

Travers

MTB SERIES 2024



- Round 1 - 14th April 24
- Round 2 - 28th April 24
- Round 3 - 19th May 24
- Round 4 - 9th June 24
- Round 5 - 23rd June 24
- Round 6 - 7th July 24

Potash Race Venue, Hall Road, Hockley, Essex SS4 1PL

Guidance for marshals, volunteers, participants, spectators and vendors

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for being involved in Travers MTB Series.

Please note that since 2021, The Travers MTB Series has no longer been held under British Cycling Rules and Regulations, freeing us up to run fairer races where riders compete against others of similar ability rather than similar ages.

Despite not being held under British Cycling Rules and Regulations, we closely follow any new guidance for holding races, particularly around infection control.

Reading and understanding this document and the event rules (appendix 1) is mandatory for all attendees.

Any questions; please contact me at info@traversbikes.com

Michael

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RACE LOCATION

Use postcode SS4 1PL. This is the postcode for the main house, the entrance for the race carpark is a further 100m down the road in the Hockley direction (there will be banners outside).



WHAT3WORDS – [senders outcasts meatball](#)

Google Map Reference - [51°35'09.5"N 0°40'18.2"E](#)

KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY

- Entries can be made up to 11:59pm on the Wednesday before each round (Entry on the day is not possible).
- ONLINE entries only.
- At your first event, collect your Number Board and Helmet Tag from the Travers Gazebo, no need to 'Sign On'.
- Your Number Board and Helmet Tag must be used for all races in the series. They have chips attached to them and will cost £5.00 to replace (payable by card in advance or on the day).
- You will be gridded based on your series standing – this will be attached to this document and available on the desk at the Travers gazebo.
- Please do not ride through the hard-standing near the caravans or feed any horses. We are fortunate to have use of these beautiful woods, but need to share it with others.
- Please practise '[Covid Sense](#)' to limit the chance of spreading COVID19.

- Alcohol Gel will be available at the toilets.

1. New to the series?

The Travers MTB series is a grass roots event designed to encourage new riders into the sport. There will be a wide range of abilities on the track at once, but please do not be intimidated. Mountain Bike Racers are generally a friendly bunch and willing to offer support if needed.

Here are some basic things to remember;

- Helmets must be worn whenever on the track and you must make sure that your bike is capable of handling off-road conditions.
- When faster riders overtake, they will call out indicating whether they are planning to pass on the right or left - you are not obliged to jump out of the way but be aware of them and look for a safe spot to move over and allow space, or go wide on a corner.
- No potty mouths! We are all here to enjoy ourselves and pride ourselves on being family friendly.
- No littering – mountain bikers love the outdoors and we want to look after our environment.
- Hydrate before you race, and make sure you have access to a drink during the race. Small sips before you feel thirsty are best.
- Please let us know how it was for you after the event. We are interested and are always looking to do better so feel free to drop a line to info@traversbikes.com.

2. Event entries

There will be no entries on the day. Entry for all participants are online via Webscorer.com. You will be gridded for each round based on your standing throughout the series. All entries close the Wednesday before the event at 11:59pm.

We use a chip timing system. The chips are on your number board and helmet tag. The same number board must be used for the ENTIRE Season - If you lose/forget it you need to buy another which will be £5.00 and can be purchased using electronic payment on the day.

There will be no signing on! You just need to collect your Number Board and Helmet Tag at the first event you race. You do not need to sign your name at each race.

As we incur certain fixed costs in setting this race up, there will be a limited refund policy and refunds will be at the discretion of the event organiser. We don't seek to make a profit but we do need to recoup our costs over time.

3. Chip Timing System

We developed and started using a chip timing system in 2021.

To work best, the chips must be detected face on and as close as possible, but if we point the antennas towards the number boards and down the course, it would be picking up riders at different points, and would not provide timings with any accuracy.

Therefore, we now use chips on top of the helmets which should be picked up by overhead antennas on a gantry. It is critical these chips are placed correctly to give us the best readings possible, and upon completing the race, we request that riders move away from the gantry to avoid being credited with extra laps.

Please note that we have also built in redundancy by manually recording rider numbers, so please keep number boards clearly visible and we ask that spectators allow our timekeepers a clear view of riders approaching the gantry.

