

# TRIALS SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

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*Note: The Trials regulations have been introduced to provide a structure for Trials competitions in Britain within the UCI framework. The paragraph numbers match those in the corresponding UCI regulations.*

# TRIALS SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

## INTRODUCTION

### 1 General Comments

- 7.1.01 International Trials competitions are run in the open country, with all respect for the natural environment, or in halls (indoor competitions).
- 7.1.02 Organisers and or competitors are required to comply with provisions and administrative and police requirements with respect to the highway code, with the general provisions of BC sporting regulations, with current directives on environmental protection and with the present Trials Competition Regulations.
- 7.1.03 The organiser shall be responsible for obtaining the necessary authorisation, administrative or other, for the holding of international competitions and the use of the planned course.

### 2 Types of Races

- 7.1.04 Trials officially recognises the following types of races as described in these Trials Competition Regulations.

## COMPETITION RULES

### 1 Definition

- 7.2.01 Trials is a cycling competition in which a given circuit, comprising "supervised zones" (sections), has to be covered with a minimum of faults (penalties). The total duration of the race, necessary to negotiate all obstacles, is set accordingly.

### 2 Sections (supervised zones)

- 7.2.02 The organiser shall, according to each category of competition, lay out a given number of sections (supervised zones).
- 7.2.03 The minimum number of sections for each competition:
- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Elite:     | 16 sections; |
| Juniors:   | 16 sections; |
| Women:     | 14 sections; |
| Cadets:    | 14 sections; |
| Minimes:   | 14 sections; |
| Benjamins: | 14 sections; |
| Poussins:  | 14 sections. |

In each category a mixture natural and artificial sections are allowed (exclusive of indoor competitions, where all sections can be artificial). A section is considered to be artificial if all materials used are artificial. Sections with both artificial and natural elements are not considered to be artificial sections.

- 7.2.04 Sections are difficult stretches. Each section shall include a maximum of 3 principal difficulties (obstacles), that may either be artificial or natural, e.g.: stones, water, sand, steps, inclines, tree trunks, concrete pipes, etc.
- 7.2.05 The following section dimensions are proposed:
- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Length 20": | about 20 metres;                          |
| Length 26": | about 60 metres;                          |
| Width:      | at least one metre (at handlebar height). |
- 7.2.06 It is earnestly recommended that each side of the track be marked by strips, 10 to 30 cm high. The quality of the strips is defined in the technical specifications.
- 7.2.07 Each section shall have an entry and exit gate, marked by a start and finish line and by the corresponding panels (A=start, E=finish). The starting gate shall also bear mention of the section (A1, for example). The entry and exit panels are defined in the technical specifications.

- 7.2.08 Each section shall comprise a 3-metre "neutral zone", ahead of the starting line, on which shall be a single participant.

- 7.2.09 The finish line shall be at least 3 metres after the last difficulty (obstacle) to avoid any argument over penalties.

- 7.2.10 Entry to and exit from a section shall be judged on the front wheel axle.

- 7.2.11 The official sections may not be covered by a bike preceding the start of the race.

- 7.2.12 In case of a breach, the rider will not be permitted to start.

- 7.2.13 The maximum time cut for a section is 2 minutes 30 seconds, though the jury can adjust the time according to the difficulty of the section.

- 7.2.14 In choosing sections, it would be as well not to exceed following maximum jump heights (if it needs to be, the event panel may require this of the organiser):

20":	white:	0.60 metre maximum;
20" & 26":	blue:	0.80 metre maximum;
	green:	1.00 metre maximum;
	black:	1.20 metre maximum;
	red:	1.40 metre maximum;
	yellow:	1.80 metre maximum;
Women:	pink:	1.00 metre maximum;

### 3 Circuit

- 7.2.15 The sections shall be placed on a circuit of about two kilometres or less, laid out in such a way that the participants can follow it without difficulty.

- 7.2.16 A sketch of the circuit shall be displayed at the start and finish to permit the participants to see the locations of the sections.

- 7.2.17 The organiser shall decide whether the sections are to be covered consecutively or in random order.

- 7.2.18 The sections may be modified by the clerk of the course in between two rounds, but only with the agreement of the jury.

### 4 Starting and Riding Regulations

- 7.2.19 A meeting of all competitors shall be held before the start of the race. At this meeting they shall be given all important information on the running of the race. Attendance at this meeting shall be obligatory for all competitors. This meeting may be replaced by the distribution or display of information.

- 7.2.20 Where starts are given at minute intervals or in groups, each competitor shall be responsible for observing the starting time set for him.

- 7.2.21 During the race, competitors shall remain disciplined and comply with UCI directives and instructions in order to guarantee equal chances for all. Participants should be informed in detail of these conditions before they hand in their enrolment.

- 7.2.22 In case of accident, participants shall be required immediately to administer first aid, or at least to call for help. Time losses incurred in this way shall be confirmed by the competitor himself.

