

2026 Gravel Guidelines

V2.

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Event Sanctioning

Event Sanctions

Types of Sanctioned Events

Weekly Series – events run with the category structure Beginner, Sportif, and Open categories, unless otherwise agreed to with the Ontario Cycling (OC) office. Weekly Series events have a registration of less than \$30/registrant/event and run on a weekly basis. License requirements subject to event rules.

General Series – events run with category structure Beginner, Sportif, and Open categories, unless otherwise agreed to with the OC Office. License requirements subject to event rules. General Series are events that have a registration cost of \$30 or more/registrant/event and run every few weeks or once a month. They do not run weekly and have a different set of fees than Weekly Series events.

Cycle for All – events also known as Tours and Gran Fondos may run with any category structure including but not limited to ability-based, age-based or distance based. Ontario Cup points are not awarded at these events. License requirements subject to event rules.

Regional Events – run with any category structure including but not limited to ability-based, age-based or distance-based. Ontario Cup points are not awarded at these events. License requirement subject to event rules. Regional events will be broken down into 2 levels based on recommended officiating needs at the discretion of OC:

- A. **Regional A** events tracking towards OCup status as larger scale road or criterium races that require 2 or more provincially assigned commissaires to score and enforce rules.
- B. **Regional B** events are community-based events where there is less emphasis on timing and scoring and therefore do not require provincially assigned commissaires

Ontario Cup Race – events must run with ability-based categories (see license requirements below). Ontario Cup and category upgrade criteria are awarded at these events.

National Race – events must run according to Cycling Canada stipulations and sanctioning. License requirements subjective to event rules.

Event Sanction Chart

Event Type	Sanction Details		
	Category Structure	Ontario Cup Points	OC Non-Member Permit
Weekly Series	Beginner, Sportif, Open	N/A	*Please contact OC office for eligibility
General Series	Beginner, Sportif, Open	N/A	
Cycle for All and Regional Events	Any structure (ability-based, age based, distance based)	N/A	
Ontario Cup Race	Ability-based	Yes	Yes
National Race	According to CC stipulations and sanctioning	N/A	No

**non-member permit only applies to riders who are Canadian residence.*

Sanctioned Event Fees

All sanctioned events will be subject to the fees according to their respective sanction package. Sanctioning packages can be found on the resources page of the OC website [here](#). Packages are broken down into four major groups depending on what type of event the organizer is planning to host – (1) OC Members Only Events, (2) Member and Non-Member Events, (3) Events with their own insurance, and (4) Charity Events. Sanctioning fees will fluctuate depending on the number of participants, number of non-members participating, and if the event is using OC insurance coverage.

If there are any questions regarding event sanctioning and associated packages, please reach out to the OC Events Team at events.team@ontariocycling.org.

Below are the fees included within each sanction event:

1. Event permit

The event organizer will be required to submit an event permit application as part of the sanctioning process. The event permit fee is built into the upfront cost, and organizers will be billed according to their respective sanction package upon approval of paperwork. If an event must be cancelled, the portion of the upfront cost for the permit fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.

2. Event insurance

Any organizer hosting an event requiring insurance coverage must complete and submit a Commercial Event Insurance form to OC. The Insurance Certificate Fee is built into the upfront cost to organizers will be billed according to their sanctioning package. Fees for the event must be paid prior to the event being promoted by OC and the non-member insurance cost (if applicable) that is based on participation numbers will be reconciled following the event.

The additional insured listed may only include landowners, municipalities, and governments. Sponsors should not be listed within the additional insured list. In general, the names provided that are to be added as named insured should only be those that have specifically requested to be named (e.g. municipality, landowner, etc.). We will not list those that are providing services as that should be covered under their own liability policy (e.g. first aid, photography services, sponsors etc.). If you are in doubt or have questions, please contact the OC office. Commercial Event insurance forms can be found on the Ontario Cycling website. Organizers may update their Certificate of Insurance application up to 2 times at no extra cost. Any further updates are subject to a \$25 administrative fee.

Organizers are permitted to secure their own insurance for an event, if there is a \$10 million comprehensive general liability coverage, and it is approved by the OC insurance broker. This insurance must list OC and Cycling Canada (CC) as additional insured, and a copy of the insurance certificate must be submitted to OC office no later than fifteen (15) business day in advance of the event.

Insurance permits are for a specific date and may not be transferable. If an organizer is offering insurance for non-members, they may charge the non-member insurance fee in addition to the registration, if they wish. Commercial insurance applications are due fifteen (15) business days in advance of the event.

3. Levies

Unless otherwise stated, every event registrant over the number of rider levies that are included in the organizer's respective sanctioning package will be charged a fee of \$3.25+HST. This includes DNS and DNF registrants and will be reconciled with OC. Levy numbers are based on published start lists for races and registered entrants for all other events. Organizers are expected to follow up with OC post-event, providing final registrant numbers within 3-5 business days to report final participant numbers and levies owing.

