



# SENDERS CUP Rulebook

## 1. General Rules

### 1.1 Introduction

The SENDERS Cup is an innovative competition format in mountain biking that focuses on more than just times and rankings. The shared experience, the exchange within the scene, and the individual development of participants are equally central. The SENDERS Cup is designed to deliberately lower the barriers to racing. In particular, young riders, beginners, and ambitious amateur athletes should have the opportunity to gain their first competition experience and develop their skills in a professional and motivating environment.

The event series brings together different mountain bike disciplines integrated into a comprehensive event concept. Depending on the discipline, participants compete in timed runs, direct head-to-head duels, or multi-stage race formats. Both technical riding skills, physical endurance, and tactical understanding are required. In addition to the sporting competition, great emphasis is placed on an open and positive atmosphere. Exchange with professional athletes, mutual respect, and a high level of fairness and safety are central components of the event — both on the course and throughout the entire event environment.

This rulebook establishes the general and discipline-specific regulations for the SENDERS Cup and all associated events. It forms the binding basis for participants and organizers. To ensure a safe, fair, and smooth running of the competitions, the organizer reserves the right to amend or supplement the rulebook as needed.

### 1.2 Participation

#### 1.2.1 Categories

All categories refer to the rider's age as of December 31 of the competition year. Scoring is conducted in the following categories:

Category	Birth Year
Men	Open to everyone
Women	Open to everyone
Men Masters	Born 1996 or earlier
Women Masters	Born 1996 or earlier
Junior Male	Born 2011 or later
Junior Female	Born 2011 or later



### 1.2.2 Transgender

The SENDERS Cup adopts the current UCI and BDR policies and guidelines on eligibility for transgender competitors.

### 1.2.3 Qualifications

No qualification points or rankings are required to participate in SENDERS Cup races. This applies to all categories.

### 1.2.4 Registration

Registration takes place exclusively via the online entry form. After completing the online registration, the participant receives a confirmation of receipt with a request to pay the entry fee. The required bank details are also provided. Once payment has been received, the participant will receive a registration confirmation.

**IMPORTANT:** Only after receipt of payment and the sent registration confirmation is the entry binding and the starting place secured. The website [www.senders-cup.com](http://www.senders-cup.com) will be updated as soon as the limited number of starting places has been exhausted.

**For participants who have not yet reached the age of 18, a written parental consent form must be submitted at race number collection.**

### 1.2.5 Withdrawal / Refunds

Registration for the SENDERS Cup is binding upon transfer of the entry fee. In case of withdrawal from the event, the entry fee CANNOT be refunded. Transfers to other participants can be requested by email up to one week before the event. A transfer incurs an administrative fee of €20. In the event of event cancellation due to force majeure, a participant count below the minimum required, exceptional weather conditions, a pandemic situation, and/or official orders, only the entry fee can be refunded.

## 2. Competitions

### 2.1 Downhill Race

#### Track Walk (recommended)

A free track walk takes place on the day before the race. The course can be inspected on foot. Riding the course on a bicycle during the track walk is not permitted. The track walk is intended for course familiarization, safety, and preparation, and is strongly recommended for all riders.

#### Free Practice (recommended)

Free practice takes place on the day before and/or on race day during the times announced by the organizer. There is **no mandatory training**. The course may only be ridden during officially approved training times. Participants may not ride the course outside these times. Violations can be penalized with time penalties up to disqualification (DSQ). Only riders who are properly registered and have their **race plate visibly attached to their bike** may ride the course during training.

#### Seeding Run

The **Seeding Run** takes place on race day. The start order for the Seeding Run is announced by the organizer based on the official start list. The Seeding Run is used solely to determine the start order for the Final Run. Every rider qualifies for the Final Run.

#### Final Run



Participation in the **Final Run** is based on the times achieved in the Seeding Run. The start order for the Final Run is determined by the Seeding Run times, with **the slowest rider in each category starting first** and the fastest rider starting last.

### **Start Order of Categories**

Starts are conducted category by category in the following order:

1. Junior Women
2. Junior Men
3. Masters Women
4. Masters Men
5. Women
6. Men

The final start time and any adjustments to the order will be announced by the organizer in due time.

