



# eMTB challenge

**17 September 2022**

Riders' Notes



**IMPORTANT EVENT INFORMATION  
PLEASE READ!**





# About the event



**Welcome to Europe's most exciting e-bike adventure, visiting the UK for the third time. Top trail riding, uphill flow and tech climbing stages combined with enduro style on a big e-xploration of the Glentress trails. Along the way you'll navigate your way through local landmarks, classic trails and a specially prepared lunch stop.**

You'll cover around 30 kilometres, and have around 1,000 metres of climbing to contend with. The course, a mix of uphill and downhill timed (enduro-style) stages with orienteering transfer liaisons in between.

It's a real voyage of discovery — riding techniques, orientation skills, fitness and smart battery management\* are key to your success. The enemy? Time itself.

On the individual stages you're against the clock, without any prior practice (it's all 'blind' racing), and during the transfer stages emphasis is on finding your way around the route. You'll need to check-in at various orientation points along the route, using the map we provide. Miss one and you'll earn a 10-second time penalty.

There are five standard/amateur stages and two advanced-only ones. The advanced stages are 1A and 2A. These are for riders entered into the Advanced categories only.

Stages 1, 3 and 2A will feature a 'No Feet Zone'. Keep those feet up and don't dab and you'll avoid a 10 second penalty.

The standard course stages are designed for a wide range of skill levels but aren't suitable for an absolute beginner.

And once you've navigated your way back to base at TweedLove Festival on Tweed Green, you can enjoy a cold beer and soak up the festival vibes.

\*you should comfortably be able to complete the course with 1 fully charged 600kWh battery – used wisely! Take a look at the overall stats and if you think your battery won't be big enough - there are some chunky climbs - you can change to the

Amateur course in advance or on the day. If you stick with the Advanced but don't think you'll get around course with one battery on the day, you can switch to the Amateur course.

Just be sure to let the timings guys know when you hand your timing chip in. Bosch rules state you can bring a second battery, as long as you carry it yourself, however we'd recommend for safety that you use one battery and change to the Amateur course.





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Please read this info carefully  
– it contains things you need  
to know for the race.



**eMTB  
CHALLENGE**

supported by

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**BOSCH** *ePowered*

**TREK**



**poc**



## 1. Event Schedule

**Saturday 17 September**  
**08:30 – 10:15**

**EVENT REGISTRATION AT TWEED GREEN, PEEBLES.**

Please come to registration promptly to collect your timing chip, race number and course map.

If you wish to register for a friend, you must have their order confirmation with you and details of their emergency contact – very important.

**10:00 - 11.00**

**RACE START**

Collect your timing chip from the timing tent at Event HQ. Arrive 15 minutes before your allocated start time to collect your timing chip. You cannot collect your timing chip at any other time.

Maps will be provided.

**18:30**

**PODIUMS**

Podium ceremony in TweedLove Festival Village.





## 2. Getting there

### 2.1 Getting There

The Event HQ, registration and start is on Tweed Green, Peebles. It's within easy reach of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Newcastle, the Scottish central belt and the north of England. The nearest postcode for the event village is EH45 8A.

### 2.2 Parking

#### THIS IS IMPORTANT!

Car parking in Peebles – Edinburgh Road Car Park EH45 8AY and Haylodge Car Park, Neidpath Road EH45 8NN are the advised parking for event entrants.

These are a short distance from the event village – please be advised that **there will be little or no parking at Tweed Green**. There is extensive free parking on many side streets around town, but please park responsibly and courteously. Visit: :

<https://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/peebles-united-ki%20>

### 2.3 Courtesy

Please do not ride on the pavement at any time.

Please be courteous to residents and everyone else. Let's make sure the MTB community has a good name and a reputation for good conduct. You can ride rad on the tracks but keep it polite in town. Thanks.

The forests will also be busy as it's a weekend – be courteous to other forest users, walkers and riders at all times. Transition sections, between the race stages, are all open to the public for riding as usual. Race stages are all closed to the general public by law for the duration of the race.

