTATORS

Please **ONLY** cross the course at the designated crossing points, these will be managed by marshals. Please follow their instructions and be polite, their job is to keep the racers

and you safe.

12. RESULTS

There will be live results on the day via this link:
https://www.sportident.co.uk/results/ComrieCroft/2026/ScottishSchoolsMTBChampionship/

13. PODIUMS

Will take place in the Pole Barn at 16:15.

14. ANY OTHER INFO

- **Ticks:** Be vigilant and make sure you check yourself during and after the event.

RACE DAY TIMINGS

Time	What	Remarks
09:00	Registration open	Pole barn
09:30	Main briefing to all school reps	Pole barn
10:30	Registration closes	
09:45 - 10:50	Course open for practice	
11:00	Gridding 1st round of races	
11:15	1st races start: • S1/2 Girls • S1/2 Boys	• 12:30 all riders expected to have finished
12:30 - 13:00	Course open for practice	
13:00	Gridding 2nd round of races	
13:15	2nd races start: • S3/4 Girls • S3/4 Boys	• 14:30 all riders expected to have finished
14:30	Gridding 3rd round of races	
14:45	3rd races start: • S5/6 Girls • S5/6 Boys	• 16:15 all riders expected to have finished
16:15	Podiums	