## **2.2 Dual Slalom**

### **Free Practice**

Free practice takes place on the day before and/or on race day during the times announced by the organizer. There is **no mandatory training**. The course may only be ridden during officially approved training times. Participants may not ride the course outside these times. Violations can be penalized with time penalties up to disqualification (DSQ). Only riders who are properly registered and have their **race plate visibly attached to their bike** may ride the course during training.

### **Qualification (Timed Run)**

Qualification takes the form of a single timed run per rider. Each participant rides **one qualification run on the lane pre-determined by the organizer**. The time ridden determines the qualification ranking.

The **16 fastest riders per category** qualify for the final round. If a category has fewer than 16 participants, the bracket size is reduced to the nearest applicable number.

Example: If 14 participants are registered, there is no 16-rider final — only the top 8 advance to the final round.

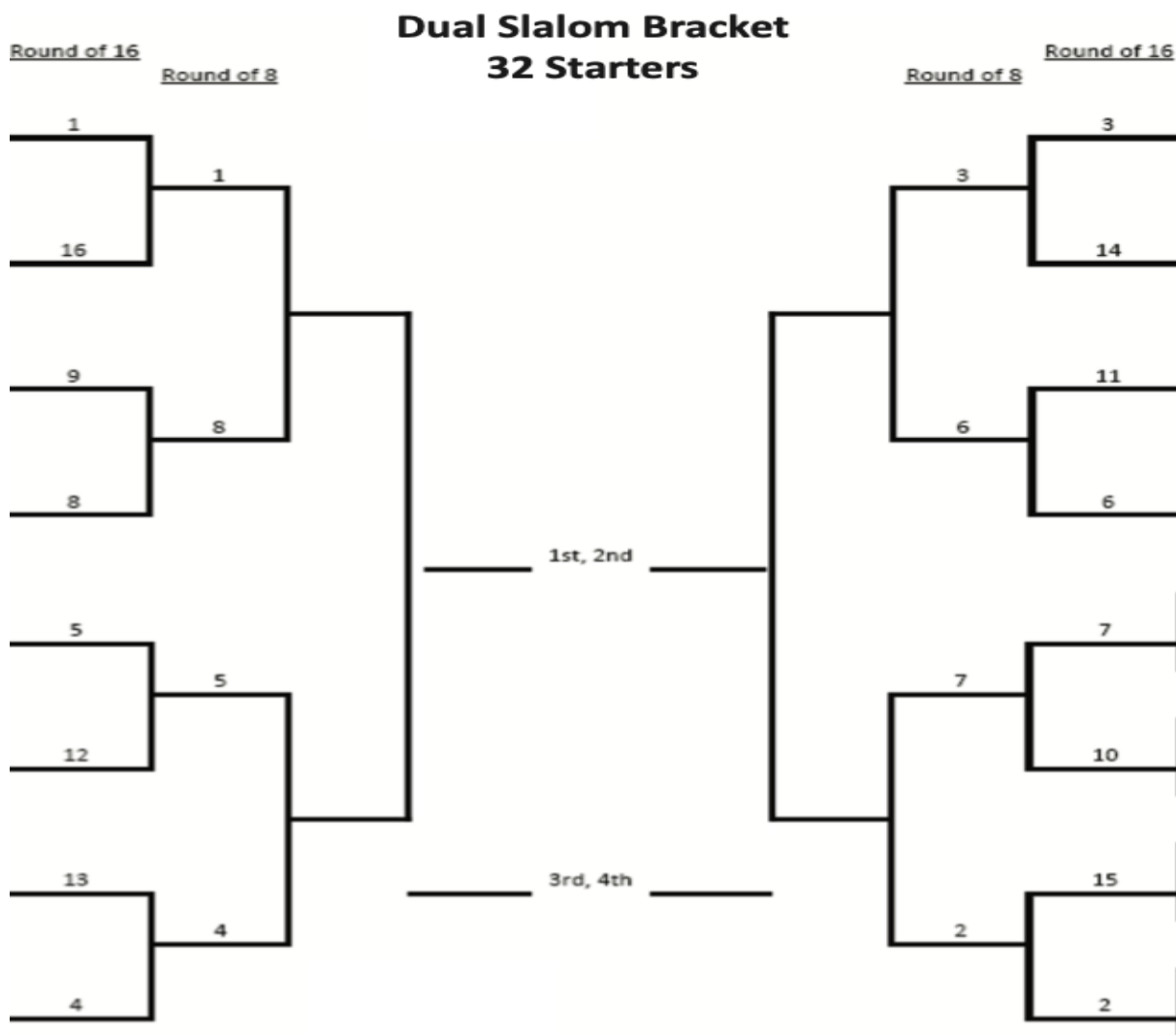
### **Final Round (Head-to-Head)**

The final round is held in **head-to-head format**.

In the round of 16 and round of 8, only one run per heat is ridden. The faster qualifier from the qualifying round has the right to choose their lane. From the semi-finals onward, participants ride **two runs**, with **each rider taking each lane once**. In the first run, a maximum time gap of two seconds can be applied. This ensures that in case of a crash or gate error, the slower rider still has a chance.

The **combined total time of both runs** then determines who advances. The rider with the faster added total time qualifies for the next round; the losing rider is eliminated.

The pairings in the final round are determined by the qualification results. The exact seeding logic and the structure of the knockout rounds will be announced by the organizer before the final round begins.



## 2.3 Mass Start Race

### Course & Race Format

The mass start race takes place on a course defined and marked in advance by the organizer. The race is run as a **mass start race** and goes **continuously from start to finish down the entire mountain**.

### Start Procedure (Le Mans Start)

The start is in **Le Mans format**. All participants place their bikes properly at the marked start line before the race. Riders line up in the start zone designated by the organizer. At the official start signal (starting gun), participants run to their bikes, mount them, and begin the race.

### Qualification

There is one qualification run that determines the order for the final run. The qualification run takes place in the same format as the main race. The order is determined based on race numbers. The qualification result determines the order of lane choice for the main race.

