



2019 Red Hill Gravity Enduro - Presented by Mercedes-Benz Mornington Rider Info Pack.

The sun is coming out, the trails are drying and riding heroically, and that means it's time to go riding! And where better than on the gravity-fuelled trails of Red Hill on the scenic Mornington Peninsula.

Hello and welcome to the 2019 Red Hill Gravity Enduro – presented by Mercedes-Benz Mornington. This Rider Info Pack contains all the relevant information to help you have an awesome weekend of riding, so please read on and soak it all in.



Event Location and Getting There.

The Red Hill region is located on the slopes of Arthurs Seat, on the Mornington Peninsula approximately 80km from the centre of Melbourne. The Race Village this year moves to the top of the hill, and is situated in the Arthurs Seat summit reserve, Arthurs Seat Rd, approximately 100m to the west of the lookout carpark.. Take the Arthurs Seat/Dromana exit off Mornington Peninsula Freeway and continue onto Arthurs Seat Rd and up the hill. The Event Village is on the left as the road levels out. For event parking, turn right into Purves Rd, then 100m down enter the Seawinds reserve; parking is on the left just inside the gate.

Event Schedule

Saturday October 26th:

Registration – 9:00am-3:00pm

Course open for practice – 10:00am-5:00pm – Riders must have their race number attached to their bike in order to practice any Stage trail.

Sunday October 27th:

Registration 7:45am-8:45am

Rider Briefing 8:45am

Race Start from 9:00am

Presentations – 3:00pm (approx.)

Riders will depart from the Race Village in pairs, at 60 second intervals, commencing at 9:00am



Registration

All riders must register and collect their Event Pack, which includes timing chip and race number, at the Red Hill Riders tent prior to heading out to practice or race. When you register, you will be asked to leave your MTBA or driver's licence as security against your timing chip; you will get this back when your chip is returned after the race. You must have your race number attached to your bike before heading out to practice any stages; the Stage trails are closed to public use for the duration of the event over both days – no number, no ride!

You don't need to have your timing chip mounted for practice, as the Stages are not timed, but it's probably a good idea to put it on for security; however it must be fitted for race day, otherwise you won't get any results! It is recommended to place your timing chip as near as possible to one end of your handlebar; some bicycle computer devices can interfere with the signalling of the chip if placed too close. Please take care of your timing chips, and be sure to return them at the end of the race in order to have your times recorded. **Lost chips will incur a \$100 replacement fee.**

All competitors are supplied with a lunch on Sunday generously provided by local vendors, just present your race number to collect your goodies. Little Rebel will be on site in the Race Village taking care of your coffee needs, along with egg & bacon and brisket sandwiches, while Red Hill Brewery will have a bar well stocked with local beers.

There is limited water available on site, so make sure you bring enough to see you through the event.

Raffle tickets for a Spot X bike carrier at \$5 each, and Red Hill Gravity Enduro event T-shirts for \$35 are available at the Registration tent. All proceeds from raffle ticket and T-shirt sales

go into the trail fund to help extend the Red Hill trail network.



General Race Conduct

The Gravity Enduro event comprises six timed descent stages linked by untimed Liaison stages. The total course distance is approximately 30km, with about 1100m vertical gain and loss, with the timed Stages accounting for about 770m vertical drop. Each rider's race time will be the accumulated total of their stage times. U15, U17 and Sport categories will race four stages, bypassing Stages 1 and 6.

All Stage trails are closed to public use for the duration of the event, so only registered competitors will have access to these trails for practice and race.

Riders must be self-sufficient for the duration of the event, including practice, and carry sufficient water, food and spares for three to four hours of riding. Food drops and stashes are not permitted. Carry out all food wrappers. **This is a strictly no shuttles event, including practice. Riders caught shuttling will be disqualified from the event.** Stay on the designated course on the liaison stages; although not timed, these still constitute the overall course. Penalties will be imposed for riders not sticking to the designated course.

All riders must wear an AS2063-approved full-face helmet on all timed stages. Helmets with a detachable mouthpiece are permitted, however the mouthpiece may only be removed for liaison stages. Helmets must be worn at all times when riding. Additionally, for U15 and U17 riders, knee pads, elbow pads and full-finger gloves are mandatory equipment and must be

worn on all timed stages. Neck braces are recommended. Liaison stages do include open roads, so observe all appropriate road rules, and follow directions of course marshalls. Safety checks for handlebar plugs, knee/elbow padding as required and helmets specs will be conducted prior to entering each Stage.

If you encounter a fallen rider, please stop and check they're OK; if necessary stay with the person and send the next rider down to inform the nearest marshal of the situation.

