

# Audax Australia Ride Rules

## 1 Commencement

These rules come into operation on 1 November 2009. These rules may be amended from time to time by the National Committee.

## 2 Definitions

(1) In these rules:

“**ACP**” means Audax Club Parisien.

“**Audax**” or “**Audax Australia**” means the Audax Australia Cycling Club Inc.

“**Audax year**” means a period commencing on 1 November in one year and ending on 31 October the next year.

“**brevet card**” means a card given to a rider at the start of a ride which the rider is to have validated to show that the rider has reached each control.

“**control**” means a designated stopping place specified in a brevet card.

“**designated support person**” means a support person to whom the organiser has delegated the power to disqualify a rider.

“**disqualify**” means:

- (a) to refuse to accept an entry and to issue a brevet card to the rider;
- (b) to refuse to validate the rider’s brevet card; or
- (c) to refuse to accept the rider’s brevet card for homologation.

“**independent**” means that both the front lights cannot be powered from the same power source or use a single mount. Likewise both rear lights cannot be powered from the same power source or use a single mount. The same source can power a front and a rear light.

“**LRM**” means Les Randonneurs Mondiaux.

“**National Committee**” means the National Committee of Audax Australia.

“**night**” is the period between sunset on one day and sunrise on the next day.

“**organiser**” means the person or persons or other entity designated by Audax to organise a ride.

“**ride**” when used as a noun, means an event conducted by, or on behalf of, Audax.

“**road rules**” means the laws applying in the place where a ride is taking place in relation to the riding of bicycles on the road.

“**support person**” means a person designated by the organiser to assist with the conduct of the ride.

“**validate**” means to sign and/or stamp the rider’s brevet card and enter the rider’s time of arrival.

“**UAF**” means L’Union des Audax Francais.

## 3 Types of Rides

(1) Rides are classified as:

- Calendar – Events held on a specific date and appearing in the Audax Australia calendar.
- Permanents – Events that can be ridden by Audax Australia members at any time.
- Training rides – Rides, not brevets, aimed at preparing members for Audax Australia events. Rules 9 (The Course) and 10 (Controls and Brevet Cards) do not apply to training rides. Rule 7 (Ride Entry and Fees) only applies to temporary members or where the organiser sets an entry fee.

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- (2) Calendar and permanent events take several forms:
- (a) Brevet Randonneur Mondiaux (BRM) – 200 kilometres or greater calendar events controlled through a series of time and distance checks by means of a brevet card. BRM events are registered with ACP or LRM and appear in the Randonneur Mondiaux calendar published by ACP or the calendar published by LRM.
  - (b) Brevet Audax 22.5 (B22.5) – 100 km or greater calendar events controlled similarly to BRM rides but ridden as a group and registered with the UAF.
  - (c) Brevet Australia (BA) – calendar events controlled similarly to BRM rides but registered with Audax Australia only.
  - (d) Brevet Dirt (BD) – calendar events shorter than 200 kilometres where the route is primarily on unsealed surfaces, controlled similarly to BRM rides and registered with Audax Australia only.
  - (e) Brevet Permanent (BP) – permanent events where the route may be either primarily on sealed or unsealed surfaces and controlled similarly to BRM rides but registered with Audax Australia only.
  - (f) Brevet Raid (BR) – point-to-point multi-day permanent events that do not have time limits on intermediate checkpoints and are registered with Audax Australia only.
- (3) At the discretion of the organiser, a calendar event significantly longer than a BRM nominal distance may be registered with ACP or LRM as a BRM event and with Audax Australia as a BA event in which case the successful completion of the ride by a rider must be homologated either as (i) a BRM if completed within the BRM maximum time or (ii) a BA if completed outside the BRM maximum time but within the BA maximum time.

#### 4 Ride Distances

- (1) BRM rides must have a nominal distance of either 200km, 300km, 400km, 600km, 1000km or 1200km or such longer distance as may be approved by the National Committee.
- (2) B22.5 rides must have a nominal distance of either 100km, 200km, 300km, 400km, 600km or 1,000km.
- (3) BA and BP rides (on primarily sealed surfaces) must have a nominal distance of either 50km, 100km, 150km, 200km, 300km, 400km, 600km, 1000km or 1200km or such longer distance as may be approved by the National Committee.
- (4) BD and BP rides (on primarily unsealed surfaces) must have a nominal distance of either 35km, 70km or 100km.
- (5) The actual distance of a ride's nominal distance must be not less than the nominal distance.

#### 5 Ride Times

- (1) Audax rides are not races, however to be successful a rider needs to finish within a maximum time as set out in this rule.
- (2) For any BRM ride distance, intermediate and finish control opening times are based on a maximum speed of 30 km/hr.
- (3) The maximum times for BRM rides are:

Nominal Distance (km)	Time
200	13h 30m
300	20h 00m
400	27h 00m
600	40h 00m

Nominal Distance (km)	Time
1,000	75h 00m
1,200 or greater	as defined by LRM

For any BRM ride distance below 1000 km, intermediate control closing times are based on 15 km/hr. For 1,000 km BRM rides, intermediate control closing times are based on 15 km/hr up to 600 km and 11.4 km/hr between 600 km and 1000 km. For 1,200 km or greater BRM rides, intermediate control times are as specified by LRM.

