
VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES: COURSE MARSHAL

Course Marshals are a critical component of race safety! Course marshals are stationed at key locations along that course to warn riders of hazards, direct riders along the course, monitor for course and rider safety, ensure fair play, motivate the athletes, and manage non-race pedestrian/bike traffic at points where race course crosses another route. Marshal locations are determined ahead of the race by the Race Staff and key instructions for each location will be provided to volunteers. National Mountain Bike Patrollers will be spread out throughout the course to respond to serious medical incidents. Course Marshals will be provided a two-way radio to communicate with the Lead Course Marshal, Course Director, Bike Patrollers, medical first responders, and other course marshals. Course marshals at the end of the day are asked to assist with removing course marking materials and transport them to the infield. Marshals shall not leave their post until instructed to do so by Race Staff or relieved by another Course Marshal!

GOALS AND TASKS

- Increase safety for riders and participants;
- Enhance communication on course to provide for faster response to injuries and situations requiring assistance;
- Direct riders to stay on course;
- Discourage and report course cutting and/or inappropriate behavior;
- Record and report “dropped riders” and riders receiving mechanical assistance;
- Provide encouragement;
- Ensure spectators maintain distance from the trail and do not interfere with a safe, fair race;
- Manage pedestrian/spectator crossings of the race course, if needed.

Volunteers will check-in with the Lead Course Marshal at the First Aid Tent 15 minutes ahead of their shift to receive instructions and equipment. You will be assigned a location (stationary) or a roaming role and will be provided a map, short explanation of your role at that position, and a review of procedures. **Please note if you have any qualifications such as First Aid/CPR certification or are a Level 1, 2, or 3 Coach, as this will help the Lead Course Marshal assign you to the most effective location to support the race.**

THINGS TO BRING

- Bike and helmet (unless you have signed up for a hike-in spot);
 - If you are a registered coach, affix your Coach plate to the front of your bike
- Appropriate clothing and overwear for the (potential) weather conditions;
- Water and nutrition to last the duration of your shift;
- Cell phone
- Bug spray, sunscreen, etc.
 - A limited supply of this will also be available at the First Aid Tent
- A decent knowledge of MiSCA's Rules for Racing ([Requirements and Racing Rules](#))

THINGS YOU WILL BE PROVIDED

- An orange safety vest. *Course Marshals shall wear the orange safety vest to be identified by athletes, spectators, and race staff as a Race Official.*
- A small saddle bag containing:
 - Pen and paper. *Use to note any plate numbers or other details that need to be reported to Race Staff / Scoring.*
 - Basic first aid supplies and PPE. *An inventory list will be posted at the First Aid Tent so that you will know what is available if needed.*
- A 2-way radio. *The radio is the primary method of communication with the Lead Course Marshal, other Course Marshals, and roaming Bike Patrollers to report incidents and receive support.*
- A course map and short position description.

Questions about the position and requirements can be sent to volunteer@miscabike.org.