4. Non-Member Permits



At OC's discretion, and in agreement with the Organizer on the terms, Non-Member Permits may be available for your event. Non-Member Permits may only be sold during pre-registration (not available onsite) at a cost of:

- \$10 for adults (18+)
- \$5 for Youth (U18)

OCup Sanction Granting

All event sanctioning is subject to approval by the OC office. Only organizers who have hosted a sanctioned regional event within the previous 5 years or an OCup/National event within 15 years are eligible to be granted an OCup sanction for their event. Sanction granting is the discretion of the OC office and may be subject to change.

Event Date Selection Process

OCup Events (Track, Road/Gravel, MTB, CX): OCups of different disciplines must never conflict with one another. OCups must never conflict with a national event of the same discipline in Eastern Canada (ON, QC, NB, PEI, NS, NL). Where 2 or more organizers of an OCup event request the same date, if a resolution is not met between the conflicting parties the organizer who submitted their EOI for the event first will receive the requested date. The latter organizing party will need to request a new non-conflicting date*

Regional Events: Must never conflict with an OCup of the same discipline, unless approved by the OC office. It is recommended that regional events of the same discipline do not conflict. If 2 or more organizers request the same date, each party will be asked by OC if they approve the conflicting events to occur on the same day. If either party does not approve and a resolution is not met between the conflicting parties the organizer who submitted their EOI for the event first will receive the requested date. The latter organizing party will need to request a new non-conflicting date*

**In the circumstance the requested date for an event is not approved and the organizing party refuses to change their date, OC has the right to withdraw sanctioning.*

Other Items

Alcohol Insurance



Alcohol is not permitted at events without prior written approval from OC. This includes samples and prizing. Events that wish to include alcohol must submit a liquor liability application as well as submit a copy of the insurance coverage from the third-party organization responsible for the alcohol. Additional insurance fees will apply. Liquor liability application forms can be found on the OC website and must be submitted fifteen (15) business days in advance of the event. If applications are submitted less than 15 days prior to the event, liquor coverage will not be guaranteed. We may require copies of Special Occasion Permits and/or evidence of smart serve certificates.

OC recommends all organizer have liquor coverage even if their event does not include any liquor as added coverage. Organizers are liable for any alcohol at the event regardless of being sold, being handed out as prizing, spectators and/or riders consuming alcohol at the event.

Refundable Registration

Uplifter (formerly CCN) has developed a system where individual participants can register and purchase “upgraded refund terms” as a form of registration protection. This small additional fee will help ensure that if participants are unable to attend an event, for various reasons listed at the link below, their registration fees will be compensated by Uplifter. This is not an OC service and should you have any questions or concerns please contact Uplifter directly. All information is provided in the [Uplifter Refundable Registration Program](#).

2026 Entry Fees

Organizers are encouraged to set entry fees appropriate for the level of organization of their event. Experience has shown that entry fees that are too high will discourage athletes from participating in your event. Suggested entry fees are shown in the appendixes relevant to your event and discipline type.

Note: a quality event can be run within the fee tables provided and events wishing to charge more must be able to provide value to the participants. These prices may be adjusted upon submission and approval of the event budget.

Membership Requirements

For all 2026 events, registration will be open to 2026 OC members with a Community membership (specific sanction levels), Challenge Membership or UCI

license. Non-member permits will be available for select races and select categories. Please contact the OC office for any questions regarding membership.

Gravel OCup Membership Structure

Category	Age Range	OC Non-Member Permit	Challenge Membership	Compete Membership	UCI License
Cat A	15+			X	X
Cat B	15+			X	X
Cat C	15+	X	X	X	X
Cat D	15+	X	X	X	X
Cat A Women	15+			X	X
Cat B Women	15+	X	X	X	X
U15	13-14		X	X	X
Master Women	40+	X	X	X	X
Master Men	50+	X	X	X	X

Regional/Weekly Series/Cycle For All Membership Structure

Sanction Level	Non-Member Permit	*Community Membership	Challenge Membership	Compete Membership	UCI License
Weekly Series	X (on application)	X	X	X	X
Regional	X (on application)	X	X	X	X
Cycle for All	X	X	X	X	X

Appendix

Gravel Race OCup Schedule

OCup Gravel Race					
Category	Age Range	Distance	Entry Fee Cap	Start Wave	Start Time
Cat C	15+	60-80km	\$100+ Fees	A	8:30am
U15 Boys	13-14	60-80km	\$65+ Fees	A	8:30am
Cat D	15+	40-60km	\$100+ Fees	A	8:32am
Master Men	50+	60-80km	\$100+ Fees	A	8:34am
Cat B Women	15+	60-80km	\$100+ Fees	B	11:00am
U15 girls	13-14	60-80km	\$65+ Fees	B	11:00am
Master Women	40+	60-80km	\$100+ Fees	B	11:02am
Cat A	15+	110-130km	\$100+ Fees	C	2:00pm
Cat B	15+	80-100km	\$100+ Fees	C	2:03pm
Cat A Women	15+	80-100km	\$100+ Fees	C	2:06pm

**Fees refer to HST and online Uplifter (formerly known as CCN) administrative fees*