Technical Regulations

WHAT'S CHANGING IN 2027

AUSCYCLING

2027 Technical Regulations – What's Changing

1 November 2026

The 2027 AusCycling Technical Regulations are now published and apply to all AusCycling-sanctioned events from 1 January 2027. This update summarises the key changes in each discipline, so riders, clubs, coaches, team managers and officials know what is different before they race.

Changes for the discipline of Track were communicated separately and are not repeated here. The full regulations for every discipline are available on the AusCycling website.

General (all disciplines)

- **International licence for National Championships:** riders in Elite, Under 23, Junior (Under 19) and Para-cyclist National Championships must hold an International licence.
- **Damaged helmets:** if a helmet is damaged, the AusCycling concussion policy must be followed.
- **Commissaire uniform:** Commissaires wear an AusCycling shirt, or one supplied by the event organiser; legacy organisation shirts are no longer listed.
- **Managers' meetings:** the Doping Control Officer is no longer listed as an attendee.
- **Race penalties:** refer to each discipline's regulations for the penalties that apply.
- **Officials for National Gran Fondo Championships and UCI Gran Fondo Series:** these events, and Gravel events, are now included in the table of officials required at each level of event, and the officials numbers for National and State Championships have been updated.

Road

- **Clip-on extensions for U15 and U17 (Road and Track):** non-permanent clip-on handlebar extensions may be used in Individual and Team Time Trials. Each extension must be secured independently with removable clamps or saddles; screws or bolts must not be threaded into the handlebars or stem.
- **New helmet specifications (1.02.08):** helmets for all road events must fit within 450 × 300 × 210 mm.

	Traditional helmet	Time trial helmet
Ventilation	At least 3 distinct air inlets in the shell	No restriction
Ear coverage	Must not cover, obstruct or enclose the ears	No restriction
Visor	Integrated or detachable visors not permitted	Permitted, must fully cover the eyes
Individual and Team Time Trial	Permitted	Permitted
All other road events	Permitted	Not permitted

- **Eye protection:** visors and sunglasses must fully cover the eyes in a neutral head position and in normal riding positions. Designs that expose the eyes are not permitted.
- **Under 23 National Championships:** men's Under 23 riders registered with a UCI WorldTour or UCI ProTeam may not ride the Under 23 National Championships.

Mountain Bike

- **Leaving the course:** a rider who leaves the course with one or both wheels must rejoin between the same two course markers where they left it.
- **XCO course length:** courses should be between 3.5 km and 6 km (previously 4 km to 6 km), and this is now a recommendation rather than a requirement.
- **Start width:** the start should be at least 6 m wide (previously 8 m) for the first 100 m.
- **Event guidelines:** event-specific guidelines can now vary the standard provisions, as well as season guidelines.

Gravel

Format and distances

- Races are 50 to 200 km, with a target winning time of 2.5 to 4.5 hours for Elite and Masters.
- Courses may be laps of one or more circuits (each at least 10 km) or point-to-point.
- Multi-day events are timed under road stage race regulations.
- Results are split by category, as well as by age group.

Junior maximum distances have increased in alignment with the following table:

Category	2027 maximum	Previously
Junior 19 men	100 km, 4 hours	100 km, 2.5 hours
Junior 19 women	90 km, 4 hours	70 km, 2.5 hours
Under 17	90 km, 4 hours	50 km, 2 hours

- The maximum rollout for Under 15 at State and National events increases from 6.10 m to 7.0 m.

Course design

- Tarmac may make up no more than 40% of the race distance; cobbles do not count as tarmac.

- Courses should use existing paths and roads, avoid grass and running sections, and be rideable in normal weather.
- Most of the course should be at least 3 m wide.
- Mountain bike and cyclo-cross obstacles are not allowed: planks, drops, rock gardens, technical singletrack and artificial sand sections.
- Courses must be clearly signed.
- A course may only cross itself if riders from different start waves cannot arrive at the crossing at the same time.
- The same road may be used in both directions only if it is at least 5 m wide with a physical barrier between the two sides; neither direction is a descent, and the timing keeps riders apart.

Equipment and race procedure

- Any gravel, road, mountain bike or cyclo-cross frame may be used.
- Body numbers must be regulation size: 16 cm wide by 18 cm high, with 10 cm figures.
- A rider who starts after their due time or wave is timed from the gun time of the wave, they should have started in.
- Technical assistance is allowed anywhere on the course, but bike changes are not: riders must finish on the frame they started on.
- Feeding is allowed in signposted feed zones, and from team or rider assistants anywhere except on descents and in the final 10 km. A neutral support and feed area is provided at least every 25 km.

Cyclo-cross

- **Planks replace barriers:** the course may include one section of two planks on a straight section of the course, 4 to 6 m apart. The planks must be solid for their full height and free of sharp edges. This replaces the previous rule on barriers.

BMX Racing

- **Finishing:** a rider finishes when the leading wheel's tyre reaches the finish line. The rule that bike and rider must cross the line together has been removed.
- **Equipment:** BMX Racing equipment now follows the UCI General Regulations (Part VI, Chapter 1) directly; the note describing AusCycling's rules as supplemental has been removed.

BMX Freestyle

- **Park – end of run:** a trick fully completed when time runs out counts. A trick also counts if the front wheel is off every surface when time expires, including lip tricks, manual links and wall rides started before time runs out.
- **Flatland – end of run:** judges will not score any trick that is not completed when time runs out.
- **Commissaire powers:** the Commissaire may warn, disqualify or refuse the start of a rider for breaches including equipment rules, the event schedule, restricted areas or time limits, the start order, deliberate damage, riding under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances, smoking in restricted areas, and inappropriate or unsporting behaviour.

Para-Cycling

- **Professional riders as tandem pilots:** members of a UCI WorldTour, UCI Women's WorldTour, UCI ProTeam or UCI Women's ProTeam may not pilot a tandem. This replaces the broader ban on any rider registered with a UCI trade team.

- **Former professional riders as pilots:** riders who were on one of those teams must wait 12 months after their contract ends before piloting. Previously the wait ran for a calendar year from 1 January after leaving.
- **Pilot eligibility for national-level events:** the list of events a pilot must not have ridden now refers to UCI World Cups, UCI World Series and similar events, replacing the list of regional games.
- **Multi-class standings:** factored standings across classes may now be run as separate men's and women's categories, rather than one combined category.
- **Adaptive Mountain Bike:** guidelines for adaptive mountain bike riders are now part of the regulations.
- **Road race distances:** distances have been updated for the T, Transplant and Short Statured classes.

Esports

- **Equipment:** the rule allowing any two-wheeled bike has been removed. Smart trainers and smart bikes on the platform's approved equipment list are allowed, connected by Bluetooth, Wi-Fi or a direct connection.
- **Rider measurements:** height and weight are measured under the esports platform's pre-race protocol. At in-venue events, accurate height and weight will be recorded.
- **Technical problems:** at in-person events, the event organiser and the PCP will decide how to respond to a significant technical problem, including whether to restart the race. The PCP makes the final ruling.

If you have a question about how a change affects you, your club or your event, email the AusCycling Officials team at officials@auscycling.org.au, or speak to the Commissaire at your next event.