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Medical Facilities/Emergency

If you have a medical emergency that the follow vehicles cannot take care of, please call 911 (Emergency ONLY). If you are in a section of the course with no cell service, then find the nearest ham operator, who can contact emergency services. The closest hospital is in Alpine, approximately 25 miles from Fort Davis. There will be limited medical staff available at the start/finish area for minor scrapes and scratches. Please try to have someone notify the finish judges if you abandon the race because of medical reasons.

Registration and Packet Pickup

Registration is online only and closes at 9:00 p.m. CST on April 26, 2018. Packet Pickup is in the Fort Davis Chamber of Commerce, 100 Memorial Square #4, Fort Davis, Texas. Packet pickup will be available from 4:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Friday, April 27 and from 6:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m. Saturday, April 28.

You must present a valid and current USAC license at packet pick-up. One day (\$10.00) and full USAC licenses will be available for purchase. One-Day licenses will allow you to race in events open to Cat 5 Men and Cat 4 Women. You must buy two one-day licenses since the event is two days. You must also complete, read and sign a USAC Rider Release Form. **You must** present your license and have a signed release before you will be allowed to pick up your packet and race number.

The Race

Presented by Violet Crown Bicycle Association under USAC permit #2018-901.

Rules (to be used as a guideline ONLY). Please read and be familiar with all USAC rules as they apply to these races:

- ALL USAC racing rules apply at all times when you are on your bike, from registration until final awards.
- Race will be held rain or shine!
- A USAC approved helmet must be worn any time you are on a bicycle from registration through the last awarding of prizes.
- Racers must present a current 2018 USAC license at registration. One day, Full and Renewal license will be available. One day license is for Junior 4/5, Cat 5 men, 35+ 4/5, Women 4 and Masters 60+ age categories only.
- All special instructions, communiqués and official stage results will be posted at the Chamber of Commerce and on the race website (www.texashammerfest.info). **It is the rider's responsibility to check for any Communiqué** and postings before each race.
- Any necessary modifications in race venue or start times will be posted as a Communiqué. Please Check!

- We are racing on an open course and the roads are narrow and winding. **THE CENTER LINE RULE WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED** for your safety. Consider this your **ONE AND ONLY WARNING!** The extra narrow lanes on the south and west sides of the loop will require you to stay well inside the center line to allow traffic to safely pass.
 - Be alert to traffic and road conditions at all times. There are multiple cattle guards on Saturday afternoon's race and Sunday's courses.
 - Race announcements will be read 10 minutes before the start of each race of the stage. It is the racer's responsibility to know the race rules and to be familiar with the course.
 - YOU are responsible to be ready to race at the assigned start time.
 - All litter (bottles, wrappers, fruit, etc) must be deposited at the feed zones or saved for the finish areas. The roads and scenery are a source of both pride and income for Fort Davis – **DO NOT LITTER, you will be disqualified!**
 - Two race numbers will be provided. The same numbers must be worn in all stages and may not be wrinkled, cut or folded. If a number is lost, please see promoter for a replacement. One number shall be placed on the right side, lined up with the side seam of your jersey so the officials can see it. The second number shall be placed centered low on your back to be readable by the follow officials.
 - Riders must notify a Race Official if they are injured and may be submitting an insurance claim so a USAC Report of First Occurrence can be filed.
 - Watch for emergency vehicles on the road. **If they have a siren on you must stop** on the FAR RIGHT to allow them to pass. Volunteer emergency staff may also need to pass – watch for their flashers.
 - Please help us continue having this race. Throw your trash in trash barrels and if you see some on the ground, PICK IT UP!!
 - Protest Period will begin when results are posted and end one hour before the start of the next stage, except with the final stage.
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- Saturday Hill Climb – Protest period ends at 1:30 PM Saturday.
Saturday Crow's Nest Road Race – Protest period ends at 7:30 AM Sunday.
Sunday Road Race – Protest period ends 15 minutes after the results are posted for that category.

Youth and Junior Gear Restrictions

All racers with a racing age of 18 years or younger must report to the staging area at least 20 minutes before their start time. At this time your bike will be handed over to an official to check for compliance with the Junior gear restrictions. This rule applies to ALL Junior Racers, regardless of what class you are racing in. The maximum chain gear ratio allowed in a road event is 7.93 meters or 26 feet (45x12 or 52x14 gear teeth). You may block your gears to achieve this ratio. The official will conduct a roll out test to make sure your bike complies with these restrictions. Once your bike has passed this roll out, it must remain in the start area until the start of your race. Bicycles may be rechecked after completion of your race. Please check with the officials at the finish line.

