

MOUNTAIN GAMES

LUCID XC MOUNTAIN BIKE

OFFICIAL RACE RULES + ATHLETE GUIDE

JUNE 2027 | GOLDEN PEAK | VAIL, COLORADO

THE SEASON SHIFTER

Everything you need to know before taking on the Lucid XC Mountain Bike race. Review this guide in full before race day.

2027 NOTE: The 2027 race date, exact start schedule, prize purse and final course details are still to be confirmed. The competition structure below is built from the current Mountain Games XC race format and should be updated once 2027 operations are finalized.

01 | EVENT AT A GLANCE

LOCATION Golden Peak, Vail, CO	MAIN COURSE Approx. 5.85 miles / lap	CLIMBING 1,000+ ft / lap	FORMAT 1-3 laps by category
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START / FINISH: Golden Peak. Final 2027 start/finish footprint to be confirmed.

COURSE MAP: The official course map will be released approximately one week prior to the race.

02 | RACE SCHEDULE + CATEGORIES

The schedule below reflects the current XC competition structure and is intended as the working 2027 format until final times are approved.

Pro / Open - Men, Women Single Speed - Men, Women Expert Vet 35+ - Men Expert - Men, Women Expert Junior - Boys & Girls 17-18 Expert Junior - Boys & Girls 15-16	Expert Junior - Boys & Girls 13-14 Sport Master 45+ - Men Sport Vet 35+ - Men, Women Sport - Men, Women Sport Junior - Boys & Girls 17-18 Sport Junior - Boys & Girls 15-16 Sport Junior - Boys & Girls 14 & under Beginner - Men, Women Beginner Junior - Boys & Girls 17-18 Beginner Junior - Boys & Girls 15-16 Beginner Junior 14 & under - Boys & Girls - Short Course Nonbinary
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*Working times based on the current race format. Confirm for 2027 before publication.

03 | CHOOSING YOUR CATEGORY

New to racing? Use these descriptions as a starting point. Age divisions and the categories actually offered for the event always take precedence.

PRO / OPEN	Elite and highly competitive racers competing at the highest level offered.
EXPERT	Highly experienced racers with strong fitness, technical skills and race experience.
SPORT	Experienced recreational or developing racers comfortable on technical mountain-bike terrain but not yet racing at Expert or Pro/Open level.
BEGINNER	Newer racers with limited organized racing experience who are comfortable riding mountain-bike terrain.
SINGLE SPEED	Racers competing on a bike equipped with a single gear.
VET 35+ / MASTER 45+	Age-based adult divisions. The number indicates the minimum age for the category.
JUNIOR	Youth age-group divisions. The age range shown with the category determines eligibility.
SHORT COURSE	A shortened XC course for Beginner Junior riders age 14 & under.
NONBINARY	The nonbinary competition division offered within the XC race.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

For 2026, athlete age was based on age at the end of the calendar year (December 31). Confirm the official 2027 age-determination date before publication.

Still not sure? Contact the Mountain Games athlete/event team before registering so you enter the division that best matches your eligibility and experience.

04 | COURSE + RACE FORMAT

MAIN COURSE

One lap is approximately 5.85 miles with more than 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Riders complete a set number of laps based on category. The course includes Forest Service access roads, singletrack, sustained climbing and technical descending.

SHORT COURSE - BEGINNER JUNIOR 14 & UNDER

The current Short Course is designed for younger riders and consists of one lap on an approximately 3.5-mile course with 500+ feet of climbing and technical downhill sections. Confirm final 2027 distance and elevation before publication.

COURSE MAP

The official course map will be released approximately one week prior to the race. Once released, insert the map or link here.

COURSE MARKING

The course is marked one day prior to the race. Riders should follow the designated XC course signage. The current race uses BLUE course signs, with marshals positioned along the course. Confirm sign color for 2027.

05 | START + STAGING

- Wave 1 riders use yellow-background bike plates; Wave 2 riders use white-background bike plates. Confirm plate colors for 2027.
- Categories are sent out at approximately one-minute intervals.
- A staging corral is set up near the start/finish area so riders can stage by category.
- Start positions within each category are not pre-determined. Athletes are responsible for getting into their desired starting position.
- Riders must follow all course markings and understand the course map before starting.

06 | DETAILED START ORDER + LAPS

Use this table as the operational working schedule. Update all times and lap counts when the 2027 race plan is approved.

1	8:00	Pro/Open - Men	3
1	8:01	Single Speed - Men	2
1	8:02	Expert Junior Boys 17-18 / 15-16	2
1	8:03	Expert - Men	3
1	8:04	Expert Vet 35+ - Men	2
1	8:05	Pro/Open - Women	3
1	8:06	Single Speed Women / Expert Women / Expert Junior Girls 17-18 & 15-16	2
2	11:00	Beginner Junior Boys & Girls 14 & under	Short Course / 1
2	11:01	Sport Vet 35+ - Men	2
2	11:02	Sport Master 45+ - Men	2
2	11:03	Sport - Men	2
2	11:04	Sport Vet 35+ Women / Sport Women	2
2	11:05	Sport Junior Boys & Girls 17-18	1
2	11:06	Expert Junior 13-14 / Sport Junior 15-16 & 14 under	1
2	11:07	Beginner - Men	1
2	11:08	Beginner - Women	1
2	11:09	Nonbinary	2
2	11:10	Beginner Junior Boys & Girls 17-18 / 15-16	1

07 | OFFICIAL RACE RULES

- Helmets are required for all riders at all times while on course. Riders without a properly fitted helmet will not be permitted to start.
- Athletes are responsible for knowing the course and following all designated course markings and signage.
- If a rider goes off course, the current rule is disqualification. Confirm final 2027 penalty language with the Race Director.
- The Race Director will be available prior to the race to answer course questions.
- The official feed zone will be identified on the course map and is self-supported.
- Riders should expect varied terrain, including dirt access roads, singletrack, climbing and descending.

ADD / CONFIRM BEFORE 2027 PUBLICATION

Confirm whether the final rules need additional language for passing, outside assistance, mechanical support, e-bikes, equipment restrictions, protests, timing disputes, sportsmanship, withdrawals/DNFs, course closure, weather, emergency procedures and penalties. Approved Race Director language should control.

08 | RACE DAY CHECKLIST

[] Confirm your category + wave	[] Arrive with time to stage
[] Review the course map	[] Wear a properly fitted helmet
[] Know your lap requirement	[] Display the correct bike plate
[] Review all official rules	[] Stage with your category
[] Prepare hydration / feed plan	[] Follow course signs + marshals
[] Check for event updates	[] Complete the required laps

FINAL 2027 LINKS TO ADD

[Course Map](#) | [Event Page](#) | [Registration](#) | [Mountain Games Athlete Policies](#) | [Results](#) | [Athlete Contact](#)

RIDE HARD. KNOW THE COURSE. HAVE FUN.