



PARENT / RIDER HANDBOOK

2027 SEASON

Ride hard. Treat people well. Make the team better.



scvmountainbiketeam.com

Welcome and Handbook Purpose

This handbook sets the shared expectations for riders, parents and guardians, coaches, and volunteers participating with the Santa Clarita Valley Mountain Bike Team (SCVMTB). It is intended to keep practices and race weekends safe, organized, positive, and consistent across all participating school programs.

Communication: TeamSnap is the primary source for practice locations, attendance, schedule changes, race logistics, volunteer assignments, and team announcements. Riders and parents or guardians are expected to monitor TeamSnap and email.

Team Rules

1. Ride in control. Riders must stay within their abilities and ride in a steady, predictable manner around others.
2. Wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet any time you are on a bike.
3. Yield appropriately to hikers, horses, and other trail users. Slow down, communicate early, and stop or dismount when needed.
4. Pass with care. Announce your presence well in advance and follow instructions from equestrians when passing horses.
5. Stay on designated trails. Do not cut switchbacks, ride off trail, or ride muddy trails.
6. Control your speed so you can stop safely within the distance you can see.
7. Respect wildlife and livestock. Do not frighten animals and leave gates as you found them.
8. Do not litter. Pack out what you bring in and help leave the trail cleaner than you found it.
9. Ride only authorized, open trails and respect private property and land-manager restrictions.
10. Plan ahead for distance, weather, daylight, hydration, nutrition, and mechanical needs.
11. Check TeamSnap and email and respond to attendance requests promptly.
12. Have fun and help create a positive riding environment for everyone.

Practices

What to Wear

Weather can change quickly during the winter and spring. Avoid cotton and jeans; choose synthetic cycling layers that manage moisture and allow safe movement.

- Cycling jersey and cycling shorts or pants
- Arm and/or leg warmers
- Wind shell or light rain jacket
- Properly fitted helmet
- Gloves
- Eye protection

Required Riding Gear

- Bike in safe working order
- Water bottle or hydration pack with enough fluid for the ride
- Food or snacks appropriate for the ride duration
- Spare tube or repair kit, pump or inflator, tire levers, and multi-tool
- Lights when required by the ride plan, daylight, or conditions
- Any additional equipment communicated by the coaching staff

Ready to Ride: Riders should arrive on time with equipment ready, hydration filled, and known mechanical issues handled before practice. Coaches may hold a rider from practice if equipment or behavior creates a safety concern.

Weekly Practice Schedule

Day	Time	Notes
Tuesday	4:00-5:30 PM	Extends to 6:00 PM once daylight saving time and available daylight allow
Thursday	4:00-5:30 PM	Extends to 6:00 PM once daylight saving time and available daylight allow
Saturday	9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Location and ride group details posted in TeamSnap

Practice locations are determined by the coaching staff and communicated through TeamSnap. Weather, trail closures, air quality, or safety conditions may require changes or cancellations.

2027 Race Schedule

Race	Dates	Event / Location
Race 1	February 6-7	Beach to Boulders - Lake Perris
Race 2	February 20-21	Vail Lake Challenge - Vail Lake Resort
Race 3	March 6-7	Cachuma - Cachuma Lake Campground
Race 4	March 20-21	Victory at Vail - Vail Lake Resort
Race 5	April 3-4	Finals - Keyesville BLM Recreation Area
Championships	TBD	Tehachapi

Dates and venues are subject to league confirmation. TeamSnap and the league website are the controlling sources for final schedules and race-weekend instructions.

League Registration

All riders must register online with the SoCal youth cycling league and must be fully registered before attending team practices. Contact the Team Director for the current invitation, registration process, and deadline. Visit socalyouthcycling.org and select Registration.

Race Weekend

Race weekends run best when families prepare early, keep gear together, review TeamSnap logistics, and arrive with enough time for team check-in, course pre-ride, warm-up, and volunteer duties. Specific schedules vary by venue and will be posted in TeamSnap.