### Main Race

The mass start race is held as a **single run per category**. The race run directly determines the ranking within the respective category.



## Fairness & Overtaking

Overtaking maneuvers are expressly permitted during the race, **as long as they are carried out fairly and in a controlled manner.**

Throughout the entire race:

- both hands must remain on the handlebars
- both feet must remain on the pedals

Any intentional pushing, touching, or riding into another bike or rider is prohibited and may be penalized with disqualification (DSQ).

## Course Boundaries

The marked course must not be left at any time. Leaving the course — regardless of whether an advantage is gained — results in **disqualification (DSQ)**.

## Finish & Scoring

The **first rider to properly cross the finish line** wins the race in their category. The order of finish determines the ranking.

## 2.4 Chainless Race

### Free Practice

Free practice takes place on the day before and/or on race day during the times announced by the organizer. There is **no mandatory training**. The course may only be ridden during officially approved training times. Riding outside these times may be penalized with time penalties up to disqualification (DSQ). Only riders who are properly registered and have their **race plate visibly attached to their bike** may ride the course during training.

### Chainless Zone / Chain Removal

The Chainless Race is held on a **clearly defined section of the course**. Before the start of the race run, the **chain is removed in the start area**. Removal is carried out either by the participant themselves or under supervision of the organizer. After the start signal, it is **not permitted** to mount or manipulate the chain during the race run. Each rider is personally responsible for carrying their chain and this is not organized by the organizer.

### Seeding Run

The **Seeding Run** takes place on race day. The start order for the Seeding Run is announced by the organizer based on the official start list. The Seeding Run is used solely to determine the start order for the Final Run. Every rider qualifies for the Final Run.

### Race Run

The Chainless Race is held as a **single run**. The start takes place individually according to the start list announced by the organizer. The race run begins at the start of the chainless section and ends at the marked finish line.

## 2.5 Enduro Race

### Course & Race Format

For the Enduro race, the organizer defines a **set loop**. Within this loop, multiple **stages (timed course sections)** are established. All participants must complete the stages **against the clock**.

The **transfer sections** between stages are **not timed** but must be completed in accordance with the organizer's specifications. Depending on the course layout, this is done either:



- by lift, or
- under own power (pedaling).