Rider Instructions

Before the First Race:

1. Collect Number Boards and Helmet Tags from the Travers gazebo. The helmet tags consist of two parts.
 - i. The chip with your rider number and Velcro® on it.
 - ii. A second part of Velcro® with adhesive on the back.
2. Unpeel the blank white backing of the second Velcro® piece and stick firmly on the top of your helmet (so that it will be parallel to the ground and facing upwards as you are riding).
3. Attach the chip part firmly to this (the part with the number and *Travers* on it).



Before each Race:

1. Check your gridding position.
2. Attach your helmet tag firmly.
3. Attach your number board to the front of the bike, making sure it is flat and facing forward so that it is clearly visible to timekeepers.

After each Race:

1. Please attach your helmet tag to the back of your number board for safe keeping ready for the next race.
2. Keep both your Number Board and Helmet Tag safe for next race.

4. Event timetable

2024 Full Race Day Timetable

Every round will have the same start time for the races. Practise times are a guide and may alter a little, depending on conditions and riders on the course.

08:15 - Under **7s**, **9s** and **12s** course open

08:40 - Course closed - **Under 7s go to the start**

08:45 - **Under 7s race start (7 min)**

09:00 - **Under 9s race start (13 min)**

09:25 - **Under 12s race start (18 min)**

09:50 - Main course open for practise

10:00 - Course closed to start new lap

10:15 - **Female - Adult start (1 hr) + 1 lap**

10:30 - **Female Fun - F/M - Juv/Youth Start (45 min) +1 lap**

11:30 - Course open for practise

11:40 - Course closed to start new lap

12:00 - **Male - Adult Elite/L1 start (1hr) +1 lap**

13:30 - **Male - Adult L2/Fun start (45 min) +1 lap**

In the event of unforeseen circumstances, timings are subject to alteration. Changes will be announced on the public address system.

5. Planning for good hygiene

Please find the latest government COVID 19 guidance [here](#).

All attendees are to take responsibility for their own health and their potential risk to others by practising '[Covid Sense](#)'. Please sanitise your hands at regular intervals and after any contact. Please cough or sneeze into a tissue and dispose of it in the bins provided. Riders should not clear their nose or spit whilst racing. Please **do not attend** if you are displaying any symptoms of COVID 19 (such as a new and continuous cough, loss or change of taste or smell or a high temperature or fever).

6. Travel to and arrival at event

Car parking is limited at the venue so please follow the guidance of the marshals and try to park as tightly as possible. Riders are welcome to attend throughout the day and volunteer to help at the event.

7. Movement at the venue

These beautiful woods are privately owned, and we are very fortunate to have use of them. We do have to share them with other users and be considerate of the owner's wishes, so please be considerate of others and do not ride through the hard-standing near the caravans or feed any horses.

Feel free to move around the woods and find areas to spectate the race.

8. Gridding information and collection of Number Boards and Helmet Tags

The gridding position for each round will be attached to this pack. This can be subject to some last-minute changes, so the most up to date version will be displayed at the Travers gazebo. Therefore, please make your way to the Travers gazebo upon arrival to check your position and rider number.

For your first race, please then advise the sign on volunteer of your name and rider number who will then handover your number board and helmet tag.

The volunteer will be happy to guide you on the positioning of your tags and number board. Cable ties will be available to attach your boards.

9. Equipment/Maintenance

Please ensure that you have inspected and maintained your equipment for the day, but for any unexpected issues, please ask and we will do our best to find someone to help, we are a friendly bunch.

10. Refreshments

For the first time this year, we have the pleasure of having catering facilities on site, so please bring money with you for any food or drink you may wish to purchase.

Please note that there is no drinking water tap on-site, so please ensure you bring sufficient supplies of water with you or money to buy it.

11. Use of facilities

There will be 3 Portaloos on site. Please leave these as you would wish to find them and let us know if toilet roll is running low. Also, please use the alcohol gel before and after using the toilets, particularly after touching any contact points, including the handle, flush and seat. We will also be conducting regular cleaning of these contact points.

12. Technical Area/Feed Zone

The Technical Area or Feed Zone will be marked. Feel free to leave tools, feed or drink there. You can only give or receive outside assistance within this area [the exceptions to this are the U7 and U9s races, who often receive some assistance throughout their race].

13. Course practice, warm up and starts

Feel free to complete a practise lap within your designated time.

