# 2027 Australian MTB Interschools Rules and Regulations

## 1 Scope, authority and definitions

1.1 These rules apply to every person involved in MTB Interschools at Thredbo, including riders, parents and carers, school coordinators, responsible adults, coaches, officials, marshals, spectators and media.

1.2 The event is run by Thredbo Alpine Resort (the Organiser). By entering, or by attending as a parent, carer, coach, official or spectator, each person accepts these rules, the conduct requirements in section 4 and the participant waiver.

1.3 In these rules:

- Race Director means the person appointed by the Organiser to run the event.
- Commissaire means a person appointed by the Organiser to apply these rules on course. The Commissaires' panel is the Race Director and the appointed Commissaire(s).
- School Coordinator means the adult nominated by a school as its contact with the Organiser.
- Responsible Adult means the person aged 21 or over who is responsible for a rider in Thredbo, as set out in rule 3.2.
- Event Office means the Organiser's check-in, plate collection and enquiries point, with its location published before the event.

1.4 The Commissaires' panel decides how these rules apply on the day. Its decisions are final. Results enquiries and protests are handled under rule 9.8.

1.5 The Organiser may change these rules before or during the event where needed for safety or fairness, and will tell Responsible Adults by text message or email as soon as practicable.

1.6 These rules (version 1.0, 20 November 2026) apply to the Interschools held from 1 to 5 March 2027. If anything on the Thredbo website, in an FAQ or in other event material differs from these rules, these rules prevail.

## 2 Eligibility and entries

2.1 A rider may ride only for a school in which they are enrolled. A rider enrolled at more than one school must choose one. A rider who rides for a school they are not enrolled in will be disqualified. This does not apply to home-schooled or independent riders (rule 3.6).

2.2 Divisions are set by school year

- Division 1: Years 11 and 12
- Division 2: Years 9 and 10
- Division 3: Years 7 and 8
- Division 4: Years 5 and 6
- Division 5: Years 3 and 4

Divisions 1 and 2 are the Senior divisions. Divisions 3, 4 and 5 are the Junior divisions.

2.3 A rider must be at least 7 years old on 1 March 2027.

2.4 Each division has a male and a female category.

2.5 Parents or carers enter riders via shop.thredbo.com.au by the published closing date. A Responsible Adult must be nominated for every rider under rule 3.2. Late entries are not accepted.

2.6 A parent or guardian must complete the participant waiver for riders under 18. Riders aged 18 or over complete their own. A rider without a completed waiver may not practise or race.

2.7 Entry fees are published before entries open and are paid in full at entry. Refer to the Thredbo Cancellation Policy for terms and conditions in relation to amendments or cancellation of entry.

2.8 No substitutions are allowed after entries close, and rider names cannot be changed. A rider's Responsible Adult can be changed, but only at the Event Office.

2.9 A rider may ride in an older division than their school year requires, but not a younger one. A rider who rides up a division must stay in that division for all events in the Interschools.

2.10 The Organiser may refuse or remove an entry at any stage.

2.11 Every rider must hold an AusCycling Race Membership or an AusCycling Event Licence that is valid on every day the rider practises or races. A recreational licence is not sufficient. The Interschools is run under the AusCycling Member Protection Policy.

## 3 Teams and school responsibilities

3.1 Parents or carers enter riders individually (rule 2.5). A school with a larger group of riders may nominate a School Coordinator to contact the Organiser and confirm the school's entries. The School Coordinator:

- confirms the school's entries with the Organiser and forms teams
- makes sure waivers are complete and fees are paid
- is the only contact for results enquiries and protests
- makes sure riders, parents and Responsible Adults know these rules.

3.2 Every rider must have a Responsible Adult present in Thredbo on each day the rider practises or races. A Responsible Adult is a person aged 21 or over who has agreed to be responsible for the rider that day. A Responsible Adult may be a parent or carer, teacher, School Coordinator, coach or manager. A rider may not act as their own Responsible Adult.

