

Race Rules 2026

EVENT OVERVIEW

1. The Duathlon for Year 1-3 will consist of a run/bike/run.
2. The Triathlon for Year 4-6 will consist of a swim/bike/run.
3. All children will commence the race in wave start format.

RACE CATEGORIES

Individuals age group categories as of the 19th of February 2026

Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

ENTRIES

1. Entries will open on Wednesday 8th October 2025 and close at 6pm on Wednesday 11th February 2026 (unless sold out prior to this date).

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

1. Students may cancel their entry at any stage prior to the event; no refunds will be provided.
2. If the Challenge Wanaka Sports Trust is forced to cancel the event due to circumstances out of our control (such as pandemics and natural disasters). There will be no refund, and the race will not be re-scheduled.

TRANSFER OF ENTRY

1. Individuals are not permitted to transfer their entry to another individual.

RESPONSIBILITY

1. No responsibility is taken by Challenge Wanaka for any loss or damaged property of competitors, assistants, or friends during the Challenge Wanaka Junior Triathlon. By completion of the entry form the competitor accepts full responsibility for the risks entailed in competing in Challenge Wanaka Junior.
2. Competitors and their guardians understand that competing in the Event involves using public areas, roads used by other people and traffic, and they are aware of the hazards involved. The hazards include but are not limited to: vehicle traffic, actions of competitors, spectators, event personnel, weather conditions and their physical and mental state of health. They have used their judgment and have sufficient competence and experience to participate safely in the Event.
3. Competitors and their guardians understand that they are physically fit, have sufficiently trained for participation in the Event and have not been advised otherwise by a qualified medical person.
4. Competitors are required to follow the course set out for the Event, abide by the road, and Event rules and follow the instructions given to them by Event officials, at all times. Failure to comply in any way with these matters may lead to me being removed from the Event and disqualified (at any time).

5. It is compulsory for all competitors to wear their Event number as directed by the Event officials.
6. Competitors and guardians acknowledge that the Event Organisers reserve the right to alter the advertised course or start time (at their absolute discretion).
7. Competitors and guardians consent to receive any medical treatment that may be deemed necessary in the event of injury, accident or illness during the Event, and allow that information to be passed on to the Event Organisers or third parties (as deemed necessary by the Event Organisers).

PENALTIES

1. The Challenge Wanaka Event manager reserves the right to disqualify or impose time penalties on any competitor for disregarding race rules.

RULES

1. Rules are enforced for participants safety and to create a fair event. All competitors are encouraged to abide by these rules and the spirit in which they are written. Any individuals or teams found disregarding the specified rules or purposely changing the interpretation of rules for their benefit may be disqualified.

BIKES

1. This is a mountain bike only event – no road bikes, Hybrids or E-Bikes are allowed to be used.

COMPLAINTS

1. Any competitor or assistant who wishes to make a complaint about another competitor must do so in writing with supporting evidence (photos/videos) to the Junior Challenge Wanaka Event Manager within 1 hour of the completion of the event. The Junior Challenge Wanaka Event Manager's decision regarding the complaint is final.

WITHDRAWALS

1. In the case of withdrawal of an individual the organisers must be notified by the quickest possible means.
2. Any individual that does not complete a leg of the race is automatically disqualified but may continue to finish the race.

LITTER ON COURSE

1. Competitors must take out all their rubbish. If a participants race number is identified as littering, they will be disqualified.

ROAD CLOSURES

1. **The road will be closed for the bike course. Participants must still give way to any medic or support vehicle on course.**

MEDICAL

1. The event organisers decision to remove a person from the race due to medical or safety reasons is final.
2. Medics will be on course and if a participant comes across or view an accident, they must inform the closest marshal or the event manager.

OFFICIALS

1. Instruction by course officials to competitors must be followed. Failure to do so will see disqualification or time penalties.
2. Negative behaviour towards race officials, volunteers and public (this includes support crews) will not be tolerated and could result in disqualification.

SWIM PROTOCOL

SWIMMERS

1. All swimmers must complete the entire swim leg.
2. All swimmers must feel confident in water where they cannot touch the ground.
3. If a swimmer feels they cannot make the distance after starting the swim section, they can opt to return to the beach and wait until the last swimmer has left the water and then run through to the bike transition area.

NON-SWIMMERS

1. All non-swimmers will have their own wave start, which will commence immediately after the last swimmer in their wave has exited the water. Non swimmers will commence their run along the beach in parallel to the swim course.

BIKE PROTOCOL

1. Individuals must follow route markers and stick to the assigned/marked track.
2. Helmets for the bike leg are compulsory.
3. Protective clothing on the torso is compulsory.
4. Parents must ensure that bikes are in a safe functioning state.
5. Participants must remain in control at all times. Out of control riders are a hazard to themselves and others.

RUN PROTOCOL

1. Protective clothing on the torso is compulsory.
2. Individuals must stick to the assigned/marked track.
3. Inappropriate behaviour such as pushing or shoving in the run leg will result in automatic disqualification.

SUPPORT CREWS AND SPECTATORS

1. All transition areas will be manned by race officials. No outside assistance from spectators/support persons is allowed in designated transition areas.
2. Spectators/support persons are allowed in designated spectator areas along the course.

I/we acknowledge that the Event Organisers reserve the right to alter the advertised course or start time (at their absolute discretion).