

2024 Driftless 100 Course Notes

Steep hills and a lot of them. None of the climbs are long (over a mile) but you will see grades of over 12%. Most of the course will be gravel except a few paved connector roads then back onto the gravel. We limit the mileage on level B roads because of the unpredictability of spring weather in NE Iowa. Be advised that there is a lot of loose gravel, washboard and potholes so be aware of what is in front of you.

This is a rain or shine event. If there is severe weather nearby at the start of the race we will delay the start. If weather becomes severe during the race we have EMS volunteers on course helping guide riders to safety as possible but use good sense if you are not near an aid station and find shelter if necessary.

Race Start 100

First 1.8 Miles will be on pavement while being escorted by ambulance and Elkader PD. Race will start a half mile in as soon as HW13 turns into a passing lane. The race will start going up-hill on the highway in the passing lane for 1.2 miles. As the passing lane merges you will take the wide gravel shoulder for 100 meters then turn onto the gravel and the real race begins.

Use caution during this time, the race can't be won in these first 2 miles but you can have your race ended and end other peoples race if you don't use your head. After that turn you will see Hill 1 (Holt Hill) starting at mile 2.1 and is 10% for half a mile with pitches over 15%. That won't be the last time you see that level of grade.

Race Start 60, 30 and E-bike

All other races will start on the north side of the track and will be led by the Elkader PD through town out past the hospital onto Chariot Road along the river. The race will begin as soon as rider hit the gravel.

Course Safety

Remember if you are going up these grades of hills you will have to go down them as well. If you are uncomfortable with them, slow your speed before you get into the descents. There is no shame in walking. If you do get off the bike, do so without impeding those riders behind you to the best of your ability. We do not put you on any major highways uncontrolled, but you will be on pavement at times that are open to traffic like the rest of the course. This meant look before you get onto the highway or cross over traffic. **You are required follow traffic laws** as all moving vehicles are required to or you will be disqualified.

Helmets are required! You will be disqualified if you are seen riding without one.

Do not alter or bend your race numbers! The chips do not work if they are cut or bent. They are smaller for those of you looking for "aero gains" but everyone will be required to have their number flat and visible on their handlebars.

Other Course Notes

100 mile only

Mile 2 (holt hill) Use caution with the narrow creek crossing on the decent.

Mile 10.6 right turn onto the motor mill trail

Mile 14.5 crossing HW 13, low visibility crossing use caution

Mile 24 turn onto HW 56. Stay on shoulder and use caution

Mile 25.1 gravel turns to dirt

Mile 37.2 fast downhill into a sharp turn

Mile 38.7 grass walking trail

Mile 39 Volga Aid Station

Mile 44.4 HW 13 crossing, look both ways.

Mile 49.4 Fast technical decent

Mile 59-60 Riding on littleport highway, watch for traffic

Mile 68-70 Riding on Colesburg Highway, watch for traffic

Mile 83-84 Riding on Garber Highway, watch for traffic

Mile 100.9 cross under bridge, look for signage to turn right and cross high street onto the bike trail and follow the trail to the track.

Mile 101 Pass the finish line on the outside of the barriers, do one lap around the track and finish in the corral.

60 Only

Miles 0-1 neutral roll out through town. Do not pass the safety vehicle.

Mile 16.2 fast decent into sharp turn

Mile 17.7 Aid Station

Mile 17.8 Ride on domino road, watch for traffic

Mile 26.8 Ride on domino road, watch for traffic

Mile 33.9 Ride on domino road, watch for traffic

Mile 34.6 Aid Station

Mile 40 Cross HW 13, Look both ways

Mile 45 fast technical decent

Mile 50 Aid station, limited aid

Mile 52 turn on Grandview, watch for traffic

Mile 52.5 Turn onto Motor Mill Trail

Mile 60.5 cross under bridge, look for signage to turn right and cross high street onto the bike trail and follow the trail to the track.

Mile 61 Pass the finish line on the outside of the barriers, do one lap around the track and finish in the corral.

30 Mile course

Mile 0-1 Neutral Rollout through town

Mile 5.9 Turn onto HW56, watch for traffic and stay on shoulder

Mile 19.9 Blind crossing on HW13, full stop and watch for traffic

Mile 22.5 Left on Grandview, watch traffic

Mile 23 Right onto the motor mill trail.

Mile 31 cross under bridge, look for signage to turn right and cross high street onto the bike trail and follow the trail to the track.

Mile 32.5 Pass the finish line on the outside of the barriers, do one lap around the track and finish in the corral.