At the finish of the final stage, please ensure the timing volunteers collect your chip in order to retrieve the data and record your times. You will then have your MTBA or driver's licence returned to you. Then feel free to grab a feed and chill out and enjoy the atmosphere of the race village.



The Course (in brief):

Please refer to the course map for a full run-down, but here's a quick teaser of what to expect on each stage. Riders will be marshalled in groups at the start of each Special Stage, and be released onto the course at intervals of at least 30-seconds. Some intervals may be longer to allow the trail to clear for the next group.

Liaison 1:

Riders will leave the Race Village and follow an easy fire trail route to the start area for Stage 1 at the back of Seawinds garden. Watch out for kangaroos lazing in the morning sun!

Stage 1 - Presented by Chain Brain:

Red Hill's signature trail, this one has it all – rocks, drops, chutes, stairs, and the ubiquitous Red Hill tree roots – get used to them, they're everywhere! Steep, lumpy and gnarly in the first half, levelling off a little toward the bottom but still with twists, dips, kicks and pedally pinches.

NOTE: U15, U17 and Sport category riders will skip this Stage and proceed directly from the Village to the start of Stage 2.

Liaison 2:

Pace yourself here, because all that descending comes at a price – this is a long road climb back to the top of the hill. Or you can try to stick it to the roadies who love testing themselves on this route every weekend! Roll over the top of the hill and continue along the road to Stage 2.

Stage 2 – Presented by Canyon Bikes:

A steep and loose fire road plummet begins this stage, then a short, gentle climb before hooking into an almost continuous rock chute – with a few tree roots for good measure! To spice things up, the new bottom extension adds some tighter twists and funky features.

Liaison3:

Hit the road again for a bit of a breather, then turn into the park and climb to the heart of the trail network. It's a bit steep in parts, so enjoy that early breather!

Stage 3 – Presented by DT Swiss:

New Dirt for this year's race! Starting innocently enough, this stage throws a curve ball and takes you on a roller-coaster ride of dips, drops, switchbacks and a healthy dose of tree roots before straightening out and clinging precariously to side of the steep slope.

Liaison 4:

After running out from the Stage 3 finish, loop around and wind your way up the singletrack return climb. And yes, it is laced with the ever-present tree roots! At the top of this climb, be wary of riders preparing to start the next Stage.

Stage 4 – Presented by Red Hill Brewery:

Clinging to the side of the gully just above Stage 3 is Stage 4, laden in all its off-camber glory with roots, rocks, roots, drops, more roots and the mother of all root gardens at the bottom. Did we mention the tree roots?

Liaison 5:

Take another turn up singletrack climb, and again be wary of riders starting Stage 4. Continue up the fire road toward the top of the park. There's another steep, but short, bit here. Traverse through the "Big Dipper", then drop in to the next start gate. Watch out for the gate

after you round the curve! There's a bypass up the embankment on the left. Also be aware of riders coming back up the road after Stage 5 – stay to the right.

Stage 5 – Presented by Bendigo Bank (Balnarring):

Another “new” (at least to Red Hill Gravity Enduro) trail, stage 5 shares its trail gate with Stage 2, but little else – it's tight, twisty, funky and chunky, with plenty of loops, drops, chutes, rocks and roots to keep you on your toes.

Liaison 6:

Pop out of the finish runout and hit the fire road climb, continuing past the start gate. Watch out for riders starting Stage 5 and coming down the road. Keep right. Turn right into the intersecting fire road, then at the top take the roadside trail back to the Race Village. U15, U17 and Sport riders will finish here, the rest will continue through to Stage 6 via gentle fire roads. Take in the views over the Bay, Port Phillip Heads and Bass Strait.

Stage 6 – Presented by Focus Bikes:

This is it, the longest Stage of the race. Starting with a gently descending, fast, flowy run, liberally crossed with the ever-present tree roots, then in the second half the hill side drops away and the trail plummets and winds its way into the valley below.

Liaison 7 – The End:

What goes down must go back up..... No way to soften the blow of this final climb, except to say that as it weaves its way across the hill, this single track climb isn't quite as brutally steep as the nearby fire road. Eventually it levels off, finally returning to the Race Village – and the Finish line – on the same gentle route as the outward leg.

**For rider's-eye videos of each Stage, head over to www.facebook.com/redhillriders and check out the daily uploads. **

Thank you to our event sponsors for making this event possible: Mercedes-Benz Mornington, Chain Brain, Canyon Bikes, DT Swiss, Red Hill Brewery, Bendigo Bank (Balnarring branch), and Focus Bikes