3.2.1 At entry, the rider's parent or carer must give the Responsible Adult's full name and a mobile number that will be answered throughout the event, and an emergency contact for the rider. Changes must be made at the Event Office before the rider next practises or races.

3.2.2 The Organiser will send race and safety communications to the Responsible Adult by text message or email, including schedule changes, weather delays or cancellations, trail closures, and injury or incident notifications. The Responsible Adult must keep their phone on, check it regularly, and pass on information to the rider.

3.2.3 Only the Responsible Adult can collect the rider's race plate in person at the Event Office during published hours. Plates are not issued to riders or to anyone else.

3.2.4 The Responsible Adult must make sure the rider arrives at the start on time, wears the plate assigned to them, and has a compliant bike and protective gear.

3.2.5 If the Responsible Adult becomes unavailable, they must tell the Event Office immediately and nominate a replacement. A rider with no Responsible Adult present in Thredbo may not practise or race.

3.3 A team is two or more riders from the same school in the same division and category. Team scores are calculated under rule 9.4.

3.4 Plates are issued only when all participant waivers are complete, all fees are paid and the listed Responsible Adult is present.

3.5 Enquiries and complaints from parents, carers and riders must go through the School Coordinator or, if the school has none, the Responsible Adult.

3.6 A home-schooled or independent rider may enter by listing 'Home School' or 'Independent' as their school. They have no School Coordinator, so their Responsible Adult also acts as their contact for results enquiries and protests. A Responsible Adult must be present in Thredbo (rule 3.2).

## 4 Conduct and zero tolerance

4.1 Thredbo has a zero tolerance policy to anti-social behaviour. Riders must always act in a sporting manner and show respect to fellow riders, staff, guests and the natural Thredbo environment.

4.2 Anti-social behaviour includes, but is not limited to:

- abuse, harassment, bullying, intimidation or discrimination
- deliberately obstructing, endangering or distracting another rider
- verbal or physical abuse of officials, marshals, resort staff or guests
- riding the MTB park or trails after hours or when they are closed
- damaging property, trails or the environment, including leaving rubbish
- ignoring directions from marshals, officials or resort staff
- any other conduct that brings the event or Thredbo into disrepute.

4.3 Depending on severity, consequences may include a warning, disqualification from a run or the event, a ban from future Thredbo MTB events, removal of lift access, exclusion from presentations, and disqualification of a team or school. A team or school sanction applies only where several riders from that school are involved, or a school representative condoned the conduct or failed to act to prevent it.

4.4 The Race Director may act immediately and without notice where safety is at risk or the conduct is serious. For any ban beyond the event, the Organiser will tell the School Coordinator in writing what is alleged and allow a response within 24 hours before the outcome is confirmed.

4.5 Riders must:

- compete by the rules and accept official decisions, raising any disagreement through their School Coordinator
- respect marshals, officials, resort staff and other riders, and allow faster riders to pass without obstruction
- look after the trails and the environment.

4.6 Parents, carers and spectators must:

- encourage riders and respect officials' decisions, raising concerns through the School Coordinator
- stay behind fencing and out of start and finish areas, and off the course during timed runs
- not smoke, vape or drink alcohol near riders or the course
- not interfere with the event or presentations.

4.7 Responsible Adults, coaches and School Coordinators must:

- make sure their riders know and follow these rules
- be positive and fair to all riders, and never ridicule or yell at a rider for a mistake
- remove from the event any rider whose behaviour is not acceptable
- follow the advice of a healthcare professional when deciding if an injured rider can return.

4.8 Abuse of officials, marshals or resort staff will not be tolerated. The Organiser may exclude or disqualify individuals, teams or schools from the event and presentations.

4.9 Riders must not wear headphones, earbuds or any other audio device during practice or racing. Riders must not use a phone while riding on course. Helmet-mounted cameras are permitted. A rider who breaches this rule may be disqualified from the run.

4.10 Filming or photographing people without their consent is prohibited where it invades their privacy, records conversations or is intended for unauthorised distribution. Spectators must not ride a trail alongside the course to film riders during timed runs. Drones may be flown only with the Organiser's written approval.