- 7.2.23 It is forbidden for a rider to modify sections of the course or their configuration.

- 7.2.24 The event Jury panel shall be composed of;

Clerk of the course  
2 X event officials

- 7.2.25 With the exception of the judges, the panel and technical delegate, only the competitor whose name is called by the judge may be in the supervised zone.
- 7.2.26 Sections may be covered on foot.
- 7.2.27 Penalties inflicted by the judge shall be entered on the score card given to each competitor at the start. In addition, penalty points shall be entered on the penalty check list, to be kept for each section. In case of a difference between the score card and the check list, the jury decides.
- 7.2.28 Courses shall be marked with arrows of the colour corresponding with the category of the race, and shall be ridden in accordance with this marking. The arrows are defined in the technical specifications.
- 7.2.29 A competitor shall not enter a gate reserved for categories other than his own. Gates shall be marked by two arrows of the same colour, pointing left and right.
- 7.2.30 Competitors shall take up position obliquely to and in front of the neutral zone.
- 7.2.31 Any rider dropping out of the race shall return his points card to the results stand.
- 5 Duration of the Race**
- 7.2.32 The total duration of the race shall be set by the clerk of the course in agreement with the judges. It shall be so set as to permit competitors to end the race in the set time. The jury may extend it during the competition.
- 7.2.33 Default time shall be 30 minutes. The jury may extend it after the competition, if more than 10 riders would have to be eliminated.
- 6 Time-keeping, Results**
- 7.2.34 Times shall be taken at the start and the finish. The total duration of each competitor's race shall be determined by the notation of his starting and finishing time on the points cards or by means of a computerised system.
- 7 Repairs**
- 7.2.35 Repairs may be undertaken during the race, but neither inside a supervised zone, nor in any other place liable to hamper or endanger riders.
- 8 External Assistance**
- 7.2.36 The following acts by attendants or followers to help competitors shall be prohibited and penalised by 10 points against the competitor helped:
- 7.2.36.1 Taking up position, for the competitor, at the entry to a section;
- 7.2.36.2 Criticising the judge;
- 7.2.36.3 Entering a section. Assistance to protect the competitor without influencing his performance in the race shall be permitted;
- 7.2.36.4 Giving advice (positions) to a competitor riding in the section. Relatives, followers or attendants shall in no case interfere in the competition.
- 9 Penalty Points**
- 7.2.37 The following penalty points may be imposed on riders in the sections:
- 7.2.38 Any support on the obstacle or on the ground to re-establish the rider's balance, be it with a part of the body or with a part of the trials bike, except the tyres (1 point). Brushing during the trials bike movement shall be permitted. Standing still shall be permitted.
- 7.2.39 Resting a pedal and/or the lower chain guard on the ground or on the obstacle (1 point).
- 7.2.40 Passing the maximum time cut of 2 minutes 30 seconds for the section (1 point per 15 seconds).
- 7.2.41 Riding over or under, raising or tearing the tapes and arrows marking the limits of the section (5 points). The wheel axles and the longitudinal axis of the bike shall form the measuring points.
- 7.2.42 Entering the gate of some other category of the competition (5 points).
- 7.2.43 Holding the bike other than by the handlebars (5 points).
- 7.2.44 Placing both feet simultaneously on the ground or on an obstacle (5 points).
- 7.2.45 Front wheel outside the entry gate (5 points). When, after entering the section, the front axle exits the gate again.
- 7.2.46 Placing both feet on the same side of the bike when one of the feet is on the ground (5 points).
- 7.2.47 Fall, parts of the body above the hips in contact with the ground, or sitting on the ground or on an obstacle (5 points).
- 7.2.48 When the maximum of penalties (5) is reached, the rider has to leave the section.
- 7.2.49 It is forbidden to mark 5 penalty points on the score card without having entered the section.
- 7.2.50 Touching the ground or the obstacle with a hand that does not hold the handlebars (5 points).
- 10 Supplementary Penalties**
- 7.2.51 Per minute for being late at the start (1 point) in case of starts at minute intervals.
- 7.2.52 Seeking help from followers (10 points).
- 7.2.53 Losing the points card or omitting a section (10 points).
- 7.2.54 Unsporting behaviour (10 points).
- 7.2.55 On the total for the championships, skipping more than 3 sections (disqualification).
- 7.2.56 Leaving or short-cutting the circuit (disqualification).
- 7.2.57 Abandoning the race (disqualification).
- 7.2.58 Changing the configuration of a section (disqualification).
- 7.2.59 Injured rider continuing the race without doctor's authorisation (disqualification).
- 7.2.60 Additional penalties, that only the technical delegate can impose in agreement with the panel, shall be added to the other penalty points.
- 7.2.61 Any rider exceeding the set duration of the race shall be penalized by half a point for each minute or part thereof in the default time.
- 7.2.62 Any rider exceeding the default time shall be excluded from the classification.
- 7.2.63 Non respecting of the rules concerning the wearing of a helmet (10 points).
- 7.2.64 Non respecting of the rules concerning the number plate and/or the body number (10 points).
- 11 Classifications, Results**
- 7.2.65 Penalty points incurred shall, after each round, be put up on a table, at the start and the finish. The competitor with the lowest total of penalty points shall be the winner in his category.
- 7.2.66 The other places in the classification shall be allocated in ascending number of points imposed.