Support

- Because of the high danger of wildfire, if you pull off the side of the road in your car, please do not leave engine running. All support vehicles should exercise extreme caution in parking at the feed zones and finish areas. Please do not park in high grass with a hot engine. Also, do not leave your engine running if you are on the side of the road.
- **Whenever you have your bike off of a paved area, carry it** rather than rolling it. There are many thorns and goat head stickers in this area which will cause flats.
- Wheels are team wheels in, teams wheels out. Please check in your wheels at the start at least 20 minutes before the start of your race. If you are a junior racing in a nonjunior category, please mark your wheels accordingly so they are not given out to anyone but you. You must provide a spare wheel with the proper gear ratios to the sag vehicle in order to receive one should you have problems.
- Spare wheels must be left at the start area at least 20 minutes before your start time. Please make sure your wheels are marked with team, your race number and category. They will be sorted and placed in the follow vehicle. You should pick up your wheels after each stage. All wheels will be returned to Memorial Square. If you get someone else's wheel, please bring it back immediately after the finish of your race.
- There will be no mechanic, so you will be responsible for your own wheel change. Officials will strictly regulate all neutral support. There will be limited Sag availability, so be prepared to fix a flat on your own in the event you have been dropped from the pack. **Personal or Team Vehicles will not be allowed on the course unless first cleared with the promoter and chief referee!** Support for the Mt. Locke climb should park in the old visitor center parking lot – support vehicles will not be allowed on top of the mountain without prior approval from the chief referee and promoter. Bathrooms in the old visitor center will be open for use as will be the bathrooms in the big observatory at the top.
- Two feed zones will be provided for Sunday's race. No handups will be permitted outside these zones. We will have neutral water handups in the first and second feed zones for those without their own support. These will be volunteers, so work with them on the bottle exchange.
- All handups **MUST** be made inside these feed zones and from the **right side of the road ONLY**.

Race Results

- All results will be posted at the Chamber of Commerce after each stage. Awards will be presented at the finish line of Sunday's race which is the corner of (7th and State Streets).
- Corrections to Name, License Number and Team Name will not be made after the start of the Second Stage. Please review information after Stage one and verify that ALL of your information is correct.
- Individual General Classification (GC) will be determined by the sum of all points of all three stages.
- In case of a tie, sums of stage placings for each rider will decide winners. If still tied, the placings in the final stage shall decide the winner.
- The Protest Period for each stage will begin when the results are posted and will end one hour before the start of the next stage, with the exception of the final stage. The Protest Period for the final stage ends 15 minutes after each category results are posted.

Awards

- Riders must complete all previous stages to be eligible to start the next stage. Mishaps must be reported to the chief referee immediately after completion of a stage to determine if the problem is legitimate for race continuation.
- Racers must complete **ALL** stages to be eligible for the General Classification prizes.
- Awards will be presented at the finish line of Sunday's road races (7th and State Street) approximately 20 minutes after the results for a category are posted.

Relegation or Disqualification

In accordance with USA Cycling Rules, the following offenses are among those that can result in disqualification or relegation. Please read and be familiar with the USAC Rulebook and ALL rules pertaining to this bicycle race.

- Any Behavior dangerous to the rider or other competitors;
- Holding onto or riding in a motor vehicle during any part of the race or failing to ride the entire course;
- Pulling or pushing another rider or their equipment during the race;
- Willfully removing helmet during the race;
- Any fraud or attempted fraud;
- Passing through a road closure or crossing the center line of the roadway;
- Assaulting a competitor, official or any third party;
- Engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct;
- Conspiracy to alter the results of a race;
- Using prohibited drugs;
- Mixing in with a separate category during a stage. If you are caught by or catch racers in another category, you are not allowed to draft or accept assistance from those racers;
- Littering or public urination. Portable toilets and trash bags will be available at each start/finish area.

Thank You

Thanks in advance for your good conduct. The town, the promoter and the volunteers welcome you. They enjoy your participation. Please be a good representative of our sport. Please show good sportsmanship and citizenship at all times. Your Team, your sponsors and the USAC expect it from you and unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Enjoy your race, your stay in Fort Davis and we will see you again next year.

Race Numbers & Placement for All Races

One hip Number is to be worn on the lower right side of the jersey, turned vertically so the numbers are upright when the rider is in a tuck position. The second Number is centered on the back so it can be read from behind. The same two numbers are to be worn in all races. If a number is lost, please see the chief ref or promoter for replacement.