### **Training**

A **training day** is scheduled. On this training day, the entire loop and all stages may be ridden and practiced according to the timetable. Riding the course outside officially approved training times is not permitted and may be penalized up to disqualification (DSQ).

### **Start Mode & Start Times**

On race day, **individual start times** are announced by the organizer. The start takes place in **start blocks of five riders each**. A time gap defined by the organizer is maintained between individual start blocks.

Riders in a start block complete the loop together, with each stage ridden individually against the clock.

### **Race Procedure & Timing**

Timing takes place exclusively on the designated stages. The times achieved by each participant across all stages are **added together**. The **lowest total time** determines the ranking in the respective category.

### **Helmet Requirement & Safety**

Wearing a helmet is **mandatory throughout the entire loop**. The helmet must be worn correctly at all times during pedaling and riding. Riders may remove their helmet when **pushing their bike**. The organizer is entitled to conduct **helmet checks**. Violation of the helmet requirement is penalized with **disqualification (DSQ)**.

### **Finish & Scoring**

The race is considered finished once all designated stages have been completed. The overall ranking is the sum of all stage times.

### **Course Map & Stage Overview**

The **course map including all stages and transfer sections** is made available to participants **at the time of registration**. This serves as the binding basis for training and race operations. The organizer reserves the right to make changes to the course or stages, which will be communicated in advance.

## **2.6 Race Numbers**

Race numbers are newly assigned for each race. Race numbers must always be attached to the front of the handlebars and must be clearly legible. Race numbers may not be altered in shape or size.

Race numbers are reserved for pre-registered riders and assigned according to the current SENDERS Cup ranking.

No additional advertising is permitted on the numbers.

## **3. Race Interruption, Repetition & Extraordinary Circumstances**

In the event of **danger**, a **medical emergency**, or an **extraordinary circumstance** outside the control of participants that prevents a race run or stage from being **completed properly**, the organizer may allow a **re-run**.



The decision on whether to allow a re-run rests solely with the organizer or race management.

#### **Additional Rule — Enduro Race**

Should participants in the Enduro race be **unable to complete a stage** because they:

- are assisting a person in a **medical emergency**, or
- an **extraordinary circumstance** occurs that is outside their control,

and **no re-run can be offered**, the scoring is carried out as follows:

- The **average ranking** of the affected person from the remaining regularly completed stages is used.
- For the uncompleted stage, a **corresponding time based on this average ranking** is scored.

**Minor obstructions** that allow continued riding are handled with **appropriate time corrections**.

**Example (no re-run possible):**

S1 — Rank 12

S2 — Rank 15

S3 — DNF

S4 — Rank 18

→ Average ranking: **Rank 15**

→ Scored time for S3: **Average of the times for Rank 14 and Rank 16 on Stage 3**

## **4. Prize Money — Pro Categories**

The SENDERS Cup distributes a **total prize pool of €18,000**.

**Prize money is distributed exclusively in the Men/Women categories.** Riders registered in other categories are **not eligible for prize money** regardless of their achieved ranking. High-quality prizes in kind from SENDERS Cup partners are provided for the remaining categories.

The **exact distribution of prize money** across individual races, rankings, and the overall series is shown in the table below:

<b>Ranking</b>	<b>Per Men / per Race</b>	<b>Per Women / per Race</b>	<b>Overall Series</b>
1st Place	€500	€500	€2,000
2nd Place	€300	€300	€1,000
3rd Place	€150	€150	€750
4th Place	€100	€100	€500
5th Place	€75	€75	€250



The organizer reserves the right to adjust the prize money distribution for organizational or sporting reasons.

Podium presentations are held for the top 5 participants in each category. All participants must appear at the award ceremony as planned — failure to appear on time may result in forfeiture of relevant titles or prizes. All prizes awarded at SENDERS Cup events are equal for the Men and Women categories. Winners are personally responsible for correct tax declaration.

## 5. Series Ranking

Series rankings are maintained for the SENDERS Cup. A set number of points are available per race. At the end of the season, the person with the highest total points per category wins. In the event of a tie in the series ranking, the person with the higher placement in the last round receives the higher ranking in the series. Participation in the series final (last race of the season) is a prerequisite for a valid series ranking.