### 2.5 Accommodation

#### OFFICIAL TWEEDLOVE CAMPSITE

We now have a lovely site within easy walking/ bike distance of the festival village, on the south west outskirts of Peebles. Full info is on the [website](#) but it's now full, sorry. See our website for other options.

### 2.6 Event Facilities

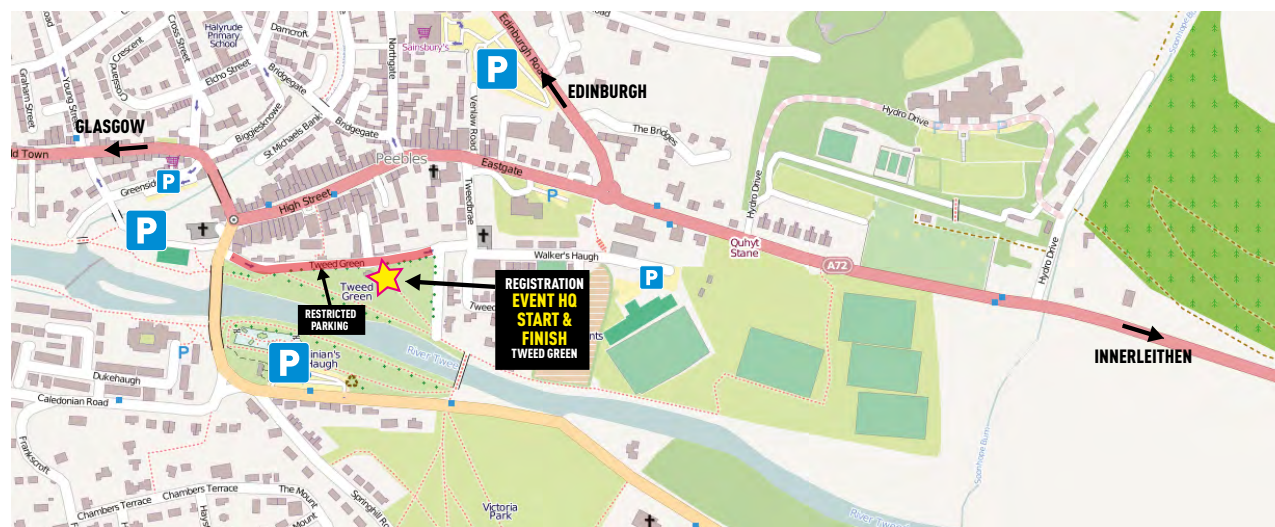
The Event Village / Event HQ will be at Tweed Green, Peebles, EH45 8AP on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

There will be portable toilets, fresh drinking water and a bike wash on site.

For information on what brands will be at the Event HQ and food vendors, check out our [website](#).

### 2.7 EMTB CHARGING

This year, you'll be able to charge your bike battery in the event village near the bar. Sit down for some food, and a cold beer, while your battery charges. You'll need to bring your own charger, and a lock.



## 3. Rider Info

### 3.1 Registration

Registration will be at Event HQ at Tweed Green, Peebles, EH45 8AP.

You must register before you race. You'll be given the course map at the start of the race. No racing is allowed without a number board.

### 3.2 Number Boards

Every rider will get a number board, which must be fixed on the bike (we'll provide the zip ties etc) and must be readable throughout the competition.

Medical conditions and emergency contact details must be completed on the reverse of the number board (make sure you have these details with you!).

**No rider may use another's rider's event number.**

### 3.3 Timing

The event uses SPORTident Air timing, and riders will carry an active timing card which will record their times as they pass the various timing points on the course.

Your time will be recorded: At the very start, before you leave the Event village/HQ. At the start and finish of every stage. At the end of the race, before you hand in your card at the Timing Tent — when you'll be given your results. A fine of £60

will be applied if you do not return your timing card – and you won't get your times!