4.11 Everyone must act to keep children and young people safe. Any child safety concern must be reported to the Race Director immediately.

4.12 By entering, each rider and their parent or carer consent to the Organiser and its partners photographing and filming the event, and to using that footage, and riders' names and results, for results, promotion and media. A rider, parent or carer who does not consent must tell the Organiser in writing before the event.

## 5 Safety, concussion and conditions

5.1 Concussion must be taken seriously. If in doubt, sit them out.

5.2 A rider with a suspected concussion, a head injury or any loss of consciousness must be removed from practice and competition immediately. Any marshal, First Aid Patroller, Responsible Adult, parent, official or rider may raise a concern. A decision by First Aid Patrol or the Race Director to remove a rider is final.

5.3 The rider must be thoroughly assessed and monitored by a healthcare professional as soon as possible, and no later than the day of the incident.

5.4 The rider must obtain medical clearance before returning to competition. For multi-day events, the clearance must confirm the rider is fit to compete for the event's entire duration.

5.5 Return to ride must follow the Thredbo Concussion Policy.

5.6 The school or the rider's family must give the Race Director the First Aid Patrol incident report, or a completed medical clearance form, within 48 hours of a suspected concussion. Without it, the rider cannot compete in remaining events. You may need to go to Jindabyne or Cooma to receive final medical clearance.

5.7 School Coordinators, Responsible Adults and parents are responsible for making sure a rider returning after a concussion has met these requirements. The Organiser may investigate, and may withdraw a rider if it has credible evidence that a concussion or head injury was not disclosed. If a school refuses, its entries may be suspended until the issue is resolved. The Organiser is not responsible for costs arising from a rider's removal.

5.8 An injured rider must report to First Aid. Riders approaching an incident must slow or stop as directed by marshals and must follow marshal signals, including flags.

5.9 The Organiser may delay, shorten, reschedule, relocate or cancel any event or run because of weather, smoke or fire risk, lightning, trail condition or any other safety concern. Refunds are dealt with under the Thredbo Cancellation Policy (see rule 2.7).

## 6 Equipment, attire and race plates

6.1 Riders must wear a full-face, non-detachable helmet meeting Australian off-road standards, fastened, whenever they are riding.

6.2 E-bikes are banned from all events.

6.3 For events using the chairlift (All-Mountain, Flow and Downhill), bikes must have front and rear disc brakes and front suspension, and be in safe working order. Dual suspension bikes are recommended.

6.4 Mandatory protective gear and attire:

| Item | All-Mountain, Flow and Downhill | Pump Track |
|---|---|---|
| Helmet | Full-face, non-detachable, Australian off-road standard | Full-face, non-detachable, Australian off-road standard |
| Footwear | Regular shoes. No sandals or open-toed shoes. | Regular shoes. No sandals or open-toed shoes. |
| Gloves | Full-finger | Full-finger |
| Upper body and elbows | Full-length jersey and elbow pads | Full-length jersey. |
| Knees | Knee pads | Knee pads |
| Recommended | Long pants | Long pants |

6.5 Pump Track bikes:

- minimum wheel size of 20 inch for Divisions 1 to 3, and 16 inch for Divisions 4 and 5
- at least one functioning brake
- flat pedals only. Clipped-in pedals are prohibited.
- removing the chain is not required, in line with UCI and AusCycling technical regulations
- no automatic transmission or engines, and no protruding parts (for example pegs) that could injure other riders.

6.6 Commissaires may inspect bikes, gear and plates at any time. A rider whose bike or gear does not comply may not start until it is fixed.

6.7 Race plates:

- must not be cut, altered, modified or wrapped around handlebars, and must stay clearly visible to marshals and timing officials at all times
- transponders must be placed away from the forks whenever possible
- modifying or wrapping a plate may cause timing inaccuracies or disqualification
- a plate is assigned to one rider. Riding with another rider's plate will result in disqualification
- a lost or damaged plate must be replaced at the Event Office, for a fee of $10.00.
- plates must not be discarded on the trails or in the venue.

