

## 2023 Driftless 100 Course Description

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.

### **Race Start 100 and 60 (2023)**

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.

### **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 have to follow traffic laws as all moving vehicles are required to or you will be disqualified.

### **Other Course Notes**

Mile 19.5 to 20.5 Highway stretch on Garber road.

Mile 26.6 Osterdock Aid Station

Mile 32.8 Creek Crossing

Mile 33.6 Highway decent for 1.2 Miles

Mile 42.7 100 and 60 split. If you have not been averaging 8 MPH (in the 100) at that point you need to redirect to the 60 mile race

#### **100 mile only**

Mile 45 2 mile Highway decent

Mile 47 Garber Aid Station

Mile 50 1.5 mile climb/flat on Highway

Mile 55 1 mile descent on highway

Mile 61 Cross HW 13 use caution on blind corner

Mile 67.5 2.5 miles on Highway

Mile 68.5 Volga Aid Station

Mile 92 Little Port Highway for 3 miles

**60 Only**

Mile 42.7 Follow the split in the 100 and 60 course

Mile 45 Garber Aid Station

Mile 45.8 Follow signs west over the bridge then north through Garber till you reach Hazel Road

**30 Mile course**

Mile 0 to 0.5 follow the escort till HW 13 opens into a passing lane.

Mile 0.8 Turn onto the gravel and away we go.

Mile 2 steep gravel decent use caution

Mile 16 Highway Decent into Garber 1.3 miles

Mile 17.8 Aid Station

Mile 18.2 Turn on Highway, cross Gaber bridge and turn north until Hazel on the right

**Finish**

All races will finish on the Pony Hollow Bike Trail across the street from where the race started at the Elkader City Campground.