Active timing cards must be returned to get results. On handing in your timing card, you will be given a print-out of your times. You must wear your timing card on your RIGHT wrist. Timing stations/card readers are all on the right-hand side of the trails.

**Please Note:** Stay away from timing beacons (4m) around stage starts and finishes, as your timing chip is a sensitive piece of equipment, and this can lead to false timing recording. All timing beacons will have taped exclusion zones around them, so stay out of these sterile areas at all times.

### 3.4 Clothing And Kit

Please make sure that you are well prepared for a day out on the hills. We're in Scotland and you'll be out exposed to the elements for several hours.



### You must have the following:

**Helmet (open or full-face) HELMETS MUST BE WORN & FASTENED AT ALL TIMES WHILE YOU ARE RIDING YOUR BIKE.**

- E-MTB with fully charged battery
- Mobile phone (charged)
- Bar end plugs
- Suitable clothing for a day in the Scottish hills
- Innertubes/puncture repair kit
- Multi tool
- Basic, well maintained first aid kit
- Food and fluids

### Strongly Recommended

- Knee pads
- Elbow pads
- Gloves
- Eye protection (glasses or goggles)
- Front mudguard
- Full body cover and waterproof jacket if conditions cold/wet
- Suitable backpack
- Emergency blanket



## 3. Rider Info (cont.)

### 3.5 Cameras and Conduct

#### Cameras

We acknowledge that many racers decide to use an onboard camera such as a GoPro to record events. It is the policy to allow for cameras to be worn on either bike attachments, or breakable chest and body mounted positions. However, camera equipment must not be attached directly onto the main body of the helmet, but can be attached to the visor. In using the equipment, the rider is fully aware and conscious of the potential risks that are then exposed to them as a result. This concerns incidents of injury, accidents or damage to equipment.

#### Conduct

- Keep to your time schedule.
- Be polite to other riders, marshals, event staff and members of the public.
- Use correct warnings on trails and roads: e.g. "Rider on your right".
- Be patient and queue in an orderly fashion if needed.
- Let faster riders pass.
- Course cutters will be disqualified.
- Follow the highway code on all roads.
- Riders are responsible for their own safety, the safety of those around you and the condition of personal equipment.





## 4. Course

### 4.1 Course groups

#### Advanced

For the ambitious and the professional – compete with the best! You'll complete the full course including the 'Advanced-only' race stage.

#### Amateur

You'll travel the same distance as the Advanced category, but with less power pressure. You'll complete everything except the 'Advanced-only' stages.

#### Points to note

- The e-mountain bike must be provided by the participant.
- Approved bikes are standard mountain bike pedelecs with a maximum engine assistance of 25km/h.
- S-pedelecs, tuned pedelecs and also bikes with no e-support are not allowed.
- Helmets are mandatory.



### 4.2 Course summary

There are Five Race Stages plus two Advanced Race Stages. You will be given a course map before you start.

An important part of the Bosch eMTB Challenge series is that you must navigate your way around the course yourself - it is not all waymarked. You must visit all the orientation points as well as completing the race stages.

There is no advance practice.

The race stages are all closed to the public on Saturday. Transition stages remain open to the public at all times. Please be courteous to other trail users!

**Please take care on all transition stages and fire roads - the forest will be busy with bikes and riders. Keep left and look out for two way traffic.**

And as always, allow faster riders to pass.

#### Downhill stages

The downhill stages may feature some technical features with bumps, rocks, roots and small (roll-able) steps. In places, hard or easy route alternatives can be selected depending on experience and performance level.

#### Uphill stages

As well as fitness and motor performance, the uphill stages mainly test eBike riding skills. Obstacles and small steps challenge the riders just as much as tight corners. A 'No Feet Zone' must be completed without touching the ground, otherwise a time penalty is applied. Riders can choose between a difficult route and an easy route on several sections of the trail.

#### Transfer stages

There is no time measurement in the transfer stages, but the riders' co-ordination skills are tested as these stages are completed according to a map. Riders have to find various checkpoints close to the track. For every missing point a time penalty of 10 seconds will be added to the time recorded on the Uphill and Downhill stages.



