



TOUR DE SUISSE
CHALLENGE

Tour de Suisse Challenge

Regulations

2022

Contents

1	General Information.....	3
1.1	Introduction	3
1.2	Liability	3
1.3	Regulations of the Sport Director.....	3
1.4	Contingencies	3
1.5	Pandemics/Epidemics	4
1.6	Minimum Age	4
2	Sport Director / Road Coaches.....	5
2.1	General	5
2.2	Expulsion	5
2.3	Authority.....	5
3	Traffic.....	6
3.1	General.....	6
4	General regulations during the event.....	6
4.1	Rules for Participants	6
4.2	Rules for Cycles and Kit	6
5	Start and Finish	7
6	Route	7
7	Catering	8
8	Communication during the Event.....	8
9	Sponsors.....	8
10	Medical Partner.....	8

1 General Information

1.1 Introduction

The official language of TdS Challenge is German.

It is the responsibility of participants to read these regulations before the briefing and, if necessary, to direct questions to ph@cyclings-unlimited.ch. Ignorance of these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse.

The handbook, which will be distributed shortly prior to the event, supplements these regulations.

The Organiser expressly reserves the right to reject registrations.

The Tour de Suisse Challenge is not a race. There is no timekeeping and the event takes place on unsecured routes.

1.2 Liability

By participating in the Tour de Suisse Challenge, all participants accept the following exclusion of liability:

- Each participant declares and ensures that they possess a valid personal accident insurance policy comprehensively covering the consequences of any accident that may occur during the event.
- The Organiser (Cycling Unlimited, Sportstrasse 44, 2540 Grenchen), its representatives and associated agents, shall not be liable for any damage suffered to or caused by participants in connection with their participation in the Tour de Suisse Challenge.
- The participants declare that they have trained sufficiently for participation in this Event, that they are physically healthy and that their state of health has been confirmed by a doctor. The Organiser is not liable for health risks and possible injuries to the participants.

1.3 Regulations of the Sport Director

It is at the discretion of the Sport Director to interpret the rules. The Sport Director may issue new regulations before or during the Event. The Sport Director may also change rules if this is necessary for the fair and safe conduct of the Tour de Suisse Challenge. The full responsibility for such decisions lies with the Sport Director.

1.4 Contingencies

Cancellation or interruption of the event for reasons of safety, force majeure or other significant circumstances will not result in a refund of the participation fee or claims for damages in favour of participants.

In the case of cancellation up to 4 weeks prior to the event, a re-booking to the subsequent Event is possible. However, entry fees will not be refunded. This applies also to cancellations with a medical certificate.

The Organiser recommends participants take out cancellation insurance. Such insurance is not provided by the Organiser and remains the responsibility of each participant.

Participants may be confronted by unforeseeable situations during the event. The Sport Director and the Organiser cannot be held responsible for these eventualities. Such situations which are beyond the control of the Organiser may include, but are not limited to, traffic lights, traffic congestion, trains, detours, road works, cows, winds, storms, snow, avalanches or earthquakes.

1.5 Pandemics/Epidemics

If the Tour de Suisse Challenge is cancelled due to an epidemic or pandemic (such as Covid19), the following schedule will apply to participation fees:

- **Cancellation 6 Weeks before the Event***
 - Refund of registration fee (less admin charge of CHF 100)
 - Re-booking of the registration to the subsequent Event

- **Cancellation 2 Weeks before the Event ***
 - Refund of 2/3 of registration fee
 - Re-booking of the registration to the subsequent Event
(plus admin charge of CHF 100)

- **Cancellation less than 2 Weeks before the Event**
 - In the case of cancellation due to a pandemic/epidemic in the last 2 weeks before the event, the Organiser reserves the right to evaluate the situation first and, based on such evaluation, to decide on the procedure to be followed regarding fees already paid.

* Participants can choose between the two options

By registering, all participants agree to accept all regulations, protective measures and concepts implemented by Cycling Unlimited AG due to a pandemic/epidemic.

1.6 Minimum Age

The minimum age for participants in the Tour de Suisse Challenge is 18 years (reference: year of birth).

2 Sport Director / Road Coaches

2.1 General

The Sport Directorate is the supreme body of the Tour de Suisse Challenge and is responsible for the implementation of the event. It is composed of a individual person, who is supported by the Road Coaches and the entire staff of the operational team. The Sport Director accompanies the Tour de Suisse Challenge group in the car during all stages and is in regular contact with the Road Coaches.

The Road Coaches are responsible for guiding the participants during the stages. They act as so-called Capitaine de Route and are informed about the upcoming stage, refreshment stops, challenging sections of the route and other important details for the participants. The instructions of the Road Coaches must be followed at all times.

2.2 Expulsion

The following violations may lead to immediate expulsion by the Sport Director:

1. Refusal or non-compliance with the contractual conditions of participation. This includes in particular appropriate and professional behaviour of all participants, the prior acceptance of the disclaimer as well as the compliance with the instructions of the Sport Directorate and the observance of the given regulations.
2. The use of prohibited substances (the latest regulations of the WADA, NADA and UCI apply).
3. Repeated failure to observe and comply with road traffic regulations.

2.3 Authority

If a participant's performance drops sharply during a stage and falls far behind the guideline times on the schedule, the Road Coaches and the Sport Director are authorised to prevent the participant from continuing the stage. In this eventuality, the stage will be finished in one of the support vehicles. This does not prejudice a start on the next day.