- Review the event schedule and team arrival time before leaving home.
- Complete course pre-ride with the assigned coach or ride group.
- Check in at the team pit and confirm race time, warm-up plan, number plate, and feed-zone needs.
- Label bottles and personal gear with the rider's name.
- Return the number plate to the team immediately after the race.
- Complete assigned team and league volunteer duties.

Team Costs and Seasonal Expenses

Mountain biking is resource intensive, and the team is self-supporting with no school funding. Families should plan for team dues, league membership, required apparel, equipment, maintenance, and race travel.

High School Riders

Item	Current Planning Amount
Pedal Mafia race kit - bib shorts and race jersey	\$195 estimate
SCVMTB team dues	\$175
Estimated team total	\$370
SoCal season membership	\$375
Estimated combined total	\$745

Middle School Riders

Item	Current Planning Amount
Pedal Mafia team jersey	\$70 estimate
SCVMTB team dues	\$175
Estimated team total	\$245
SoCal season membership	\$375
Estimated combined total	\$620

Important: Apparel pricing is a planning estimate pending the final Pedal Mafia quote. Final pricing, order details, and payment deadlines will be communicated before orders are placed.

Team dues support the rider's participation and shared team operations, including the team pit, race-day food and recovery support, bike racks, warm-up equipment, limited race-day mechanical assistance, and other team operating needs. Families should expect to purchase or provide their own bike, helmet, shoes, lights, tools, maintenance, cycling clothing and layers, travel, lodging, race food, and other personal equipment unless specifically stated otherwise.

Race / Practice Checklist

- Bike inspected and in proper working order: shifting accurate, brakes adjusted, wheels true, and tires in good condition
- Spare tube or repair kit, pump or inflator, tire levers, and basic tools
- Helmet
- Cycling shoes
- Gloves
- Eye protection
- Clothing for expected warm, cold, wind, or rain conditions
- Filled water bottle or hydration pack
- Food and race nutrition
- League number plate for race events
- Complete change of clothes for race weekends
- Positive, team-first attitude

Number Plates: The team distributes number plates at the race pre-ride or team check-in and collects them immediately after each race to prevent lost plates. Riders should not take plates home unless specifically directed.

Race Nutrition and Feed Zone

- Prepare and clearly label bottles with the rider's name and, if helpful, race number.
- Place bottles in the assigned team cooler and communicate special feed requests to the feed-zone volunteers.
- Use only league-compliant nutrition products. Confirm current league rules before race day.
- Secure food so it can be accessed safely without interfering with bike control.

Number Plate Installation

Attach the official league plate with at least three fasteners and position it so cables do not cross the front and finish-line spotters can read it. The plate must remain on the bike during pre-ride and racing whenever required by the league.

Communication and Emergency Contacts

Channel	Purpose
TeamSnap	Primary team communication, attendance, practice locations, schedules, race logistics, and announcements
Website	scvmountainbiketeam.com
Facebook	SCV High School Mountain Bike Team
Instagram	@scvmtbteam
League	socalyouthcycling.org - race information, maps, lodging resources, and results

Coach Emergency Contacts

Name	Email	Phone
Jim Winner	Jwinner48@gmail.com	661-644-5165
Mandy Sackett	mandyasackett@gmail.com	407-230-8198

Use emergency services first for any immediate threat to life or safety. Notify a coach as soon as practical after emergency services have been contacted.

SCV MTB Pit Zone and Volunteering

The team pit provides food, recovery drinks, bike racks, warm-up trainers, seating, and limited technical assistance during race day. It only works when families share the workload.

We are requiring each rider's family to be responsible for a specific assignment/job at all the races and for finding a backup if they can't make it.

Example : sign up for Saturday Ice Volunteer- you are then responsible for bringing bags of ice to all 5 Saturday races . If for some reason you are unable to do so , you are responsible for finding someone else on the team to fulfill your duties. You will also be required to notify the Team Director in advance if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities for any given weekend and identify who will be covering those responsibilities in your place.

