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## **RULES, TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION ALPS EPIC in the Hautes-Alpes**

### **1. INTRODUCTION:**

The Alps Epic event is organised by the SAS Alps Epic Event, 6 Impasse des Barris, le Chef Lieu, 05200, FRANCE.

It consists of a multi-day mountain bike stage race completed in teams of 2, with a final results classification.

The event organisation is coordinated by Alps Epic Events SAS and their suppliers Cap Liberté and Horizon Tout Terrain, both of whom are registered with Atout France and are based in the Hautes-Alpes, France. Alps Epic is a brand registered with the INPI.

### **2. THE EVENT:**

Racers compete together in teams of 2 (female, male and mixed teams).

Team mates must remain together throughout the race route. The event is timed, leading to an overall and by-category classification. The race is split into 5 stages + a prologue, the latter deciding the starting grid for the first stage.

### **3. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION:**

The event is open to all entrants, with or without licenses, according to the rules laid out below. Racers with a mountain bike racing license delivered by a registered cycling federation (UCI, FFC, UFOLEP, FSGT, FFTRI, FNRM) should supply a copy of their license, valid for the dates of the event, during online race registration if possible. Otherwise licenses should be sent by email to [racers@alpsepic.com](mailto:racers@alpsepic.com) by the 1st June of the year of the event, at the latest, if no copy was sent during event registration. In this scenario, during event registration the entrant should attach a .word or .pdf note saying 'awaiting license' when asked to attach a copy of their license. Non-licensed racers (and those licensed to federations not mentioned above) must supply a copy of a medical certificate certifying aptness for cycle racing dated less than 1 year prior to the race date + 3 days. Race entry is not open to minors or to riders on electrically assisted bikes.

### **4. ENTRIES:**

Entries are made exclusively on the event website, [www.alpsepic.com](http://www.alpsepic.com).

Payment is made online via Alps Epic website. Entry is confirmed when the following conditions are met:

1. Receipt of full payment
2. Receipt of current licence/medical certificate
3. Team of 2

Entry fees are available on the event website [www.alpsepic.com](http://www.alpsepic.com). For safety reasons,



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entries are restricted to a total of 250 peoples.

All entries are personal and definitive. No transfer of entries to other participants is authorised, regardless of the reason (look point 10.5). Any person who gives their race number to a third party will be considered responsible for any accidents suffered or caused by the third party during the event. The event organisers decline any responsibility arising from this type of incident and reserve the right to exclude any racer found without corresponding number board from the event.

Race entry implies acceptance of all rules, terms and conditions. These may be, under exceptional or unforeseen circumstances, added to during the final pre-race briefing.

Racers agree, in accepting these rules, terms and conditions, to respect the rules regarding ethics in sport laid out in French law as regards doping in sport. The organisers are covered by public liability insurance for race organisation.

Entrants are strongly recommended to take out individual accident insurance if their current insurance does not already cover it.

## **5. RACE/SIGN-ON INFORMATION AND RACE EQUIPMENT:**

Following your registration you will receive regular emails containing technical advice from the email address [racers@alpsepic.com](mailto:racers@alpsepic.com), which will be your personal point of contact for all queries before the event. Race numbers will be collected at the beginning of the event. The exact times and locations for this will be sent to you in advance. Any team not present to collect their race numbers must contact the organisers as soon as possible as without contact they will be considered absent.

The race number must be attached to the handlebar of the bike. The timing device (chip, tag or other...) and GPS tracker should be used according to the instructions supplied in the bag you will receive when you collect your race number.

An ID bracelet will be given to each racer. It must be worn from sign-on until the end of the event. If you don't give back the tracking system, you will pay 60€.

## **6. RACE ROUTE:**

### **6.1 Access to the race start:**

This must be made in accordance with the timings communicated during the briefings and/or by text/email. Unless otherwise advised, teams should arrive 20 minutes before the official start time to allow the start line to be gridded.

Before being gridded, racers must pass through the check-in. Any failure to check-in will result in a DNS being recorded for the stage, and subsequent exclusion from the event classification. Only complete teams will be allowed to start stages. Single racers, without their team mates, can be authorised to ride 'non-timed' after approval from the organisers and collection of their timing chip.

The 10 leading teams on general classification and the top 3 mixed and female teams will be placed at the front line of the starting grid. Each stage is a mass start at a fixed time. Any lateness will result in the de-classification of the team.



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## 6.2 Stage Finish:

Racers absolutely must pass the finish line to be included in the results. The official stage time may be recorded slightly before the official stage finish for safety reasons. In this instance, racers would then proceed to the finish line along a marked but untimed route. Finish time is measured from the arrival of the second team member. Riders must maintain a direct line of sight with each other throughout each stage and in no case must they be more than 1 minute apart. Time penalties will be awarded to any teams outside these rules. The application of this rule remains at the sole discretion of the race organiser and director. Infractions may be reported to the race director by marshals and members of the organising staff.

