



**The beauty of enduro racing is that it that is brings us all back to the roots of mountain biking. It is ungoverned, unregulated, and each event capitalizes on what it has to offer naturally in terms of best available terrain. And we want to keep it that way. That said, we feel it is in the best interest and safety of all of our competitors to have a few rules in place to make sure competition is fair, friendly and there is no gray area. If you have any further questions, please email us at [info@bigmountainenduro.com](mailto:info@bigmountainenduro.com)**

## **Description**

Enduro mountain bike racing is designed to be the definitive test for the mountain biker, with the focus of each event on creating a great atmosphere, community, competition and adventure for the competitor, including the best riding in the host region.

The racing platform detailed below outlines a format that allows riders to compete against each other, starting individually, on special stages which are designed to challenge the rider's technical ability and physical capacity.

The following rules aim to define the enduro mountain bike discipline while still allowing space for each event as part of the Big Mountain Enduro Series to showcase its own individual characteristics.

## **Series Format & Point Structure**

The 2017 Big Mountain Enduro consists of five series points **events** – Santa Fe, NM, Vail, CO, Keystone, CO, Winter Park, CO and Crested Butte, CO. Three of the five stops will count towards series points, so two races can be dropped. The BME Aspen Snowmass EWS stop will not count towards BME series points, nor will Mascota, Mexico. Each BME event will include three to eight **timed stages** over the course of one, two or three days. Each timed (special) stage will

be ran as an individual time trial format. There will also be untimed **transition (liaison) stages** that require pedaling to the next **stage** or via shuttle. The racer with the fastest **cumulative time**, will win the **event** and take home crucial series points where applicable.

The Big Mountain Enduro series overall title will be awarded to the athlete with the most points after the final round in Crested Butte, CO. The overall winner of the BME series will be titled the **2017 Yeti Cycles Big Mountain Enduro presented by Shimano Overall Champion**. All five core rounds of the BME will count towards the overall points and rankings and based on the point structure system below. Each **event** is worth up to 400 points. Full points table available in Appendix 1.

## **Categories**

- Open Professional Men\*
- Open Professional Women\*
- Vet Expert Men 30+
- Amateur Men 21-39
- Master Men 40+\*
- Amateur Women 21-39
- Master Women 40+
- U21 Men\*
- U21 Women\*
- Youth Men 10-16 “Groms”

\*EWS Categories\* Riders with an EMBA membership will be eligible for overall 2017 EWS points

*You may change categories throughout the season, however points remain in the category in which they were scored for the Big Mountain Enduro Series Overall Ranking.*

## **Communication**

### **Rider Briefing**

At every event, the race director will host a rider briefing prior the race commencing. Updates on rules, timing, course, timetable, etc and details of course marking, feed stations and assistance locations will be communicated at this briefing. Non-attendance of the Rider Briefing will not be accepted as an excuse for any rule violation by any rider.

## **Safety**

### **First Aid & Evacuation**

A Medical Plan and location of the First Aid base will be available at race headquarters. When a rider believes another competitor is injured on course, they should alert the next race official/marshal they see.

### **Safety Equipment**

All riders must wear a helmet during competition. This includes riding during un-timed transition stages. If you are walking during a transition stage, a helmet can be removed.

The correct fitting, condition and suitability of the rider's helmet is the sole responsibility of the rider. Specific body protection including but not limited to, knee pads, elbow pads, full-fingered gloves, full-face helmet and torso protection are strongly encouraged for some Big Mountain Enduro stages, but not required. The extent of the protection worn by a rider in excess of a standard helmet, is up to the sole discretion of the rider.

### **Directions and Course Markings**

A course map will be displayed at Race Headquarters. This map will also be published on the event website the Wednesday prior to each event. Riders are encouraged to study the map and understand the race route before leaving the start in order to make any time cutoff and stay on course throughout race days.

### **Tape**

Where two pieces of course tape, on opposite sides of the course, are installed, the riders must pass between them. In these areas, missing, crossing or passing the course tape on the wrong side will be deemed as course cutting and a penalty will be enforced.

### **Direction Markers**

In areas of open mountainside, a single pole can be used to mark the direction of the route. Riders can pass either side of a single pole. On long road or singletrack sections, a small single piece of course tape may be used. These single pieces of tape act purely as directional markers.

### **Competition Requirements**

#### **Rider Equipment**

Each rider must be self-sufficient during the entire duration of the race. Personal responsibility and self-sufficiency are a large part of the spirit of enduro racing and riders are encouraged to carry adequate equipment for operating in mountainous environments where treacherous weather is common. Each rider should remember that they are solely responsible for themselves but also help other competitors on course where possible.

**Only one frame, one front and rear suspension unit (fork and rear shock) and one pair of wheels** can be used by a competitor during a race.

Any rider needing to replace a wheel, frame or suspension during the competition must present the broken item at Registration Headquarters, where the race director will assess the damage. Only upon approval of the race director, may a rider replace a frame, suspension part of wheel. Following the repair, the rider must return to the race director to have the replacement part(s) approved before rejoining the race and after any said penalties have been recorded.

Any rider found to have replaced a part without consent from the race director will be disqualified (DSQ).

### **Training**

Big Mountain Enduro will release the course maps and information on the Wednesday prior to each event. Following the course map release, official practice will commence on Thursday or Friday with all course markings in place. Practice is the individual responsibility of the rider. If a rider is found practicing on a closed course, they will be DSQ or penalized up to the race director's discretion.