## 4. Course (cont.)

In order to offer all riders the best possible flow experience, the trails are designed for various levels of difficulty: While less experienced riders will have the opportunity to adapt slowly to challenging trails and fast bends, advanced bikers can prove themselves on technically challenging track sections.

Participants are not allowed to check out the stages in advance, but instead start the challenge 'blind' — so that anticipatory riding and spontaneous reaction to the trails is vital. Times are only recorded on the race stages and the individual sections are added together to get a total time at the end. The transfer stages between the stages are completed according to a map and without timing, so that the teams can enjoy the ride together and prepare for the next stage.

Everyone has to complete stages 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. Stages 1A and 2A are only for the Advanced category riders.

### 4.3 Course Marking

All our race tape is recycled.

The course will be marked with tape throughout. Some sections where there are no optional lines or crossings will be left relatively free of tape. All junctions or crossings will be clearly taped off. Signage will be in place as required.

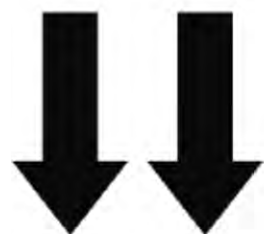
Transitions will be marked with a combination of arrows, tags of course tape and other markers

beside the road or trail.

All hazards on the course will be identified with warning signs.

#### Double Downward Arrow

This indicates a steep or technical section/trail hazard.



#### Triple Downward Arrow

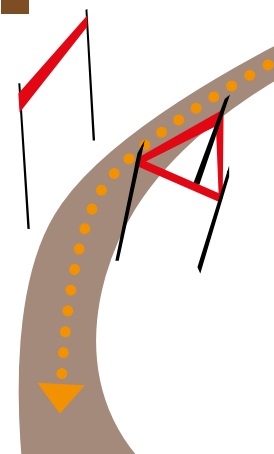
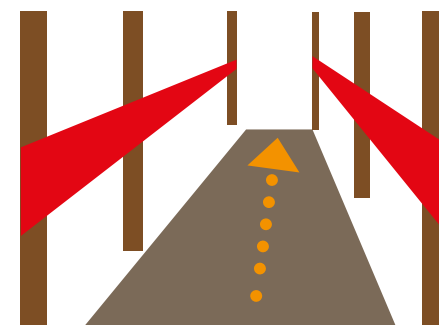
This indicates the most difficult or most severe technical sections on the course.



#### Gates

Where taped gates are set out, you must always pass between the two taped sides. On some more open sections, these tape 'gates' will be used.

This will involve a set of taped posts on either side of the track. Anywhere there is tape on both sides of the track, the rider must pass between the two sides of the gate. Failure to do so will be regarded as course-cutting and lead to disqualification.





## 4. Course (cont.)

### 4.4 Important Notes

- Battery management is key!
- Your timing chip will record all your stage start and finish times.
- You can only ride each stage once.
- All riders' times are logged and available at the finish. On handing in your timing chip, you will be given a print-out of all your times.
- If you have unforeseen delays or issues which will affect your ability to complete the course in time, please notify a marshal or race official.
- If the race is stopped or delayed for any reason, timings will be adjusted accordingly.
- You must ride the course in order - as it appears on the map.
- A sweeper will go round the course at the end.
- If you retire for any reason, please inform an event official.
- Riders may swap from Advanced to Amateur or vice versa but they must let timing control know this at the end.

### 4.5 Food And Water

A special food stop with a delicious lunch awaits you at the Feed Station after Stage 3. Drinking water is available at the event village and you can refill at the lunch stop too. Your food/lunch stop is

supplied by the fantastic people at Traquair cafe. High 5 energy products are also available at the food stop.



### 4.6 Mechanical Support

Mechanical support will be provided by Chain Reaction and will be available at the Feed Station after Stage 3.