- 7.2.67 Where two or more riders have the same points total, the decision shall be based on the number of sections covered with "zero faults".
- 7.2.68 Should that still leave a points draw, the number of sections with a single fault shall be considered, and so forth.
- 7.2.69 If then a points draw still exists and it concerns a podium place, a decisive section will be appointed by the jury. The time will be the decider in case of equal points. Should several riders obtain 5 points, the winner will be the rider who goes furthest in the zone. In cases of equal points other than for a podium place, the total competition time will be the decider.

## 12 Competitors Meeting

- 7.2.70 All riders shall attend a meeting of competitors, that shall take place before the start of the race.
- 7.2.71 The starting method and time, the number and order of sections, the number of rounds, the total duration of the race and any amendments to the regulations decided on at a meeting of the international jury, shall be announced.

## 13 Objections

- 7.2.72 The objection procedure shall be regulated by BC.
- 7.2.73 Only competitors or their legal representative may lodge an objection.
- 7.2.74 The deadline for lodging an objection shall be 30 minutes after the finish of the last competitor of the corresponding category.
- 7.2.75 Collective objections, objections against the time-keeping or the decision of judges shall not be entertained.
- 7.2.76 The organising club, after consulting the panel, shall decide on objections submitted.

## AGES AND RACE CATEGORIES

### 1 Trials Categories

- 7.3.01 Categories in 20" trials bike racing depend on age. The age class a rider is eligible to ride is determined by his age which shall be calculated by deducting the year of birth from the current year.
- 7.3.02
- |            |               |                |           |
|------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| Poussins:  | 9 – 10 yrs    | white course;  | 20" only  |
| Benjamins: | 11- 12 yrs    | blue course;   | 20" & 26" |
| Minimes:   | 13 -14 yrs    | green course;  | 20" & 26" |
| Cadets:    | 15 -16 yrs    | black course;  | 20" & 26" |
| Juniors:   | 16-18 yrs     | red course;    | 20" & 26" |
| Elite:     | 19 yrs & over | yellow course; | 20" & 26" |
- The arrows in the section can be numbered for easier understanding, for example in an artificial section.
- 7.3.03 Girls under 15 years, according to age, shall be accepted in the next age category down.
- 7.3.06 The Junior World Champion of the previous year is allowed, following his desire, to compete in the superior age category.

### 2 Women's category Trials 20" and 26"

- 7.3.07 The Women's category depends on age. The age class a rider is eligible to ride is determined by her age which shall be calculated by deducting the year of birth from the current year.
- 7.3.08 Women 15 yrs & over pink course.

## EQUIPMENT

### 1 The Bike in General

- 7.4.01 A trials bike shall have two brakes in working order (front and rear wheels).
- 7.4.02 The frame, the handlebars and the fork shall not be cracked.
- 7.4.03 Pedals and wheels shall not show too much play.
- 7.4.04 No pedal hooks or toe-straps shall be allowed.
- 7.4.05 Bikes shall not have any sharp edges that could cause injury.
- 7.4.06 Tyres may not be fitted with chains, ropes or other devices.

### 2 26" Bikes (Mountain bikes)

- 7.4.07 Normal commercially available 26" wheel mountain bikes with a minimum of 6 working gears of different size shall be permitted.
- 7.4.08 Only one rock-ring chain guard shall be authorized on the transmission side. No additional, lower chain guard may be fitted.

### 3 Race Numbers

- 7.4.09 The rider's body number and number plate shall clearly show the race number, the colour of the course and the sponsors' logos. They shall be water proof. The colour of the number plates shall correspond with that of the course (example: Yellow Plate for Elite, Red for Juniors, etc.). The plates are defined in the technical specifications.
- 7.4.10 Number plates shall be placed as to be most readable from the front, whilst the body numbers must be put on the back.
- 7.4.11 Body numbers and number plates shall be neither removed nor modified, on penalty of supplementary penalties.
- 7.4.12 Race numbers shall be allocated sequentially starting from the first event. The number one plate shall be reserved for the current World Champions and the allocation shall be based on the latest UCI ranking.

### 4 Riding Apparel

- 7.4.13 In all trials competitions, protective headgear shall be worn during all competitions, when riding the distances between sections and during training. Riders are obliged to opt for a helmet which meets the high standards, like BS, Snell, ANSI or DIN 33954.
- 7.4.14 Proper dress and solid shoes are required.
- 7.4.15 The wearing of gloves is recommended.
- 7.4.16 PROVISIONS ON ADVERTISING MATTER ARE REGULATED BY BC.