- (4) For BP rides on sealed surfaces, the minimum average speeds (pro rata) for events are 15 km/hr up to 699 km, 13.3 km/hr 700 to 1299 km, 12 km/hr 1300 to 1899 km, 10 km/hr 1900 to 2499 km and 200 km per day over 2499 km. The minimum average speed for a BP ride on primarily unsealed surfaces is calculated on the same basis as a BD.

- (5) The maximum times for BA rides are:

Nominal Distance (km)	Maximum Time
Less than 200km	Actual distance divided by 15km/hr
200	Actual distance divided by 15km/hr to a maximum of 16h 40m
300	Actual distance divided by 15km/hr to a maximum of 23h 20m
400	Actual distance divided by 15km/hr to a maximum of 30h 00m
600	40h 00m plus (actual distance minus 600) divided by 11.43km/hr to a maximum of 43h 23m
1,000	75h 00m plus (actual distance minus 1000) divided by 13.33km/hr to a maximum of 78h 45m
1,200	90h 00m plus (actual distance minus 1200) divided by 11km/hr to a maximum of 94h 33m

- (6) The minimum average speed for a BD, including stops, is 10 km/hr with the maximum time being calculated by dividing the route distance, as determined by the organiser, by the minimum average speed.

- (7) The average riding speed for a B22.5 is generally 22.5 km/hr with scheduled stops. The times for B22.5 rides are:

Distance (km)	Peloton Time	Maximum Time
100	5h 00m	7h 00m
200	12h 00m	14h 00m
300	17h 00m	20h 00m
400	26h 00m - 26h 30m	27h 00m
600	38h 00m – 39h 00m	40h 00m
1,000	75hr 00m	76hr 00m

- (8) For any Audax ride (except B22.5), intermediate and finish control opening times are calculated on a maximum speed of 30 km/hr and intermediate control closing times are calculated using the relevant minimum speed.

- (9) The National Committee may approve later closure times for intermediate controls, if warranted by topography of the course. Any variation to closure times must be notified to riders prior to the commencement of the ride.

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- (10) For rides with an actual distance over 215 km, an organiser may, with the prior approval of the National Committee, offer riders the option of selecting an optional shorter maximum time limit. The National Committee may determine:
    - (a) conditions and requirements the organiser must meet; and
    - (b) qualifying criteria the rider must meet.
  - (11) For rides with an actual distance of 215 km or less, an organiser may, with the prior approval of the relevant Regional Committee, offer riders the option of selecting an optional shorter maximum time limit. The relevant Regional Committee may determine:
    - (a) conditions and requirements the organiser must meet; and
    - (b) qualifying criteria the rider must meet.

## **6 Who May Ride**

Any person may take part in a ride provided that:

- (a) the person is a member of Audax Australia
- (b) a person who is under 16 years of age must be accompanied throughout the ride by a parent or other responsible adult,
- (c) a person who is under 18 years of age must have written approval from a parent or guardian,
- (d) the rider has satisfied any qualifying or entry criteria set by the organiser in accordance with Rule 13.

## **7 Ride Entry and Fees**

- (1) Before the start of a ride a rider must:
  - (a) give the organiser a completed ride entry form prior to any entry closure date specified by the organiser,
  - (b) pay the ride entry fee,
  - (c) pay the cost of a patch, medal or award, if the rider has ordered one; and
  - (d) pay the cost of any applicable food or accommodation charges.
- (2) Unless otherwise advised to riders at the time of entry, ride fees are not refundable.
- (3) If two or more rides of different distances are being run together, the rider must specify which distance they are entering for and cannot subsequently choose a different distance after the start of the ride.

## **8 Bicycles and Equipment**

- (1) A rider may ride any type of cycle on a ride provided it is only capable of being propelled solely by human effort and complies with the road rules.
- (2) On a ride where any part of the maximum permitted time for the ride is at night, a rider must:
  - (a) have available for use at all times:
    - i. at least two independent front lights which have constant beams and otherwise comply with the road rules;
    - ii. at least two independent rear lights which comply with the road rules;
    - iii. a red reflector which complies with the road rules; and
    - iv. an effective reflective vest, bandolier or jersey (with reflective markings on both the front and rear) or equivalent,

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- (b) have securely attached to the cycle at all times, one front light and one rear light and a red reflector,
  - (c) at night or in hazardous weather conditions causing reduced visibility:
    - i. have illuminated at least one front light of constant beam,
    - ii. have illuminated at least one rear light; and
    - iii. wear the reflective vest, bandolier or jersey or equivalent as the outermost garment.
- (3) For any rider, reflective tape must be added to the front and rear of the bike or trike or rider equivalent to a vest, bandolier, jersey or equivalent where the rider's reflective vest, bandolier, jersey or equivalent is in any way obscured from the front or rear while riding.