## 6.3 Routes and Route Marking:

The event route follows some parts of the permanent official signing of the Grande Traversée des Hautes-Alpes, supplemented by specific Alps Epic signing consisting of directional arrows, tape and marshals at strategic points.

The organisers also supply GPS tracks of each stage which also show check points and feed stations. The GPS tracks are available to download on the Alps Epic web site but may be modified before the event. In this instance you will be notified at the race briefing and/or by text/email. The GPS tracks for the race will be sent to you 10 days before the event.

**A GPS device is mandatory per team. It must be functional and display the entire route.**

As a result of the sheer length and complexity of the route, some junctions will not have marshals. It is therefore vital to respect traffic laws. You are reminded that the entire route is open to traffic and other land users.

The route may be altered at any moment if the organisers judge that conditions are not favourable to the initial planned route, for example in case of landslides, snow on high passes etc.

All changes will be detailed on the official web site, by email from [racers@alpsepic.com](mailto:racers@alpsepic.com) and during race briefings. Racers should not use road short cuts to get to a stage finish unless authorised to do so by the organisers. Any such behaviour will be considered as an abandon and will result in exclusion from the race classification.

Only vehicles from the organisers, emergency services, press and event motorcycles are allowed on the course. Assistance zones will be accessible by vehicle, in accordance with directions given by the organisers.

## 6.4 Respect for the environment:

The Alps Epic is signed up to an 'eco-event' charter. The organisers therefore place great importance on all matters concerning the event's environmental impact.

In view of this, it is strictly forbidden to drop litter along the race route. Bins will be positioned at the feed stations, stage finish and camping areas. Any breach of the no-littering policy may result in time and financial penalties. It is also forbidden to



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leave the marked race route to cut across fields and other natural features. In addition, excessive skidding is to be avoided. Please remember that the event passes through environmentally sensitive sites for which permission to ride is required.

The future of mountain biking in these areas depends upon your behaviour.

## 7. THE RACE:

### 7.1 Riding the stages:

The event must be ridden in teams of 2 with no more than 1 minute separating team mates.

Stage starts are made en masse except for the prologue which is raced in teams of 2 departing at a pre-allocated time, detailed in the racers information pack. The organisers will advise of time barriers during the stages, after which teams will be directed to follow a shorter, alternative route to the finish. These teams will not be excluded from the general classification but will incur a 1 hour time penalty on the lastest of the stage.

In case of abandon (excluding accidents) the team will have to get to the stage finish by their own means. They will no longer be under the responsibility of the organisers once they leave the race route.

Race classification (results) will be made according to the following categories:

Each stage: Overall Mens / Mens30 / Mens40 / Mens50 / Overall Womens / Overall Mixed

General Classification: Mens / Mens30 / Mens40 / Mens 50/ Womens / Mixed

To be in a category, the 2 racers of the team must have the age of the category. If one racer of the team is younger, the team will be in the younger category.

Please note: bikes with electrical assistance are not permitted (permitted in the No Chrono ride)

### 7.2 Abandoning the race :

Check points (essentially a check-in and check-out) will be placed at the start and finish of each stage, allowing any DNS or DNF abandons to be identified.

In case of a mid-stage abandon (DNF), with the exception of medical evacuations, it is essential to inform the organisers as soon as possible, either by telephone (you will be given the number) or at a feed station.

- **Provisional abandon:** you will not be classified for the day's stage and will receive a 2h time penalty
- **Definitive abandon:** you leave the event and the organisers are no longer responsible for your possessions or your return to your vehicle.

It is strictly forbidden to abandon the race without notifying the organisers. Infringement of this rule will result in a 100€ fee per person and possible legal proceedings following any rescue/search efforts arising from your negligence. The French state may also decide to follow legal proceedings against you.



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In all cases, your timing and tracking equipment must be returned to the organisers.

### 7.3 Mandatory equipment

#### By Individual:

- 1.helmet
- 2.survival blanket
- 3.mobile phone
- 4.basic tools and spares including spare derailleur hanger
- 5.minimum 2 bottles or 1,5L of drink
- 6.food
- 7.windstopper jacket

#### By Team:

- FIRST AID KIT:
  - 1 large absorbant dressing
  - 1 large compression bandage
  - 5 small gauze pads
  - 1 disinfectant pad/capsule
  - 1 capsule eye-drops
  - 1 roll adhesive bandage
  - pain-killers (follow your doctor's advice)
  - 1 antihistamine (tablet)
- GPS
- chain splitter

You will be told during race briefings if any items are not needed. All racers must carry the items supplied by the organisers: race number, bracelets, timing and tracking devices.