## 5. Rules & Regulations

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### 5.1 Bosch e-MTB Challenge rules & regulations

The official Bosch eMTB Challenge rules can be found [here](#). Please familiarise yourself with them.

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### 5.2 Responsibilities & Rules

Riders attend the event on their own account and at their own risk. The rider is responsible for the safety of his bike, equipment and clothes. The organisation is not responsible and cannot be held responsible for any injuries and/or damages as results of any action during the event, or during practice for the event.

The organisers reserve the right to disqualify any rider in breach of any of these regulations.

This agreement starts with the entry. The organisation reserves the right to make any necessary changes or even to cancel the whole event according to safety problems at any time, official orders, government laws or other unforeseen events.

The organisers will endeavour to give all entrants a time derived from the electronic timing chip system provided. However, they are not responsible in the unlikely event of fault in the electronic timing system.

### 5.3 Protest & Waiver

Protests against the result or disqualifications should be addressed to the Event Organisers within the 30 minutes following the end of the race.

Every rider understands and admits that their participation in the event is voluntary. They assume full responsibility for any injuries or damages from their participation in, or practice for, the event.

They recognise and understand that mountain biking and the activities associated with this event may be hazardous, that their participation is solely at their own risk and that they assume full responsibility for any resulting injuries and damages that may occur.

Every rider affirms that they are in good health. They declare that they are physically fit and capable to participate in the event. Every rider understands it can be a strenuous day out with significant amounts of climbing and distance to be cycled in order to complete the course.

Every rider has to acknowledge that they have read and understand this entire waiver of liability and agrees to be legally bound by it.

### 5.4 Terms & Conditions

Full terms and conditions can be viewed [here](#).

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### 5.5 Insurance

Personal insurance coverage is not provided by Hillside Outside.

Participants are responsible for securing their own accident, rescue, health, travel, property and liability insurance.





## 6. First Aid & Medical

### 6.1 First Aid

Medical support is provided by MX Medical Ltd. As organisers, we believe you are in the best care possible, and we take safety considerations very seriously. On race day there will be mobile units on the hill, as well as a static First Aid station at Event HQ.

If you need assistance there's a small injuries unit at Hay Lodge Medical Centre in Peebles EH45 8JG. The nearest A&E is at Borders General Hospital in Melrose. In case of emergency, always call 999.

### 6.2 Head Injuries

There's increasing awareness of the big problems surrounding head injuries, so we have new measures in place. Race marshals and riders

will all be expected to play their part in looking out for head injury incidents, and if following a crash anyone is suspected of a bad head knock they may be asked to pause until they can be assessed. The EWS has produced a lot of info on this – please check it out here.

Here's a short part of that guidance:

#### Visible signs of concussion for riders/riding buddies/support staff

The presence or development of any one or more of the following visible signs may indicate a concussion injury has occurred. If concussion is confirmed or suspected the rider should stop riding/racing immediately and not return to riding for the rest of that day.

- Changing level of consciousness or responsiveness
- Slow to get up after a direct or indirect hit to the head
- Unsteady on feet/ balance problems or falling over/incoordination
- Grabbing/clutching of head

- Dazed, blank or vacant look
- Obvious facial injury and/or head trauma
- Disorientation or confusion and an inability to respond appropriately to questions.

### 6.3 Safety

You must ride safely, in control and within the limits of your ability at all times – this includes when overtaking. **Helmets must be worn & fastened at all times while you are riding your bike.**

Any rider failing to comply with this will be disqualified.

Trails used for the race stages are closed to the public. However, please remain vigilant in case someone strays onto the course who shouldn't be there.







### Event Merchandise

Grab yourself a new race jersey, or a limited edition Tshirt; visit the [TweedLove Shop online](#). Or visit our TweedLove shop in the Event Village!

[VISIT SHOP](#)



### Join the conversation

[tweedlove.com](https://www.tweedlove.com)

Post-race, we'll be sharing images and results from the event, make sure you follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Please contact us at [info@tweedlove.com](mailto:info@tweedlove.com) with any queries.