## **9 The Course**

- (1) The course for a ride is that described in the route notes and/or depicted on the map issued by the organiser for that ride.
- (2) An organiser may change the course before or during a ride if necessary for safety reasons or to deal with unforeseen circumstances. Where it is necessary to shorten the course, riders will be deemed to have entered a ride of the shortened distance.
- (3) Riders must stay on the route. If a rider leaves the route, they must return to the route at the same point prior to continuing.

## **10 Controls and Brevet Cards**

- (1) Controls may be:
  - (a) Supported – where the organiser provides food, drink and a support person to validate the brevet card at a designated location. A rider may choose to treat a supported control as unsupported where the control is open but the support person is not available.
  - (b) Unsupported – where no organiser or support person will be present and the rider must get their brevet card validated at the location specified by the organiser.
  - (c) Secret – where the rider must get their brevet card validated by the organiser or a support person at unspecified locations along the route. A secret control need not be in the same place for each rider and there need not be the same number of secret controls for each rider.
  - (d) Information – where the rider stops at specified locations or landmark on the route where the rider must write into their brevet card identifying information from this location or landmark.
- (2) A rider must carry their brevet card at all times during the ride and must stop at each control while the control is open and get their brevet card validated. If, at an open control (other than the start or finish), it is not possible to get the brevet card validated, a rider may record their own arrival time and leave the brevet card unsigned for that control.
- (3) A rider who arrives at a control after it has closed (excluding Secret controls) has not successfully completed the ride, except where the organiser or designated support person is satisfied that the rider's lateness is due to the occurrence of something unforeseen and beyond the control of the rider and in such case the rider may be allowed to continue to participate in the ride. However, if the rider arrives at:
  - (a) both of the next two (2) controls; or
  - (b) the finish controlafter they have closed, the rider has not successfully completed the ride.
- (4) At the end of a ride a rider must give their validated brevet card:

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- (a) to the organiser or a support person,
  - (b) may leave the brevet card at a pre-arranged place or
  - (c) if no arrangement has been made, must deliver it to the organiser within 7 days of the end of the ride.

## **11 Support**

- (1) Each rider must be self-sufficient however nothing in this rule prevents a rider from obtaining assistance (including buying food and drink), from:
  - (a) another rider taking part in the ride or
  - (b) a shopkeeper, local resident, passer-by or other disinterested person.
- (2) No personal support of any kind (including a follow car) is permitted on the course. Personal support is only allowed at controls if agreed by the organiser. Any rider deemed to have received personal support may be disqualified.

## **12 Rider Behaviour**

- (1) A rider must obey the road rules. If a dirt ride is on roads or tracks that are not covered by the road rules, a rider must, as far as reasonably practicable, comply with the road rules as if they did apply on those roads or tracks.
- (2) A rider may ride on their own or with other riders taking part in the ride. A rider may draft behind other riders taking part in the ride, but must not draft behind any rider not taking part in the ride.
- (3) A rider must obey the reasonable requests of the organiser and any support person.
- (4) A rider must be courteous to, and behave in a sporting manner towards, other riders taking part in the ride, the organiser and all support people.
- (5) A rider must not engage in any behaviour that may bring Audax Australia into disrepute.

## **13 Special Conditions**

- (1) An organiser may require riders to attend a pre-ride inspection to check compliance with Rule 8 and any rider who does not attend may be disqualified. A ride organiser must conduct a pre-ride inspection for all calendar events where Rule 8(2) regarding lighting requirements applies.
- (2) An organiser may, with the prior approval of the National Committee, impose qualifying or other entry criteria in respect of a ride. A rider cannot enter the ride unless they satisfy those criteria.
- (3) An organiser may, with the prior approval of the National Committee, impose additional rules in relation to:
  - (a) the equipment to be carried by a rider,
  - (b) the behaviour of riders taking part in a ride,
  - (c) the patch, medal or award available on completion of the ride; and
  - (d) any other aspect of the ride.
- (4) If additional rules are imposed under Rule 13(3), a rider who breaches those rules may be disqualified.
- (5) The organiser and support persons for a ride with supported controls may choose to ride the course up to 15 days prior to the date of the ride. The rider's brevet card in such circumstances will be ratified as if the course was ridden on the date of the ride.

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## 14 Disqualification

- (1) Any violation of these rules may and any violation of rule 8(2) will, result in disqualification by the organiser or designated support persons. A rider may be disqualified at any time before, during or after the ride and will be informed of disqualification as soon as practicably possible. A disqualified rider must relinquish their brevet card if the organiser or designated support persons so requests. The ride organiser is no longer required to provide support to a disqualified rider.
- (2) A rider may be disqualified if, in the reasonable opinion of the organiser or a designated support person, the rider is likely to present a danger to themselves or other road users.
- (3) A rider who is disqualified from a ride may lodge an objection with the National Committee within 7 days of the closing time for the ride.
- (4) If an objection is lodged a meeting of the National Committee is to be convened within 21 days of receipt of the objection.
- (5) At that meeting the National Committee is to allow the disqualified rider, organiser and designated support person to put their cases.
- (6) The National Committee may uphold or overturn the disqualification as it thinks fit, and if it overturns the disqualification may award or not award the ride to the rider as it thinks fit.