

6 JANUARY | BALLARAT

# 2024 AUSCYCLING GRAN FONDO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RIDER GUIDE



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



# VALUED PARTNERS

## HOST PARTNERS



## EVENT PARTNERS



## AUSCYCLING PARTNERS



# WELCOME

Congratulations on entering the 2024 AusCycling Gran Fondo National Championships. Please take a few moments to read this Rider Guide, which provides you with important information designed to maximise your enjoyment and safety whilst participating in the event.

## EVENT UPDATES

Please check the event website and Facebook pages regularly.

**Official Hashtag:** #RoadNats24

**Website:** <https://www.roadnationals.org.au/gran-fondo>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/AusCyclingRoadEsports/>

**Twitter:** @AusCyclingAus

**Instagram:** @auscyclingaus

**TikTok:** @auscycling

**YouTube:** @AusCycling

## KEY NUMBERS

Times of Operation - Monday to Friday 9:00 - 5:00pm from 2 January 2024

### EVENT MECHANICAL SUPPORT

Times of Operation - Event Day Only

### EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SUPPORT

Times of Operation - Event Day Only

# EVENT INFORMATION

## KEY TIMINGS

Location	Distance	Time
Buninyong, Warrenheip St	58 km (5 Laps)	5:15pm-7:30pm

## REGISTRATION COLLECTION

All riders registered in the Gran Fondo will be required to visit the registration marquee prior to the event to collect their Rider Packs. Registration collection times and locations are listed below:

	Saturday 6 January
Location	501 Warrenheip St, Buninyong (Opposite BP Service Station)
Time	1:00pm – 4:00pm

## WITHDRAWAL / CHANGES

There are no withdrawals or transfers after December 31st 2023 at 5:00pm. If you have entered any information incorrectly, need to update contact, emergency or medical details, or change into/out of category please email [events@auscycling.org.au](mailto:events@auscycling.org.au)

## INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Age Group: Participants in race categories will be placed in the following age categories. Separate categories will be recognised for men and women.

19 - 34  
35 - 39  
40 - 44  
45 - 49  
50 - 54  
55 - 59  
60 - 64  
65 - 69  
70 - 74  
75+

Each rider will be entered into their respective age categories defined by the rider's age on 31 December 2024. The event organiser will place you in your correct category as part of the registration process.

Participants in the recreational category will not be classified in the event with a result however will receive a time.

# RIDE CHECKLIST

To ensure that you have the best ride possible, use this checklist to make sure you have all the essentials to complete the Gran Fondo.

Essential items:

- Fully charged front white light and rear red light
- Two full water bottles
- Additional Nutrition
- Puncture Repair Kit
- Spare Tubes
- Waterproof Jacket
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Recently serviced bike in good working order with functioning front and rear brakes
- Helmet (Australian standard required)

## RIDER PACKS

Rider packs will include:

- Timing Label - passive sticker RFID transponder.
- Coloured Category Label
- Sponsor Discounts

The numbered timing label is to be wrapped around your seat post and visible from both sides of the road. Partly peel off the label backing starting from the middle, centre the label on the seat post and then remove the remainder of the backing sticking it together.

Do not cut the label or change the shape in any way, doing so may damage the timing chip and you may fail to receive a time.

Please remember “no transponder, no time”, If the rider shows up to the start with no transponder on, we cannot make up a time because they didn't inform us that they did not receive the transponder in the post and failed to go to registration to get a new one.

The coloured category label should be placed around your seat directly below your Timing Label. Each rider has been entered into their respective age categories based on age as at the 31 December 2024.



19 - 34
35 - 39
40 - 44
45 - 49
50 - 54
55 - 59
60 - 64
65 - 69
70 - 74
75+
Recreational

# SAFETY BRIEFING

## START LINE

The event will start and finish on Warrenheip St, Buninyong. Riders are required to assemble on Eyre St from 4:45pm. Upon completion of the U23 Men race all Gran Fondo participants will be brought forward to the start finish line.

Riders will commence in start waves based on their category

When arriving at Eyre St please assemble directly behind the sign matching the colour of your Category Label. It is compulsory to commence the event in your allocated category start wave. Failure to commence in the correct wave will result in you being ineligible to receive a finish time and ineligible for awards within your category. Please remember that there will be elite racing occurring before the Gran Fondo so wait until the event organisers allow you to access the course.

## COURSE

**Distance/Number of Laps:** 5 Laps – 58km

The winners of each category will be awarded based on the completion of the full distance in the fastest time.

If all riders in an age category do not complete 5 laps before the prescribed time, a count back will occur to determine the winner of each category based on the previous lap finish.

It is the responsibility of each rider to keep track of their own lap number. Due to multiple categories racing on the course at once it is not possible for the event organisers to advise riders of their lap number throughout the event.