3 Traffic

3.1 General

As it is not a race the Tour de Suisse Challenge takes place on unsecured, public roads and is therefore subject to official laws and regulations. The following must be observed:

1. **The Swiss Road Traffic Act, Swiss Road Traffic Regulations and the Traffic Regulations Ordinance must be observed at all times!** The Sport Directorate reserves the right to file a report with the authorities in the event of gross violations of road traffic regulations.
2. The Tour de Suisse Challenge takes place on public roads. Courtesy and consideration towards other road users, whether they be cyclists, motorists or pedestrians, is paramount.

4 General regulations during the event

4.1 Rules for Participants

1. Participants may only ride side by side in special situations, if road traffic is not obstructed:
 - a. In groups of more than 10 persons
 - b. On signposted cycle paths on secondary roads
 - c. On cycle paths
 - d. In pedestrian zones
2. Cycling with forearms rested on the handlebars (triathlon mode) and sitting on the top tube (super tuck) are prohibited.
3. Participants must always wear a correctly fitted and approved helmet.
4. Littering (discarding waste inappropriately) by participants is prohibited.
5. Public urination is generally undesirable and prohibited within sight of the roadside.

4.2 Rules for Cycles and Kit

1. Racing bikes may only be propelled by manpower. E-bikes and other power assisted cycles are prohibited.
2. Time trial bikes are not permitted during the Event. Even if the stage to be completed in the Tour de Suisse Pro Race is designated as a Time Trial, participants in the Tour de Suisse Challenge will complete the course on regular road bikes.
3. Each participant of Tour de Suisse Challenge brings one racing bike. Spare parts and replacement wheels will be available in the event of technical problems. A mechanic's vehicle with necessary equipment will accompany the participants throughout the stage and will be available to all participants without restriction.

4. Disc wheels, compound spoked wheels and "aerobars" and their accessories are likewise not permitted.
5. It is very important to carry sufficient and suitable clothing for the Event. In particular, the associated weather conditions when traversing mountainous areas should be considered. Adequate clothing is expressly the responsibility of the participants.
6. Wearing the official Tour de Suisse Challenge jersey by Santini is not compulsory however the Organiser would very much like to see it!

5 Start and Finish

Each start takes place in three to four groups of different strengths, each with approx. 8-10 participants. The group with the lowest estimated KM/H average will start first. The allocation of the participants to the starting groups will be made in advance and can be adjusted as often as necessary during the Tour de Suisse Challenge.

The start takes place at the official starting point of the respective Tour de Suisse Pro stage. Any transfers from the hotel to the starting point by bicycle are not included in the route to be completed.

The stages end at the official finish of the respective Tour de Suisse Pro stage.

6 Route

As already stated in Section 3 "Traffic", the Tour de Suisse Challenge will take place on unsecured, public roads. The same stages will be covered during the week of the Tour de Suisse Pro race. The route may deviate from the original route however due to road works and sections of the route that are off-limits to cyclists.

Each participant must follow the directions in the official Tour de Suisse Challenge Route Book. The only exception may be if road works or other unforeseen circumstances (e.g. an error in the announced route) necessitate a deviation. In this case, participants must follow the directions of a Road Coach or the Sport Director.

The route descriptions, schedules and maps in the official Tour de Suisse Challenge Route Book are considered the sole official documentation of the route. Only changes to the route announced by the Road Coaches or the Sport Director will permit deviations from the official Tour de Suisse Challenge Route Book.

The Route Book will be sent electronically to participants approximately two weeks before the Tour de Suisse Challenge. GPX data of the respective stages will be available to participants on the official website of the Tour de Suisse Challenge.

7 Catering

Daily catering is provided throughout the Tour de Suisse Challenge. Breakfast and dinner will be available at the respective hotels. During each stage there will either be a lunch break at a restaurant or participants will be served by the Tour de Suisse catering team. In addition, our sports nutrition partner will provide bars, gels and drinks for the road. Immediately after the finish, small snacks will be available to sustain participants until the evening meal.

Additional drinks with dinner such as beer, wine and soft drinks are not included in the package price.

Participants may also bring their own personal sport nutrition.

8 Communication during the Event

Important information from the Sport Directorate will be communicated to the Road Coaches throughout the stages and from them to the participants. In addition, the Sport Directorate will be in contact with participants throughout the week via SMS or WhatsApp with information relating to changes in the daily schedule, route adjustments and other important details. These messages are binding and any directions must be followed.

Each participant must carry their mobile phone with them throughout the stages in order to be accessible in case of emergency.

9 Sponsors

Tobacco and alcohol products (with the exception of beer and wine) may not be displayed as names or logos on participants' clothing.

The Organiser reserves the right to prohibit the display of an inappropriate sponsor name or logo (e.g. request to cover an inappropriate sponsor/logo). This is particularly the case if the sponsor or logo is in competition with a Partner of the Tour de Suisse.

10 Medical Partner

The Organiser will implement a medical concept, which includes the provision of medical aid at the start/finish. Along the route the concept is based on the emergency services Sanität 144, REGA 1414 and local hospitals.

Each participant is responsible for their own health and cannot hold the Organiser and its defined partners, in particular the medical partner, liable for any health problems that may arise as a result of participation in the Tour de Suisse Challenge.