## 7 Event day procedures

7.1 The Responsible Adult collects the rider's plate in person at the Event Office at the published times and hands it to the rider (rule 3.2.3).

7.2 Practice is allowed only in the published practice windows, and only on trails that are open. Riders must wear all mandatory gear and their plate during practice. Riding a closed trail, or riding after hours, is anti-social behaviour under rule 4.2. Each rider must complete at least one practice run of the course before their race run in the All-Mountain, Flow and Downhill events.

7.3 Riders must report to the start by their call time with their bike, plate and all gear ready. Only riders and officials are allowed in the start area. A rider who is late or not ready will start at the end of their division and category, or as directed by the Start Official. A start is not guaranteed.

7.4 Riders must race within the marked tapes. A rider who leaves the course for any reason must re-enter at the point of exit, unless no time advantage was gained. Failure to return to the course properly may result in disqualification, as determined by the Commissaires' panel.

7.5 Riders must act in a sporting manner and allow faster riders to overtake without obstruction. An overtaking rider must pass safely.

7.6 A rider who crashes or stops must clear the trail as soon as it is safe. Riders must obey marshal signals at all times.

7.7 A rider may repair their own bike on course. Physical help from anyone else is not allowed, except from marshals and First Aid Patrollers in an emergency.

7.8 The Commissaires' panel decides whether a rider is eligible for a re-run. Its decision is final. A rider who is obstructed, or who believes their run was affected by an incident outside their control, must:

- stop safely and tell the nearest marshal, then make the re-run request to the Finish Official straight after crossing the finish line

7.9 After finishing, riders must leave the finish area promptly and safely. Spectators, parents and Responsible Adults must stay out of the finish area.

7.10 No coach plates are issued. Coaches, parents and carers may ride a course only on the day before racing, when it is open to the public. During official practice and racing only competitors may ride the course, and chaperone runs are not permitted.

## 8 Event formats and seeding

8.1 Events and trails:

| Event | Trail and start | Format |
|---|---|---|
| Specialized All-Mountain | All-Mountain Trail, from the start of Dream Catcher | One timed run, riders start at 30 second intervals |
| Fox Flow | Kosciuszko Flow Trail, from Kareela Hutte | One timed run, riders start at 30 second intervals |
| RockShox Downhill | Cannonball Downhill Trail. All divisions race from the fly over bridge at the end of Centre Link. | One timed run, riders start at 30 second intervals |
| Maxxis Pump Track | Village Green Pump Track | Compulsory qualifying run, then finals. See rule 8.7. |

8.2 Seeding for the All-Mountain race is based on the previous year's Flow results.

8.3 All-Mountain results determine seeding for the Flow start list on the following day. Flow results then determine seeding for the Downhill start list.

8.4 In All-Mountain and Flow, riders start from the fastest seed to the slowest seed.

8.5 Riders with no previous result, or who did not ride the earlier event, are placed before the seeded riders in an order decided by random draw.

8.6 In Downhill, the top 30 male seeds and the top 10 female seeds in Divisions 1 to 3 only start last, using the regular UCI style of seeding, slowest to fastest, so the fastest seed starts last. All other riders, including all Division 4 and 5 riders, start before them, fastest seed to slowest.

8.7 Pump Track:

- Qualifying: every rider completes one compulsory qualifying run at any time during their division's time slot to be eligible for the finals.
- Finals: solo timed runs featuring the top 30 men and the top 15 women from qualifying, for all divisions. Finalists complete one race run, from slowest to fastest in order of qualifying times.
- All riders start from the same gate and must complete a full outside lap and an inside lap, in any order.
- Chains and pedalling are allowed for the entire course in all divisions.