Mens Pro 1/2	1 - 99	Masters 35+ 4/5	100 - 199
Mens Cat 3	300 - 399	Womens Pro/1/2/3	200 - 249
Mens Cat 4	400 - 499	Womens Cat 4	250 - 299
Mens Cat 5	500 - 599	Womens Masters 40+ 3/4	860 - 899
Masters 40+ 1-4	600 - 699	Juniors 4/5	900 - 950
Masters 50+ 1-4	700 - 799		

RACE DESCRIPTION

Stage 1 Mt. Locke Mountain Climb

Saturday Morning, April 28th – 8:00 A.M.

The Saturday Morning race will be a 14 or 16 mile point to point test to see if you are ready to CLIMB.

Please be at the start ready for your race at least 10 minutes before your start time. You will need to turn in team wheels for support vehicles at least 20 minutes before your start time. There will be parking around the courthouse and down State Street. Please **DO NOT** park directly in front of the main business section, unless you are staying there. Please keep the roads clear while warming up.

The Race will start in front of the Hotel Limpia on the south side of Ft. Davis. We will group the classes in front of the Fort Davis State Bank and roll out to the Highway to start. The race will be neutral through town. Your follow car will lead you out. Please do not pass it, or you will be disqualified. The follow car will pull to the right at the intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 188 where we will curve to the left onto Hwy 188. Once the follow car has pulled over, you may begin racing. The first 3 miles will be flat and a good warm up. There is a medium climb up to the Davis Mountain State Park entrance, a small downhill run, then 4 more miles of flat. At mile 9 you will start to climb the foothills of Mt. Locke. For the next 4.5 miles you will have a constant climb, then a false flat (still uphill, but not as much as what you have just ridden). At this point you will exit toward the McDonald Observatory. **Take the second entrance** – it will be marked. NOW you will start to climb. The road to the top of Mt Locke is just over a mile, but includes grades of up to 17%. For those doing the 14 mile race, the finish line will be just before the climb to the top. It will be marked by Friday afternoon. Please notice the 25 MPH posted speed limit on the mountain – DESCEND WITH CARE! If you are riding your bike back to town, please do not ride more than two abreast.

We will provide a neutral support vehicle following each group. All other support will go ahead of the racers and **park in the old McDonald Observatory Visitors center**. Cheer on your riders at this point (they will need it) and wait for them to ride down to you after their finish or, if you wish, hike up to the top Mt. Locke. **Only race official's vehicles will be allowed past the visitor's center**. People are working at the Observatory, please be courteous. Racers will wait at the top of Mt Locke for a break in the climbers for a safe time for descent. Any neutral wheels that you use should be turned in at Memorial Square.

Stage 2 CROW'S NEST

Saturday Afternoon, April 28th – 2:30 P.M.

The Saturday Road Race will be on an 18 mile point to point on a slight climb the entire way.

Please be at the start ready for your race at least 10 minutes before your start time. You will need to turn in team wheels for support vehicles at least 20 minutes before your start time. There will be parking around the courthouse and down State Street. Please **DO NOT** park directly in front of the main business section, unless you are staying there. Please keep the roads clear while warming up.

We will start at the Hotel Limpia at the south end of town. We will group the classes in front of the Fort Davis State Bank and roll out to the Highway to start. The race will be neutral through town. Your follow car will lead you out. Please do not pass it, or you will be disqualified. The follow car will pull to the right at the intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 166 where we will curve to the right onto Hwy 166. Once the follow car has pulled over, you may begin racing. It will be a relatively straight, slightly uphill 17 miles to the finish. The finish line will be marked by Friday afternoon and will be at the intersection of Hwy 166 and Crow's Nest.

If you are riding back to the finish, please do not ride more than two abreast and be aware of traffic. Results will be posted at the Hotel Limpia as soon as they are available.

Stage 3 - Sunday Morning, April 29th - 8:00 A.M.

Madera Canyon – 49 Miles (W1/2/3, W4/5, M35+ 4/5, M5)

Sunday morning you will race a little further and climb a little more. The climbs won't be as steep as Mt. Locke, but there are a few more of them. Please stay well to the right of the center line to allow traffic to pass on the narrow roads.

We will start at the Hotel Limpia. Please be at the start ready for your race at least 10 minutes before your start time. Please turn in your team wheels to the follow cars by this time.