Ranking	Points per Category
1st Place	100
2nd Place	80
3rd Place	65
4th Place	55
5th Place	50
6th Place	45
7th Place	41
8th Place	38
9th Place	35
10th Place	32
11th Place	30
12th Place	28
13th Place	26
14th Place	24
15th Place	22
16th Place	20
17th Place	18
18th Place	16
19th Place	14
20th Place	12



## 6. Course

### 6.1 Structure

The disciplines of the SENDERS Cup focus on making the best possible use of the trails and terrain available to the organizer. The riding experience and fun should be at the heart of course design. Courses are chosen so that they can be handled by all skill levels and reflect the SENDERS Cup vision of lowering the barrier to racing. It is to be expected that in the Enduro race, some climbs may be included in the stages to achieve the best possible experience on the best available trails.

### 6.2 Transfers

In the Enduro race, the composition of each transfer section is at the organizer's discretion: mechanical uphill (chairlift, shuttle bus, etc.), own muscle power, or a combination of both is permitted. As a guideline, at least one transfer per event must be completed under own muscle power (no mechanical assistance). For other disciplines, a transfer to the course is provided on foot or via mechanical uphill.

### 6.3 Stages (Enduro Race)

Applicable to the Enduro race: All stages must be predominantly downhill and focus primarily on challenging the rider's technical skills. The overall ranking for a course is calculated by adding up all stage times. The start and finish of each stage are clearly marked on the map provided by the organizer. There is no minimum or maximum duration for a stage. As a guideline for course planning, stages should have a maximum uphill proportion of 10%. Large wooden elements (e.g., wall rides or large bridges) located in compression or braking zones should be adequately covered with a non-slip surface material. All stages must be marked before the official training and closed to the public during official training times. At every major jump or drop, an easier and slower B-line must be available.

### 6.4 Course Markings

#### 6.4.1 Tape

When two pieces of tape are placed on both sides of the trail, the rider must pass between them. In these areas, crossing the tape or going around the other side is considered a shortcut.

#### 6.4.2 Markers

In open mountain areas, an organizer may use a marker for the direction of travel, which riders can go around on either side. A marker can be a piece of tape, a post, a flag, or other obvious signage.

### 6.5 Shortcuts

Taking shortcuts on the course to gain an advantage can damage the environment and brings the sport and the spirit of mountain bike racing into disrepute. Therefore, any rider who attempts to save time by choosing a line outside the designated course will be disqualified. The designated course is always on the obvious trail if no or insufficient marking is present. Race management may exceptionally decide that a rider who unintentionally left the trail is penalized with a time penalty instead of disqualification.

### 6.6 Transport



Transport means any means used to transport people and/or equipment (lifts, vehicles, etc.). During training and racing, no private/team transport may be used at any time. During training and racing, only the means of transport specified by the SENDERS Cup may be used. Use of non-specified means of transport may lead to penalties or disqualification.

## **6.7 Outside Assistance**

It is permitted to stop during the race to obtain water and food from neutral shops/cafés and public water points. Personal responsibility and self-sufficiency are a major part of the spirit of the sport, and it is recommended to carry adequate self-sufficiency equipment for alpine terrain. All participants are responsible for themselves but are encouraged to help others on the course. Everyone must be prepared to carry sufficient water to sustain themselves for at least 2 hours between water stops. Food and equipment caches are not permitted. Outside assistance may be provided anywhere on the course and at any time.

## **7. Rule Violations**

### **7.1 Documentation of Rule Violations**

All rule violations must be reported to race management, including the recording of witnesses. Race management must use the 'Rule Break Report' form available at [www.senders-academy.com](http://www.senders-academy.com). Rule Break Reports can be submitted by: participants / marshals / race management. No rule violation will be discussed with participants without a completed Rule Break Report form. Race management may appoint dedicated 'Mobile Marshals' who, at their own discretion, ride sections of the course at unannounced points. These 'Mobile Marshals' may report rule violations to commissaires or race management. There is no appeals process for rule decisions after the official results announcement.

### **7.2 Penalties**

Race management is authorized to impose additional penalties (including verbal warnings, fines, exclusion, time or points deductions, and/or disqualification) not listed in the regulations in cases where a rider fails to respect other riders, the spirit of the sport, the environment, or the organization.