## **EVENT CUT OFF TIME**

The event organisers reserve the right to ask a rider to cease participation if the rider is unable to complete the designated laps in the prescribed time limit.

All riders must start their final lap by 7:15pm to have the ability to finish at the official finish line.

## **RESULTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **RESULTS**

Results will be based solely on elapsed time. Riders that finish in a bunch will be each given their own elapsed time and scored on that basis, no matter whose wheel crosses the line first. Results will also be available via the event website – <https://results.auscycling.org.au/>

### **PRESENTATIONS AND PRIZES**

Official Award Presentations will take place next to the finish area in the recovery area on the Start/Finish Line following the conclusion of the event. First to third will be awarded for each Age and Gender Category.

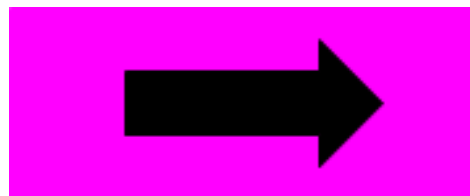
To be eligible for any of the above awards the full distance of the event must be completed within the cut off time.

NOTE: riders who did not list a gender and riders in the “Recreational” category are not eligible for prizes.

## **ON COURSE SUPPORT**

### **DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE**

The Road Race course will be marked with pink directional arrows indicating the direction of the course. Riders must ensure they follow these arrows. Riders deviating from the course will not be covered by the event’s insurance coverage or services.



### **MECHANICAL SUPPORT**

Mechanical support will be provided for the event, with mechanics available near the start line for any last-minute minor emergency repairs, and mechanics roaming in vehicles on course for any punctures or minor emergency repairs. No spare wheels or parts will be loaned to riders, and any new parts required for repairs must be paid for (minor parts available only). Riders are strongly encouraged to carry their own spares. If a rider’s bike is unrepairable out on course, riders can be transported back to the start/finish line in the Sag Wagon.

Riders requiring mechanical assistance should move themselves and their bike off the road and place their bike upside down to indicate that assistance is required. Course personnel, motorcycle marshals, course marshals and officials out on course will be able to request mechanical assistance to be fast tracked to the riders’ location.

Riders should be aware that mechanic vehicles will be travelling on the course throughout the event.

### **AID STATION**

There will be no Aid Stations operating for the event. Emergency water and first aid will be available at the start/finish line if required. In the event of extreme hot weather, additional water will be available. More information will be communicated regarding this closer to the event if required.

## **SAG WAGON**

A Sag Wagon will be available to transport riders and their bike back to the start/finish line, should they be unable to complete the event or have an unreparable mechanical issue out on course.

Riders requiring the assistance of the Sag Wagon should move themselves and their bike off the road and place their bike upside down to indicate that assistance is required. Course personnel, motorcycle marshals, course marshals, mechanics and officials out on course will be able to request the Sag Wagon to be deployed or fast tracked to the riders' location.

Riders should be aware of the Sag Wagon if lapping other riders at the end of the field.

## **MOTORCYCLE MARSHALS**

The course will be patrolled by qualified motorcycle marshals wearing fluorescent vests. The Motorcycle Marshals primary roles are to escort residents' vehicles to and from their properties, and ensure all participants remain in the left lane at all times and ride in a safe and considerate manner. These motorcycle marshals are there for riders' safety so riders must always obey their instructions.

## **GETTING THERE**

### **PARKING**

Please note: Road closures will be in place around Mount Helen and Buninyong so allow extra time for your journey.

Parking for participants will be available off University Drive, Mount Helen. Please follow the Event Parking signage from Geelong Rd (C294). From the event parking it is a short 3 km ride to the start line in Buninyong. Riders must use the shared path adjacent to Geelong Rd to travel to the start line, with the Men U23 national championship race occurring along Geelong Rd prior to the start of the Gran Fondo Australia Road Race.

### **ROAD CLOSURES**

The Gran Fondo will take place on closed roads. Please note, however, that local traffic is still permitted to use these roads to access their properties under a moto escort with an official motorcycle marshal. In addition, there are close to 100 driveways on course and whilst residents have been notified of the event and will have traffic cones placed in their driveway, these driveways are not manned by marshals.

Therefore, all participants must remain in the left-hand lane of the road at all times and be wary of traffic on the roads. Under no circumstances are riders permitted to cross the centre line of the road into the right-hand lane. This rule will be enforced by event officials, motorcycle marshals and Victoria Police. Offenders will be disqualified from the event and are liable to be fined by Victoria Police.

Additionally, throughout the Road Race, vehicle traffic will still be permitted to use the Midland Highway (the first 1.6 km of each lap). Gran Fondo participants will be given exclusive use of the left-hand lane which will be free from vehicle traffic in the form of barriers in place to separate cyclists and vehicles, with vehicle traffic permitted in the two remaining lanes. Under no circumstances are riders to travel on the right-hand side of the barriers.