## 9 Scoring, results and protests

9.1 In each event, riders score points for their rank in their division and category, using the grid below. These points decide team results, King and Queen results and Champion School results.

| Position | Male points | Female points | Position | Male points | Female points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1st | 80 | 80 | 16th | 36 | 4 |
| 2nd | 78 | 70 | 17th | 34 | 3 |
| 3rd | 76 | 65 | 18th | 32 | 2 |
| 4th | 60 | 60 | 19th | 30 | 1 |
| 5th | 58 | 55 | 20th | 28 | 1 |
| 6th | 56 | 50 | 21st | 26 | 1 |
| 7th | 54 | 45 | 22nd | 24 | 1 |
| 8th | 52 | 40 | 23rd | 22 | 1 |
| 9th | 50 | 35 | 24th | 21 | 1 |
| 10th | 48 | 30 | 25th | 20 | 1 |
| 11th | 46 | 25 | 26th | 18 | 1 |
| 12th | 44 | 20 | 27th | 16 | 1 |
| 13th | 42 | 15 | 28th | 14 | 1 |
| 14th | 40 | 10 | 29th | 12 | 1 |
| 15th | 38 | 5 | 30th | 10 | 1 |
| | | | 31st and below | 1 | 1 |

9.2 A rider who does not start scores no points. A rider who starts but does not finish, or is disqualified, scores no points.

9.3 Riders with equal times share the rank and receive the points for the higher placing. The next rank is then skipped.

9.4 Team results: to be eligible for a team result, a school must have a minimum of 2 riders in the same division and category in the event. A team scores the sum of the points of its 3 best ranked riders. A team with only 2 riders scores the sum of those 2 riders.

9.5 King and Queen: riders do not need to enter every event. Riders are ranked on the sum of their points across all events. The rider with the most points in each division is King or Queen of that division. A tie is decided by the combined time of all events. Where tied riders have not ridden the same events, the higher single-event placing decides.

9.6 Champion School: a school's score is the combined points scored across all events by its 10 best male and 10 best female points scorers. A rider's points are counted once, as the sum across all events. The school with the most points is the Champion School. Junior Champion School covers Divisions 3, 4 and 5. Senior Champion School covers Divisions 1 and 2. Overall Champion School is the school with the highest combined Junior and Senior scores.

9.7 Awards: medals to the top three riders in each division and category in each event, and to the top three teams. A shield is awarded to each of the Junior, Senior and Overall Champion Schools. Presentations must not be interrupted. Questions are answered after the ceremony.

9.8 Results enquiries and protests must be made in writing by the School Coordinator (or by the Responsible Adult if the school has no School Coordinator), within 24 hours of results being published. The Commissaires' panel decides by majority and its decision is final. Live timing and event clocks are indicative only. Riders, parents and coaches must not approach timing staff, and all enquiries go through the School Coordinator or Responsible Adult.

9.9 The Commissaires' panel may disqualify a rider from a run or the event for:

- riding with a missing, altered or incorrect plate
- a bike or protective gear that does not comply, or using an e-bike
- using headphones, or breaching rule 4.9
- riding a closed trail or riding after hours
- failing to return to the course properly after leaving it
- obstructing or endangering another rider
- receiving outside assistance on course
- improper behaviour towards officials, marshals or resort staff, including an unjustified re-run request
- any other conduct covered by section 4.

## 10 Officials, marshals and volunteers

10.1 Planned deployment for each event is below, subject to the Event Safety Plan:

| Event | Marshals | First Aid Patrollers |
|---|---|---|
| All-Mountain, Flow and Downhill | 15 marshals stationed throughout the racecourse | 6 First Aid Patrollers across the racecourse and at the Valley Terminal Finish Area and Event Hub |
| Pump Track | 3 marshals stationed throughout the racecourse | 2 First Aid Patrollers in the Event Hub |

10.2 Officials and volunteers must:

- check in at the Event Office before their shift and report to their post on time
- wear a helmet and high-visibility vest while on or near the trails
- not discuss results or faults with riders, coaches or spectators
- not film riders, and limit phone use to emergency calls

- put safety and welfare of riders above all else, and be consistent, objective and courteous.