Racers are semi-autonomous during the stages. 1-3 feed stations will be placed along each stage, with the exception of the prologue.

### 7.4 Penalties:

Teams found riding outside the marked route for each stage will face immediate penalty. A team of mobile marshals have the power to immediately disqualify anyone caught infringing this rule. The organisers may also retrospectively check

GPS trackers to verify teams' route choices.

Other penalties: this list is not exhaustive and additional penalties may be decided by the organisers.



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| Disqualification                                 | 2 hours                | 1 hour                      | 20mn   | 10mn                                |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Illegal outside Assistance outside specific zone | Abandoning mid-stage   | Non-respect of safety rules | Per item of obligatory equipment missing and per stage | Per item missing from first aid kit |
| Substitution of rider                            | Missing a time barrier | Littering (+ a fine)        | Riding without team mate                               |                                     |

## 7.5 Assistance

Assistance is permitted during the stages only on specific zone show by organization. Non-respect of this rule will disqualify the team.

## 8. LOGISTICS

### 8.1 Kit bags:

In the month preceding the event you will receive a list to help you with deciding what to bring in your kit bag. Bags will be transported by the organisers between stages and **are limited to one (max 25kg) bag per rider + 1 small day pack**. In the event of an overweight bag the racer will be notified and will need to pay a surplus of 20€/kg/day. Bags must be soft (no suitcases) and must be marked with the racers race number. A tag for this purpose, with your race number, will be included in your race pack.

The small day pack will allow you to leave a few items (warm jacket, trainers to walk to your hotel etc.) on the start line that you will then find waiting for you at the finish. A sticker to help identification will be attached to the pack during the check-in on the first day.

### 8.2 Bike storage:

The organisers will provide a bike storage area (bike park) for each stopover which will be fenced and protected by a security guard(s). Access to the bike park is strictly limited to racers. Only racers with their original ID bracelet and corresponding bike with race number will be allowed access to the bike park. They will have to sign the bike into and out of the bike park each time they come and go.

These guidelines will be very strictly followed by the organisers. No repairs/servicing of bikes is permitted within the bike park. Racers who wish to store their bikes outside the bike park, notably inside their accommodation, do so entirely at their own risk and absolutely must inform the manager of the bike park in writing, on the sign-in/out form.



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### **8.3 Eating:**

2-3 feed stations per stage will be provided, according to the duration of the stage. A selection of sweet and savoury food will also be provided at each stage finish. The feed stations have been conceived around the nutritional demands of endurance mountain biking. Evening meals, whether served in your accommodation or one of our partner restaurants, will meet the exacting demands of the Alps Epic team and will correspond perfectly to the needs of hungry multi-day endurance mountain bikers. Flavour, home cooking and locally sourced ingredients are a pre-requisite. Dietary requirements, which you will have the chance to inform us of 1 month before the event, will be catered to.

Eating times will be detailed for you in the pre-race information pack.

### **8.4 Bike washing, servicing and repairs:**

A bike washing and servicing area will be set up at each stage finish.

Mechanical assistance will also be provided by a professional workshop. The work itself is covered in the entry fee, whilst any parts purchased will be billed separately by the workshop.

We strongly recommend bringing some of the smaller spare parts with you, specially derailleur hangers.

### **8.5 Overnight accommodation:**

For racers in the Blue Package:

Accommodation will be in group rooms. Exact details of each overnight stop will be detailed in a document attached to the final trip contract, which will be sent to you in the coming months.

For racers in the Black Package:

Accommodation will be in twin rooms, with your team mate. The exact details of each overnight stop will be detailed in a document attached to the final trip contract, which will be sent to you in the coming months.

### **8.6 Companions:**

By companions we mean any person accompanying a racer during the 5 days of the event. To accompany a racer in this way you must complete a separate registration for the 'companion' ('accompagnant') package. Prices are available on the event website.

Companions must wear an ID bracelet at all times, which will be supplied in the racer's race pack. The bracelet will give you access to the camping area, all event meals and the feed stations.

A timetable of activities such as hikes, bike rides and visits, designed to run in parallel with the event, is currently being planned. This will enable you to discover the beauty of the Hautes-Alpes and also find the best spectator vantage points for the



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event.

Access to the bike park will be forbidden to companions.

Any non-registered companions will not have access to the event services. On-the-day registration will not be possible in order to access the camping areas. However registration for access to the race assistance areas will be possible.

### **8.7 Access and post-race shuttle services:**

Access shuttle: Alps Epic Events are committed to reducing carbon emissions. To ensure this we will be providing shuttle services from the main points of arrival in the region, such as airports, train stations etc, as well as encouraging car sharing. We would ask you to inform us as early as possible of your travel plans so that we may arrange these services.