Ensure you are aware of your gridding position and make your way to your gridding position 5 minutes before your race start time.

The start will be designed to draw riders out to keep it as safe as possible for the riders and to make things easier for our timekeepers.

14. Spectators

We welcome spectators, many of whom bring camping chairs and flasks to enjoy the outdoors. We encourage spectators to cheer on the riders and to move round the course but please exercise caution when crossing the course and follow any guidance offered by the marshals. Spectators must also remember that some riders will be moving extremely fast and should keep any dogs and children safely away from the course. All dogs should be always kept on a lead.

If a parent is needed to assist younger riders during their race, feel free to do so but be aware of other riders.

15. Event finish areas

At the end of the race, riders are asked not to congregate at the finish area once they have crossed the line.

16. Results

Results will be available [online](#) only after the event. The results may have some issues initially, and we will put out a message on our [Facebook page](#) when they have been tidied up. These provisional results are normally up by the evening of the race but may take a little longer. Please let us know of any issues, and we aim to make the results final by the Wednesday after the race.

There will be no podiums or prizes for individual race events, but there is for the series events (except for the fun events).

17. First Aid

There will be first aid team on site. Any walking wounded should report to them, and any other issues can be reported to any marshal.

18. Thank You

Thanks to our sponsors for supporting the series.

Thanks also to everyone that volunteers to marshal and generally helps out – your help is invaluable. Finally, thank you to all of the riders and spectators for participating.

19. Appendix 1: Event Rules

1. Be kind and considerate of others to ensure everyone has a good day.
2. Please be sure to read the pre-race information pack which will be sent out once entries close. Important things to note are;
 - a) Riders and spectators must comply with the COVID secure rules.
 - b) Please do not participate if you have symptoms of or have been found to be suffering from COVID19.
 - c) A **maximum** of £5.00 may be considered as an administration fee and thus potentially non-refundable.
 - d) The organiser undertakes to use their best endeavours to minimise any costs prior to the event and thereby minimise the risk of loss to entrants in the event of cancellation.
 - e) In the case of cancellation entries are only refundable up to 14 days prior to the event.
 - f) Between 14 & 5 days prior to the event, entries can be transferred to a later date.
3. Travers MTB series will run as a league, with 3 Adult Male & 2 Adult Female ability divisions, Youth and Juvenile, plus separate events for Under 12s, Under 9s and Under 7s. There is also a Fun league to encourage new participants.
4. At the end of the season there will be some movement within the leagues, including promotion and relegation. This will be on the basis of equalising numbers in leagues and allocating riders to the most appropriate class for their race ability.
5. It is intended that there will be end of Series prizes for all races except the Fun leagues.
6. It is the rider's responsibility to select the appropriate ability division to suit their own level of ability.
7. Should it become apparent that a racer is in the wrong league, the organisers reserve the right to alter your league of entry.
8. To encourage competitive racing, series position will be determined by your percentage of the winning time, based on your best 5 out of the 6 races.
9. All riders will finish on the same lap as the winner. Riders will get a bell with 1 lap to go and the chequered flag will be waved signalling the end of the race as close to the time limit as possible. It is the rider's responsibility to make decisions regarding pace and time elapsed against time remaining. Where riders have completed the same number of laps, the finishing order will be judged by time taken to complete those laps. Any laps completed outside of the allotted time will not count.

10. Riders will be gridded after each round on the basis of points held. For round 1 only the organiser will utilise a ranked list of average lap times from prior Travers MTB events to determine gridding positions.
11. Riders who have not raced in the series previously may at any point in the series provide the organiser with a detailed account of recent results from other events and request priority gridding. This must be done by the end of the Wednesday prior to the event. In this, the organisers decision is final.
12. Series prizes to be awarded according to the top 3 places in each of the following age categories. (Age is calculated as the age as at 1st January at the outset of the age group and age as at 31st December at the close).

Under 7: (Born 2017 onwards)

Under 9: (Born 2015-2016)

Under 12: (Born 2012-2014)

Juvenile: (Born 2010-2011)

Youth: (Born 2008-2009)

Adult: (Born prior to 2008)

13. U7 and U9 riders may be entered into races for the age above if they are shown to already be competing at that particular level.
14. Under 12 riders may not compete in any league of racing other than that specifically for their age group.

In the event of dispute, the organisers decision is final.

20. Appendix 2: Course Maps