Team Volunteer Assignments

- Team pit setup
- Team pit breakdown
- Hospitality and food station
- Team dinner preparation
- Team dinner cooks
- Team dinner cleanup
- Feed zone
- Finish-line rider catch
- Recycling and garbage handling
- Saturday ice volunteer
- Sunday ice volunteer

League Volunteer Assignments

League needs may include course setup and takedown, parking, course marshals, race-start support, sweep riders, and other event operations. These assignments are separate from the team's five volunteer assignments.

Code of Conduct

Team membership is a privilege. Every rider is expected to contribute to an environment that is safe, respectful, inclusive, and enjoyable. Riders represent themselves, teammates, coaches, families, school programs, sponsors, the team, and the sport.

Expected Behavior

- Treat teammates, coaches, parents, volunteers, race officials, competitors, and other trail users with respect.
- Follow coach instructions promptly, especially when safety is involved.
- Ride responsibly and within your abilities.
- Encourage teammates rather than belittle, tease, or discourage them.
- Use appropriate language and behavior at practices, races, team events, online, and while wearing team apparel.
- Respect team property, other riders' equipment, trails, facilities, and private property.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship regardless of results or individual performance.
- Address disagreements appropriately rather than provoking or escalating conflict.
- Take responsibility for your actions and correct mistakes.

Inappropriate Conduct

- Disrespectful, insulting, abusive, or discriminatory behavior.
- Bullying, harassment, intimidation, hazing, or intentional exclusion.
- Repeated profanity, inappropriate gestures, or disruptive behavior.
- Refusal to follow reasonable instructions from a coach or ride leader.
- Unsafe or reckless riding, intentionally interfering with another rider, or conduct that puts others at risk.
- Deliberate damage or misuse of team, personal, or public property.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting, threats, or aggressive behavior.
- Conduct that could reasonably damage the team's reputation or relationships with schools, race organizers, land managers, sponsors, or the community.

Conduct Review and Consequences

Coaches will use judgment based on severity, circumstances, the rider's age and maturity, and whether a pattern exists. Consequences do not have to follow every step, and a serious incident may move directly to a more significant response.

1. Coach correction or verbal warning

For a minor or isolated incident, a coach will address the behavior and explain the expectation going forward.

2. Parent or guardian notification

For repeated or more serious behavior, a coach will contact the parent or guardian. The rider may be asked to take responsibility and participate in a correction plan.

3. Loss of team privileges

A rider may temporarily lose participation in a specific activity, practice, race, or team event.

4. Suspension

Serious or repeated misconduct may result in temporary suspension from practices, rides, races, or team activities. The reason and return expectations will be communicated.

5. Removal from the team

Extremely serious misconduct or a continued pattern after prior intervention may result in removal from the team.

Coach Discretion

Not every situation can be anticipated. Coaches and team leadership may respond to conduct not specifically listed when necessary to protect safety, well-being, team operations, and a positive team culture.

Parent / Guardian Expectations

Parents and guardians are expected to model the behavior required of riders. Concerns about coaching decisions, team policies, officials, or other families should be handled respectfully and directly with the coaching staff, not through confrontation at a practice or race. Parents and guardians should not discipline another rider. When a rider is involved in a behavioral issue, families are expected to work with the coaching staff on a constructive path forward.

Our Intent: The goal is accountability, learning, good judgment, sportsmanship, and respect. The safety and positive experience of the full team remain the priority.

2027 Board of Directors

The 2027 team leadership and board contacts are listed below.

Role	Name	Email	Phone
Head Coach	Jim Winner	jwinner48@gmail.com	661-644-5165
Director	Mandy Sackett	mandyasackett@gmail.com	407-230-8198
Assistant Director	Chris Sackett	csackettbell@gmail.com	831-247-9531
Treasurer	Tyler Prante	tylerprante@gmail.com	509-312-9319
Parent Representative	Ryan Griswold	ryangriswold@gmail.com	323-316-5389
Sponsor Representative	Doug Frank	douglasjfrank@gmail.com	661-857-0000

SCVMTB Operating Bylaws

These operating bylaws summarize how the team is governed for handbook purposes. If the team's separately adopted legal bylaws or board resolutions conflict with this summary, the formally adopted governing documents control.

