



Wisconsin Cyclocross Series Racers' Guide 2023

What is cyclocross?!

Cyclocross is short form bicycle racing that consists of many laps over a winding course of mixed terrain (such as grass, mud, trails, gravel and concrete), and may include features that involve temporarily dismounting and carrying your bicycle to navigate obstacles, like logs, barriers or sand-pits or to run up steep inclines. It mixes multiple athletic endeavors, namely riding and running, with a strong emphasis on skillful bike handling.

Races typically last 30 minutes to an hour, but provide an extremely intense workout. The number of laps varies based on course length, conditions and speed. Racers are broken by categories which vary largely by age and skill level. As racers improve and score points throughout the season, they upgrade into faster categories and compete against people closer to their ability. Races start together, but competitors quickly spread out over the course of the first lap. The cyclocross season in Wisconsin runs from September through November, and the greater Midwest season runs through December.

Cyclocross-specific bikes are NOT required. Cyclocross bikes are a hybrid between a road bike and a mountain bike. Typically, the bikes have drop handlebars like a road bike and knobby tires like a mountain bike (although narrower). While a cyclocross-specific bike is NOT required, racers who want tires with some extra traction are able to use mountain bikes. Gravel bikes and mountain bikes are welcome substitutes for a cyclocross bike.

- Trek Video: [youtube.com/watch?v=gNnsNANpCZU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gNnsNANpCZU)
- GCN: Difference between road/cyclocross bike: [youtube.com/watch?v=P7_rVWiigSQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7_rVWiigSQ)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I need a license to race?

A: Yes. Sanctioned racing is broken down into categories. All beginners start in Category 5. If you don't have an annual USA Cycling license, you will have to purchase a One-Day Racing License. One-Day Licenses are automatically added at registration in addition to your race entry. Annual Licenses can be purchased to save money if you plan to race a certain number of races. (It pays for itself after 7.333 races.) They can also be purchased at registration, but purchasing or renewing online before race day is recommended. Licenses are good for a year from the date of purchase.

Q: When should I come to race?

A: If you plan to register, warm up and familiarize yourself with the course, it's recommended that you arrive at least an hour before your race.

Q: Can I use a mountain bike?

A: Yes! Or a gravel bike! (**Note:** Mountain bikes are allowed in all non-UCI races, and are not subject to the 33mm tire width regulation.)

Other Resources:

Find a USAC Registered Team/Club in WI: wicxseries.com/teams

Local Cyclocross Practices: wicxseries.com/practice/

Policies and other information

RACE/EVENT INFORMATION:

- A map showing parking, registration, start line, finish line, and pit for each event should be available online/Facebook 30 days prior to the event. Instructions on which side of jersey to pin number on will also be provided if available.
 - Link to the BikeReg registration page from wicxseries.com/schedule
- If the race details must be changed (ex: venue change due to weather), updates will be attempted to be communicated through Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series Facebook page (facebook.com/wisconsinCXseries), Instagram ([@wicxseries_pb_trek](https://instagram.com/wicxseries_pb_trek)), and the WICX Series website: wicxseries.com

REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN

- To make your race day as smooth as possible, registration should be done online before the event; see wicxseries.com/schedule
- Online registration closes **Wednesday at 23:59 (11:59pm) the week of the race.**
- Riders who have not accepted the electronic waiver must sign a waiver at the registration area
- **Online registration is required for anyone wanting a call-up in their race. The call-ups are based on:**
 - Top five overall in WICX Series (only if pre-registered)
 - Pre-registered riders in order of CrossResults rankings
 - On-site registrants in order of CrossResults rankings
 - Remaining registrants
- Online pre-registration is as follows:
 - \$10 for Junior categories
 - \$25 for Category 5 (novice) racers
 - \$28 for all other categories
 - \$33 for Open 1/2/3 Elite and Women 1/2 Elite categories
 - All USAC and WCA Rider surcharge fees are included in registration fees. BikeReg fees not included.
- Registration can also be done on the day-of the race at the registration area, up to 30 minutes before race time, but are subject to a \$10 late fee.
- In addition, all non-USAC members will be required to buy a one-day USAC license for a fee of \$15 (beginners & collegiate), or \$35 (experienced).