### **7.3 Yellow and Red Cards**

The SENDERS Cup has the right to issue a yellow card to any rider at any time during the season. Yellow cards can be issued after clear and documented evidence of a serious rule violation, after an event, or under extraordinary circumstances during an event. A second card issued to a rider within one year is red. A rider who receives a red card will have up to 200 ranking points deducted from their total season score. Yellow or red cards may be issued up to 1 month after the date of the rule violation. A list of red and yellow cards issued during a season can be requested at [info@senders-cup.de](mailto:info@senders-cup.de).

## **8. Conduct**

### **8.1 Ethics Rules**

The SENDERS Cup aims to run a series that raises the level of athleticism and sporting commitment and promotes sporting efforts, while simultaneously promoting the right ethos for all. Riders who have violated SENDERS Cup standards or BDR standards may be disqualified or suspended. If at any point a rider, in the opinion of the SENDERS Cup, falls



into public disrepute or becomes involved in a scandal that damages the image or reputation of the SENDERS Cup, the SENDERS Cup may, after written notice to the rider, immediately suspend or terminate the rider's participation in all SENDERS Cup races.

**We ask all riders to:**

- Respect the trails
- Respect each other
- Respect the environment
- Respect the local community
- Respect the organizers, staff, and volunteers
- Respect the rules and fair sport

## **8.2 Environmental Rules**

Mountain bike races allow us to ride in remote, pristine areas. It is of the utmost importance that all racers respect their environment and the impact they leave on the local riding community. The following rules have been established to protect our trails and surroundings. The SENDERS Cup and its local organizers reserve the right to penalize any rider whose actions seriously damage the local environment. No single-use goggle tear-offs may be used. Riders may not throw anything away (e.g., food packaging, used inner tubes, broken equipment, etc.) outside a publicly accessible trash bin. Any rider who damages the environment will be penalized. Riders must always try to leave nothing on the course. Riders may not store food and drinks or clothing and equipment on the course (food/gear stashes). Discarded packaging and uncontrolled food supplies can have serious impacts on local wildlife and the local environment. Any rider who hides or retrieves supplies at unofficial feed/tech zones will be penalized. Any rider who damages the course or modifies a stage without the organizer's permission will be penalized up to disqualification.

## **8.3 Lost Transponder**

The transponder including its holder is the property of the company Datasport, Kempten. The transponder is provided on a deposit of €20 in cash. This fee is refunded upon return. In case of loss or damage, this deposit is retained and the remaining amount of €80 will be invoiced.

# **9. Safety**

## **9.1 First Aid and Evacuation**

The organizer must inform all participants who to contact and how in the event of an accident on the course (e.g., phone number/app).

During official training and the race, the organizer must provide at least one medical base station that is open throughout the entire training/race time, as well as basic medical care on the course and medical contact persons for the riders. For remote races that include difficult-to-access stages in alpine terrain, the race director may require all riders to carry a whistle to draw attention to themselves in an emergency. It is the rider's responsibility to bring their own whistle.

It is strongly recommended that event organizers implement a safety buddy system. A buddy is a person who is aware of a racer's whereabouts at all times during official training. At least one buddy should check in at the event headquarters at the end of each training day to



report that both parties have safely left the course. A buddy can be a racer or a team member who rides all stages with the rider during training. If a rider encounters a fallen rider, they are obligated to provide assistance and raise the alarm. The alarm can be raised through a marshal. The race time of a rider who is held up by voluntarily providing assistance to another rider is determined by the race commissaire or race director. Race management and/or medical personnel reserve the right to prevent a rider from continuing if they believe it is too dangerous for the rider to do so. Race management may also remove a rider from the course if they display disruptive or reckless behavior or behavior that endangers themselves or others. Race management reserves the right to cancel the event in emergencies, adverse weather conditions, or unforeseen circumstances.