Article 1 - Name and Purpose

The organization operates as the Santa Clarita Valley Mountain Bike Team. Its purpose is to provide organized youth mountain biking, rider development, competition, safety education, sportsmanship, and community participation.

Article 2 - Participation

Participation is open to eligible middle school and high school student-athletes who complete required registration, dues, waivers, and league requirements and follow team policies. Participation may be limited by coaching capacity, safety, league eligibility, or available resources.

Article 3 - Leadership

The team is led by its Board or Directors and coaching leadership. Team leaders set policy, approve budgets and major commitments, coordinate league and school relationships, and protect the team's safety and long-term operation.

Article 4 - Meetings and Decisions

Leadership meetings are held as needed. Decisions should be documented in meeting minutes. Voting rights, quorum, officer terms, and formal procedures follow the team's adopted corporate bylaws and board resolutions.

Article 5 - Financial Controls

Team funds are used only for approved team purposes. The Treasurer maintains financial records and reports. Purchases and commitments must follow current board-approved limits, approval rules, and signer requirements.

Article 6 - Coaches and Volunteers

Coaches and volunteers must meet applicable league, background-check, training, certification, and conduct requirements. Coaching assignments and ride-group decisions are made based on rider safety and available qualified coverage.

Article 7 - Safety and Risk Management

Riders must follow helmet, equipment, ride-control, trail, weather, emergency, and coach-direction requirements. Leadership may cancel, modify, or limit participation when conditions create unacceptable risk.

Article 8 - Conduct and Discipline

The Code of Conduct applies to riders, parents or guardians, coaches, and volunteers. Leadership may impose corrective action, loss of privileges, suspension, or removal consistent with the conduct section of this handbook.

Article 9 - Conflicts of Interest

Leaders should disclose personal or financial interests that could affect team decisions and should not participate in a decision when the conflict could compromise independent judgment.

Article 10 - Amendments

The Board may amend team policies and formally adopted bylaws using the approval process in the governing documents. Material changes will be communicated to participating families.

Caring for Your Gear

Mark and Account for Gear

Mark clothing, bottles, tools, and other personal items with the rider's name. Many riders use identical team gear. Confirm that you have everything before leaving a practice or race venue.

Keep the Bike Race Ready

Handle tune-ups and known repairs before race weekend. Team mechanics may be available for limited emergency support at races but cannot perform routine tune-ups for the full team at an event.

Washing Clothing and Shoes

- Rinse muddy shoes inside and out, then stuff with newspaper and replace it as it becomes saturated.
- Pre-rinse muddy clothing outside with clean water before machine washing.
- Wash with mild detergent and air dry. Use mesh bags for bib shorts when helpful.

Washing the Bike

- Use low-pressure water and do not direct spray at bearing seals, suspension pivots, the bottom bracket, headset, or wheel bearings.
- Use a soft brush for adhered dirt, rinse, and bounce or towel the bike dry.
- Dry and lubricate the chain immediately after washing.
- Inspect brakes, tires, wheels, shifting, and fasteners before the next ride.

Handbook Acknowledgement

By signing below, the athlete and parent or guardian confirm that they have reviewed the 2027 SCVMTB Parent / Rider Handbook, understand the team rules and expectations, and agree to follow the safety, communication, conduct, volunteer, and participation requirements described in it.

We understand that schedules, league rules, pricing, and operating details may change and that TeamSnap, league communications, and written team updates may supplement this handbook.

Athlete name (print) Date: _____

Athlete signature Date: _____

Parent / guardian name (print) Date: _____

Parent / guardian signature Date: _____

Thank You: Your preparation, communication, volunteering, and support make a safe and successful season possible for every rider.