These shuttles are included in the registration fees.

### **8.8 Safety:**

The organisers adhere to a safety protocol approved by the préfecture (authorities). It consists of mobile doctors along the route and in the stopover towns, along with emergency and fire services.

In case of emergency you should inform the organisers immediately via telephone (you will be given the number), by informing a member of the Alps Epic team with a radio or, if time is of the essence, by dialling the international emergency number (112) directly from your phone.

Based on expert medical opinion, the organisers reserve the right to stop and evacuate any racer judged unable to continue the event. Any racer seeking the assistance of a doctor or first aider submits him or herself to their authority and must respect their judgement. If the need arises, and in the best interests of the injured individual, the emergency services will be summoned and will then assume control of the evacuation, by whichever means necessary including any eventual helicopter evacuation.

Any individual who undergoes a medical or surgical procedure in the month immediately preceding the event must inform the organisers in writing. In the absence of such a declaration, the organisers cannot be held responsible in case of incident.

The organisers will complement these aforementioned instructions with oral and written instructions sent to the mobile phones of racers before the event.

### **9. NO CHRONO RIDE:**

The Ride participants have to follow the same race rules. Only the following things change :

- you can do The Ride alone ;
- the start for The Ride will be 30min after The Race,
- electric bikes have only one change of battery managed by the organisation and in the same place as the feed zone. Electric bikes must have a maximum speed at





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25km/h and 250W ;

- if a participant at The Ride is faster than The Race, he have to respect The Race racers who have the priority.

## **10. CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS POLICY:**

The cancellation policy is rigidly enforced. All enquiries must be made using the form provided on the event website. Any enquiries received by email, telephone or mail will not be considered.

The refunds detailed below will be paid, at the latest, in the month following any request. No rider can, under any circumstances, sell or give away his or her entry to a third party.

All entries are definitive and imply complete acceptance of the rules, terms and conditions.

### **10.1 Cancellation before the 20th april 2019 :**

Cancellation is possible without justification and with partial refund of entry fee. 90% of the entry fees already paid will be refunded, with 10% held back as a cancellation fee.

### **10.2 Cancellation after the 20th april (at midnight) until the 1st June 2019 (at midnight) :**

Cancellation is possible without justification and with partial refund of entry fee. 50% of the entry fee already paid will be refunded, with 50% held back as a late cancellation fee.

### **10.3 Cancellation after the 1st June 2019 (at midnight) :**

All cancellations after this date will not be subject to any refund of the fees already paid.

The organisers will retain all fees paid.

In the following exceptional cases a refund of 50% of fees already paid may be made upon presentation of an official document verifying one of the following situations:

1. death, injury or illness of the participant
2. death, injury or serious illness (requiring hospitalisation) of an immediate relative (either parents of or children of the participant) or spouse/partner of the participant after the 1st June.
3. rejection of a French visa application by the French authorities.

These cancellation fees can be avoided in their entirety, with the exception of a 50€ administration fee, by choosing the available cancellation insurance, at 5% of the entry fee. The policy will cover you for such eventualities as accident or illness.



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Specific details of the policy are available at the registration or can be obtained by emailing the organisers.

#### **10.4 Cancellation by the organisers:**

In the event of cancellation of the event by the organisers due to factors within their reasonable control such as refusal of legal permission, refusal of land access etc, all entry fees paid will be fully refunded.

In the event of cancellation of the event by the organisers due to factors outside their reasonable control such as extreme weather events, electrical storms etc, no entry fees will be refunded.

#### **10.5 Change of team mate**

You can change your teammate at any time before the event. 10% of registration fees are apply. These fees are for administration fees and for accommodation fees already paid.

#### **11. IMAGE RIGHTS:**

In entering the Alps Epic, racers authorise the organisers and their partners to publish their names, images and voice recordings during the event for publicity and communication purposes both online and in traditional media, throughout the world and in all formats currently used.

In accordance with the law 'informatique et liberté' of January 6th 1978, you retain the right to access and correct your personal details.

You may be contacted by select partners for commercial purposes. If you should prefer not to be contacted, please let us know in writing, supplying your name and address.

Entry to the Alps Epic assumes a willingness to receive emails from the organisers concerning details of the event itself.

In accordance with guidelines concerning individual rights to privacy, anyone wishing not to be listed on the entry or results listings must inform the organisers of this fact by writing.

#### **12. COMPLAINTS:**

All questions should be addressed by email to [alpsepic@gmail.com](mailto:alpsepic@gmail.com) or by post to Alps Epic Event, 6 impasse du Barris 05200 les Orres.

During the event, all questions should be directed to the race director.

Any complaints received more than 1 month after the event will be considered null and void.

In signing the declaration on the entry form, you automatically accept the rules, terms and conditions of the event.