### **Seeding and Start Order**

Individual start times will be posted the prior night on [www.bigmountainenduro.com](http://www.bigmountainenduro.com).

The top 20 Pro/Open Men and top 10 Pro/Open Women seeded based on the Series Overall Ranking to date. The first event will be based on the 2016 Big Mountain Enduro Series overall rankings.

Start intervals between riders for the top 30 Men and 15 Women must be a minimum of 30 seconds. A minimum 1-minute interval should be added every 10 – 20 riders to allow a clear gap to start riders who have missed their start. All late riders must start, under instructions from the official starter, within each 1-minute gap. There is no fixed start interval between late starters as the goal is to keep late riders racing, without affecting other riders on course. Late starters will receive a fixed penalty (see Rules Violation), which will be added to that particular stage time.

### **Results**

The General Classification (GC) will be calculated by adding all Special Stage times together for each rider. In the event of unforeseen or extreme circumstances, the race director can decide to withdraw a Special Stage (s) from the General Classification.

In the event of a tie in the General Classification, the highest placed rider in the final stage will be awarded the higher final placing.

## **Environmental Rules**

Enduro mountain bike racing allows us to ride into remote, backcountry areas of natural beauty and often outside of bike park boundaries. It is of the utmost importance that all racers respect their environment and consider the impact they leave behind for the local riding community. The below rules have been put in place to protect our trails and our riding environments.

- No disposable goggle tear offs are allowed to be used
- The disposal of food packaging on the trail is strictly prohibited.
- Big Mountain Enduro reserves the right to penalize any rider whose actions are deemed to seriously damage the local environment.
- Riders must not store food and drinks on the trail (Food Stashes). Packaging left behind and uncontrolled food supplies may have a serious impact on local wild life and the local environment. Any rider found to be hiding or retrieving foods from unofficial feed stations will be penalized.

## **Rule Violations**

### **Course Cutting**

Taking short cuts on course in order to gain a time advantage can both damage the environment and bring the sport and spirit of enduro mountain racing into disrepute. Therefore, any rider trying to save time by choosing a line that lies outside the marked course will be disqualified.

In exception circumstances, the Race director may choose to apply a time penalty, not a DSQ to a rider found to have cut the course unintentionally. However, any rider leaving the obvious line must be aware that they risk a DSQ.

Course tape and signs with arrow will be used to identify the course. Where two pieces of tape, on opposite side of the course, are installed, the riders must pass between them. In these areas, missing, crossing or passing the course tape on the wrong side will be deemed as course cutting.

### **Transition Stage Delay/Missed Start**

An individual's time on a timed stage will start in accordance with the specified start time on the published start list even if the rider is not present. Riders arriving late to the start must follow the starter's orders and join the course when instructed to do so. Failure to follow starter's orders will result in a suitable time penalty.

Any riders arriving at the start of a stage later than 30 minutes after their specific start time will be disqualified from the race.

The race director and staff hold the right to send riders outside their specified start

times. This will only be done in accordance to concerns with weather, other missed starts, and daylight operating hours.

### **Illegal Outside Assistance**

Racers are encouraged to help follow competitors on course. Any competitor receiving outside assistance from a non-racer without prior agreement from the race director will be disqualified. This includes using team staff/outside help to carry equipment around the course or perform repairs during the race.

### **Rule Violation Recording**

The race director is responsible for the application of the rules and has the final say. The race director can appoint special 'Flying Marshals' to travel around the course at their own discretion to undisclosed points. These 'Flying Marshals' can report rule violations to the race director.

Any rule violations must be registered with the race director within 30 minutes of the last competitor finishing the final stage. Any protest on final race times must be registered with the race director within 30 minutes of the official results posted at the event headquarters. All final decisions on assessing penalties and race time corrections will be made within 60 minutes after the protest period closes.

### **Recommended Penalties**

- Missed Start: Up to 5 minutes late = 1 minute penalty; 5+ minutes late = 5 minute penalty; 30+ minutes late = DSQ
- Other Start Violation (ex. pushing into queue, delaying start, jumping start, etc.). Rider must have one foot on the ground at start buzzer: 30 seconds
- Not obeying course marking/course cutting: Disqualification
- Unintentional course cutting: 30 seconds
- Illegal Outside Assistance: Disqualification
- Environmental Disrespect: From 1 minute to Disqualification
- Changing a marked piece of equipment with authorization: 2 minutes
- Changing a marked piece of equipment without authorization: Disqualification
- Disposal of a goggle tear-off on the trail: Disqualification
- Altering the course: Disqualification
- Missing number plate: 30 seconds
- Food stashing: 5 minutes
- Lost number plate during weekend: \$20 replacement cost
- Result Dispute: \$20 charge to initiate dispute. If rider is correct, \$20 is refunded. If rider is incorrect, \$20 is non-refundable.

Position	Points
1	400
2	350
3	320
4	300
5	290
6	280
7	270
8	260
9	250
10	240
11	230
12	220
13	210
14	200
15	190
16	180
17	170
18	160
19	150
20	145
21	140
22	135
23	130
24	125
25	120

Position	Points
26	115
27	110
28	105
29	100
30	95
31	90
32	85
33	80
34	75
35	70
36	65
37	60
38	55
39	50
40	45
41	40
42	35
43	30
44	25
45	20
46	15
47	10
48	5
49	3
50	1