We will group the classes in front of the Fort Davis State Bank and roll out to the Highway to start. The race will be neutral through town. Your follow car will lead you out. Please do not pass it, or you will be disqualified. The follow car will pull to the right at the intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 188 where we will curve to the left onto Hwy 188. Once the follow car has pulled over, you may begin racing. Proceed west toward the McDonald Observatory (yes, you get to climb the first part of the mountain again). You will continue on Hwy 118 past the 2 visitor center entrances. Here you will have a slight downhill for a few miles before hitting a series of steep downhills with short steep climbs on the other side. At the top of the last hill before Madera canyon, you will pass the Feed Zone. You will have your steepest downhill – **proceed with caution**. At the bottom of this canyon will be the Lawrence Wood Picnic Area. You will **turn left** into this park **at the second entrance**, wind through the park and exit back onto Hwy 118 to climb back to the Feed Zone. **NOW** pick up something to drink for your return trip to the finish line. There will be no handups outside this area! The other downhill to watch will be from the visitor center. Use caution! We will finish in town at the intersection of 7th and State streets. Please watch for traffic when you get back into town. There will be traffic control, but keep your head up just the same.

We will have a neutral support vehicle following you. They will have wheels as needed, but no mechanic, so you will need to make your own wheel change. Please turn in any wheels you have used to the officials at Memorial Square immediately after the race. The Stage and GC results will be posted at the Chamber of Commerce as soon as we can. Protest period ends 15 minutes after the results are posted. The GC will be posted after the stage results are approved. Final GC awards will be awarded as soon as the protest period has expired at the finish line of Sunday's race.

McDonald Visitor Center – 33 Miles (Jrs 4/5)

We will group in front of the Fort Davis State Bank and roll out to the Highway to start. Please be at the start ready for your race at least 10 minutes before your start time. Please turn in your team wheels to the follow cars by this time. The race will be neutral through town. Your follow car will lead you out. Please do not pass it, or you will be disqualified. The follow car will pull to the right at the intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 188 where we will curve to the left onto Hwy 188. Once the follow car has pulled over, you may begin racing. Proceed west toward the McDonald Observatory (yes, you get to climb the first part of the mountain again). You will continue on Hwy 118 to the second visitor center entrance where you will turn in and go around the traffic island and turn left back the way you just came. Follow the orange arrows on the pavement. We will finish in town at the intersection of 7th and State streets. Please watch for traffic when you get back into town. There will be traffic control, but keep your head up just the same.

We will have a neutral support vehicle following you. They will have team wheels as needed, but no mechanic, so you will need to make your own wheel change. Please turn in any wheels you have used to the officials at Memorial Square immediately after the race. The Stage and GC results will be posted at the Chamber of Commerce as soon as possible. Protest period ends 15 minutes after the results are posted. The GC will be posted after the stage results are approved. Final GC awards will be awarded at the finish line of Sunday's races approximately 20 minutes after the results are posted.

“The Scenic Loop” – 75 Miles

Sunday morning you will race through the mountains of the “scenic loop” – lots more climbing, but at least there are some downhills to go with it. Please stay well to the right of the center line to allow traffic to pass on the narrow roads.

We will start at the Hotel Limpia. Please be at the start ready for your race at least 10 minutes before your start time. Please turn in your team wheels to the follow cars by this time.

We will group the classes in front of the Fort Davis State Bank and roll out to the Highway to start. The race will be neutral through town. Your follow car will lead you out. Please do not pass it, or you will be disqualified. The follow car will pull to the right at the intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 166 where we will curve to the right onto Hwy 166. Once the follow car has pulled over, you may begin racing. The course is simple – if you come to a paved road, turn right. You will have a slow climb to just past “Point of Rocks” rest area, then a slow descent to “Barrel Springs”(just past Bloys Campground). Here you will start climbing UP to the top of Bear Mountain. We will have a feed zone set up at the top of Bear Mountain. Neutral water bottle handups will be provided by volunteers at this point (they will be given instructions, but may not be experienced, so be cautious AND polite). Here you will start almost 10 miles of downhill to the Kent Hwy turnoff. Rest up because here you will start the first of three major climbs with three major down hills to go along with them – use CAUTION! You will have a second feed zone at the top of Fisher Hill. We will finish in town in front of the Limpia Hotel. Please watch for traffic when you get back into town. There will be traffic control, but keep your head up just the same.

We will have a neutral support vehicle following you. They will have team wheels as needed, but no mechanic, so you will need to make your own wheel change. Please turn in any wheels you have used to the officials at the Hotel Limpia immediately after the race. The Stage and GC results will be posted at the Hotel Limpia as soon as possible. Protest period ends 15 minutes after the results are posted. The GC will be posted after the stage results are approved. Final GC awards will be awarded at the finish line of Sunday's races approximately 20 minutes after the results are posted.