RACING AGE

- Your cyclocross racing age is your age as of December 31 of the year in which the Cyclocross World Championships take place. All Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series races take place in the calendar year before the calendar year in which Cyclocross World Championships take place (the end of January or early February). Therefore your racing age for all Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series events is your age as of 12/31 of the NEXT calendar year.
- More info on your racing age is located here: wicxseries.com/faq/#age-groups

RACE NUMBERS

- Placement of your number is dependent on where race officials are seated. To record the race numbers of finishers, the officials must be able to read your number.
- Pin your number on the correct side and with proper orientation. To find out which side to pin it on for each event; see the diagram at the registration table.
- Do not rip, bend, fold, or otherwise alter your number.

PRE-RIDING

- **Helmets must be worn at all times throughout the venue while astride a bicycle, even if you are not on course. You do not have to wear a helmet on a stationary bike trainer.**
- Riders may want to preview the race course prior to their race to get an idea of the flow of the course and be prepared for any obstacles.
- Pre-ride and warm-up time on the course will be allowed between races, or during the allotted course inspection time at the officials discretion.
- Pre-riding is allowed after the first finisher crosses the finish line, between the finish line and the last active racer on their last lap. Check with finish-line officials to determine if the course is "open."
- Enter the course near to - but a safe distance from - the finish line and always be certain to stay at least 50 feet behind the last active racer. **Passing an active racer can result in disqualification from all of your races that day.**
- **Pre-ride violations may result in disqualification**
- Be an advocate. If you see someone pre-riding during a race, please ask them to leave the course.

STAGING AND CALL-UPS

- Report to staging at least 10 minutes before your scheduled race time.
- Call-Up order based on:
 - a. Top five in series (only if pre-registered)
 - b. Pre-registered riders in order of crossresults rankings
 - c. Onsite registrants in order of crossresults rankings

STARTING

- Heed the instructions of the race official.
- Do not overlap wheels in the start grid.
- Start on the whistle.

RACING

- Do not go backwards on the course.
- Do not cut the course. If you have a mechanical, you must continue forward on the course until you reach the equipment pit.
- If you are being lapped, give lapping riders priority and plenty of room to pass. Move over, slow down.
- The equipment pit will be staffed by a neutral support mechanic when available. You may put your own equipment - wheels, bike, etc - in the pit. You may also have a pit crew in the pit.

FINISHING

- The number of laps remaining will be displayed at the finish line.
- A bell will be rung to signify one lap remaining as each rider passes the finish line with one lap remaining.
- All riders will finish on the same lap as the leader, however if a slower rider has been lapped by the race leader, the rider may receive fewer laps and not receive a bell. Heed the official's instructions

DAILY RESULTS & PODIUMS/PRIZES

- Results will be posted in the registration area 5 to 15 minutes after each race ends.
- Racers may petition USAC officials for results corrections up to 15 minutes after results are initially posted.
- Results are final for awarding prizes 15 minutes after they are posted. Riders who have failed to protest within the time limit waive any right to prizes.
- Prizes are determined by individual race organizers. See individual race flyers for prize lists.
 - Note that Category 5 races are intended for individuals to gain exposure to cyclocross and are not intended to be entered competitively more than a handful of times. Cat 5-only races are not required to have podium merchandise awards beyond medals or certificates when available.
- Prizes can be claimed according to the posted podium schedule.
- Podiums will be for the TOP THREE racers in each category (unless a race promoter offers prizes 5-deep) once results are final.

- Racers should report to the Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series Podium banner several minutes prior to the ceremony and in their Team Jersey (recommended) for photographs.
- See schedule above for podium ceremony times.

Start times, entry fees and race duration

2023 Race Day Schedule		
Start Time	Category	Duration
9:00	Masters 35+ 4/5	30
9:01	Masters 50+ 4/5	30
9:45	Women 35+ Open	30
9:46	Women Cat 4/5	30
10:30	Men Cat 4	30
10:31	Men Cat 5	30
11:15	Jr Boys 15-18	30
11:16	Jr Girls 15-18	30
11:17	Jr Boys 9-14	30
11:18	Jr Girls 9-14	30
11:45	Course Inspection	30
12:15	Women Cat 1/2	45
12:16	Women Cat 3/4	45
1:15	Men Cat 1/2/3	55
1:16	Masters 35+ Cat 1/2/3	55
2:25	Men's Cat 3/4	45
2:26	Single Speed 4/5	45
3:25	Single Speed 1/2/3	45
3:26	Masters 50+ Cat 1/2/3	45

UPGRADES

- Refer to USAC upgrade policies for most current upgrade information, to calculate your upgrade points and to request upgrades/downgrades: usacycling.org/about-us/governance/policy-viii#upgradegeneralinformation and usacycling.org/about-us/governance/policy-viii#cxupgrades

Race series overall

All Rules and Regulations of the regular season Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series races listed above apply to the unless noted in this section.