## **9.2 Mandatory Protective Equipment**

Riders must wear the following standard commercially available protective clothing during training and racing:

- Full-face helmet
- Chest and back protector, knee pads
- Gloves
- Mobile phone

All riders must wear a helmet during the race. In the Enduro race, the helmet requirement also applies during transfers. Responsibility for the correct fit, condition, and suitability of the rider's helmet rests solely with the rider. A two-part helmet (with removable chin guard) is accepted as a full-face helmet on transfers in the Enduro race but is otherwise NOT permitted to be worn in ANY race. A fullface helmet is mandatory without exception. However, due to national insurance and association regulations, every helmet used in a race must comply with national standards. The organizer may set specific minimum equipment requirements. All protective equipment requirements set by the organizer must be followed by all racers. No exceptions are permitted. For safety reasons, the organizer of a race may require ALL riders to carry a waterproof and windproof jacket and/or a whistle. In this case, participants may not leave the roll-out without the required equipment. Details on required equipment will be announced in the Riders Briefing before the race. All riders must arrive at the race prepared for this eventuality.

**It is recommended that all racers carry:**

- Waterproof jacket
- Emergency blanket
- Multi-tool/puncture repair kit
- Basic, well-maintained first aid kit
- Food and liquid
- Eye protection (glasses or goggles)
- Emergency contacts provided by the organizer

## **9.3 Technical Condition of Equipment, Gear, and Clothing**

According to the sporting regulations, each participant is personally responsible for the proper condition of their equipment on the bike as well as their protective clothing. Only equipment designed for this type of stress may be used. The condition, quality, and design/construction must not pose a risk to the participant or third parties. Protective clothing must bear the certification mark of an internationally recognized testing body.



Headphones and earplugs are not permitted during training and timed runs.

## **9.4 Liability**

Participants take part in events at their own risk. They bear sole civil and criminal liability for all damage caused by themselves or by the sports equipment they use. Participants are hereby expressly advised to take out insurance coverage against possible damage that may be caused by participation in the event.

Each participant is obligated to show consideration for other persons and the environment.

## **9.5 On-Board Cameras**

Action cameras may be mounted during racing and training as follows:

- Helmet: fixed to the visor or with a break-off system is permitted

Chest-mounted cameras are not permitted under any circumstances. Mounting devices on the mountain bike are also not permitted.

# **10. Technical Rules**

## **10.1 Basics**

In principle, the race must be completed with a single bike. For the SENDERS Cup, all wheel sizes up to and including 29" are permitted. Mountain bikes with motor assistance may NOT be used at the SENDERS Cup, unless the organizer has specifically announced an E-Bike category.

# **11. Communication**

## **11.1 Riders Briefing**

The Riders Briefing is communicated before the race via email.

## **11.2 Course**

The course will be published one week before the race at [www.chilimotion.de](http://www.chilimotion.de).

## **11.3 Registration**

Registration takes place exclusively online via the website [www.senders-academy.com](http://www.senders-academy.com) or through the SENDERS Cup timing service.

## **11.4 Rankings**

Rankings for the various categories will be published online no later than after the official results announcement.

# **12. Liability Waiver**

By submitting their entry, participants waive any right to take action or seek recourse against the organizer, their representatives, sports officials and helpers, authorities, landowners, or



any other persons connected with the organization of the event for any accidents or damages suffered in connection with the event.

This agreement becomes effective upon submission of the entry to the organizer. No further claims arise, in particular not against SENDERS GmbH and Datasport Germany GmbH.

The organizer reserves the right to make all changes required by force majeure, safety reasons, or official orders, or to cancel the event if extraordinary circumstances require it, without assuming any obligation to pay compensation.

The signatory of the entry acknowledges the conditions of the event announcement regarding the conduct of the competition and other event-specific provisions, as well as the above provisions regarding liability and the liability waiver, and undertakes to comply with them precisely.

Each participant expressly confirms that the information entered on the entry form is fully accurate.

Each participant is obligated to sign the liability waiver at the event. Minor participants must have the liability waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian. The liability waiver can be downloaded from the SENDERS Cup website.

### **13. Data Protection**

By registering for a race, participants grant the cup organization and organizers permission to use personal data for activities related to the events. Each participant irrevocably and without restriction in terms of subject matter and time consents — without any claim to remuneration — to the unrestricted publication of images and video material from the competition, their distribution to press representatives, and their use for marketing activities, including where the participant themselves is depicted.