SERIES OVERALL

- The Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series overall champions will be determined by the highest number of total points scored in your best **NINE [9] of the total of TWELVE [12] races**, excluding the Wisconsin State Championship race. (~80% participation, rounded down).

- To be eligible for the overall series competition, riders must participate in a MINIMUM of FIVE [5] series races. (~42% participation, rounded down).
- Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series Overall Standings and Category Standings will be linked from crossresults.com/wicx
- USAC Upgrade Points are awarded in all races (where field sizes are large enough, etc.).

CATEGORIES

The Trek Bicycle presents Wisconsin CX Series will score overall series points for the following categories:

- Men Pro 1/2/3
- Women Pro/1/2
- Men Category 3
- Women Category 3
- Masters 35+ Category 1/2/3
- Masters 50+ Category 1/2/3
- Women Masters Open
- Women's Single Speed 1/2/3
- Women's Single Speed 4/5
- Men's Single Speed 1/2/3
- Men's Single Speed 4/5
- Junior Boys 9 – 14
- Junior Girls 9 – 14
- Junior Boys 15 – 18
- Junior Girls 15 – 18
- Women Category 4
- Men Category 4
- Masters 35+ Category 4/5
- Masters 50+ Category 4/5

Note: **No overall prizes will be awarded for Women Category 4 or 5, Men Category 4 or 5, or Masters Men's Category 4/5.** These are beginners' races, or meant to funnel participants into more competitive races.

TREK BICYCLE PRESENTS WISCONSIN CX SERIES OVERALL POINTS SCORING

- Riders' individual race scores will be scored toward an overall series point total. The following scoring schedule will be used for all races:

Place	Points	Place	Points
1st	20	9th	7
2nd	17	10th	6
3rd	15	11th	5
4th	13	12th	4
5th	11	13th	3
6th	10	14th	2
7th	9	15th	1
8th	8		

Minor scoring Notes:

- CX Committee/officials decisions on placements and scoring are final.
- After upgrading from a lower category, series overall points are not transferred to the new category.
- Ties will be decided by head-to-head results, then the tie will be broken in favor of the rider who has the most first place finishes; or, if still tied, the most second place finishes, etc.
- If still tied, after the first tie breaking exercise, the victor will be determined by Feats of Strength at the State Championships

SERIES OVERALL AWARDS

- The following is the Series overall prize list for Men Category P/1/2/3 and Women Category P/1/2:
 - 1st \$150.00 + TBD Trek Dealer Gift Card + Champion's Jersey
 - 2nd \$100.00
 - 3rd \$75.00

- The following is the Series overall prize list for Women's Single Speed 1/2/3, Men's Single Speed 1/2/3, Masters 35+ 1/2/3, Masters 50+ 1/2/3 and Women's Masters 1/2/3:

1st \$100.00 + TBD Trek Dealer Gift Card + Champion's Jersey
2nd \$60.00
3rd \$40.00

- The following is the Series overall prize list for Open Cat 3:

1st \$75.00 + TBD + Champion's Jersey
2nd \$50.00
3rd \$25.00

- Series overall champions in the above categories will receive a custom designed Wisconsin CX Series Champion's jersey
- Junior category series overall champions will also receive the Wisconsin CX Series Champion's Jersey.
- No jerseys will be awarded to Category 4 or Category 5 racers
- Jerseys must be ordered within the specified window at the close of the series; Please ensure the WCA CX committee has your correct contact information.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

- The top three places in each category shall receive USA Cycling medals: gold, silver and bronze for their accomplishments.
- Medals are in addition to any payouts / merchandise advertised by the race promoter.
- No jerseys will be awarded for the one day race. See Series Overall Awards for Jersey information.

Inclusion and safety

The WCA CX Series is a Safe and inclusive space for all. Participants shall have an equal opportunity to participate in bicycle racing without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin. Men's fields are open to all racers: men, women and non-binary racers. Women's races are open to all cis women, transwomen and non-binary racers. Junior categories are considered open to all juniors; racers may select the race that they feel most comfortable racing.

Discrimination or harassment of any type on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender sexual orientation, gender identification or national origin will not be tolerated and will result in immediate disqualification at our events.

Link to USA Cycling Transgender policy: usacycling.org/about-us/governance/transgender-athletes-policy