

CRANKWORX ROTORUA

TECHNICAL GUIDE

V3 March 2026

**Specialized Karearea Downhill
Rotorua, New Zealand
March 11 - 14, 2026**



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Crankworx! This Technical Guide covers the relevant rules and procedures for the Karearea Downhill event held from March 11-14, 2026.

In case of a divergence between the information found within this Technical Guide and information concerning these events found anywhere else (e.g., the internet), this Technical Guide shall be considered correct.

SANCTIONING

The Karearea Downhill event is sanctioned as a Class 1 UCI event. It is also the New Zealand National Downhill Championship for 2026.

The rules applicable to the UCI C1 and CN events are those set out in Chapter 4 of the UCI rule book.

The rules applicable to all non-UCI riders entered in the National Championships are those set out in the Cycling New Zealand rules

RACE CATEGORIES

Cycling NZ Categories	
MEN Elite [2007+]	WOMEN Elite [2007+]
MEN U19 [2008 - 2009]	WOMEN U19 [2008 - 2009]
MEN U17 [2010 - 2011]	WOMEN U17 [2010 - 2011]
MEN U15 [2012 - 2013]	WOMEN U15 [2012 - 2013]
MEN Sport 17-29 [2008 - 1997]	WOMEN Sport 17-29 [2008 - 1997]
MEN Masters 1 30-39 [1996 - 1987]	WOMEN Masters 1 30-39 [1996 - 1987]
MEN Masters 2 40-49 [1986 -1977]	WOMEN Masters 2 40-49 [1986 -1977]
MEN Masters 3 50-59 [1976 - 1967]	WOMEN Masters 3 50-59 [1976 - 1967]
MEN Masters 4 60-69 [1966 - 1957]	WOMEN Masters 4 60-69 [1966 - 1957]
MEN Masters 5 70+ [1956 +]	WOMEN Masters 5 70+ [1956 +]

Race Category Eligibility (Age and Gender) for all Crankworx events will be determined by the athlete's Cycling NZ license. For Athletes who do not possess a Cycling NZ or UCI license, and do not require one for any of the races in which they are entered, Race Category Eligibility (Age and Gender) will be determined by the athletes Birth Certificate or Passport.

Athletes entered in the U19 UCI event will be required to provide proof of age evidence at the point of athlete registration or accreditation.

All other athletes may be required to provide proof of age evidence at the point of athlete registration or accreditation (at the discretion of the Athlete Manager or Event Director).

REGISTRATION

Advance online entry mandatory – no onsite entry will be offered.

Online entries open Friday 17 October, 2025 at 10:00am NZDT.

Crankworx Entry Platform: <https://www.crankworx.com/account>

Deadline (space permitting): Sunday March 8, 2026 at 11:59pm NZDT

Field limit: 330 Riders,

Accreditation and Registration / Plate Pickup:

Location: Next door to Skyline Rotorua Mountain Bike Park at Te Kōhea (previously Rainbow Springs Nature Park), 192 Fairy Springs Road, Fairy Springs, Rotorua. It is advised that all athletes park at the Rowi Street car park area and walk to

the Riders Office.

Tuesday March 10	3:00pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday March 11	6:30am – 1:00pm + 1:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday March 12	7:00am – 12:00pm + 1:00pm – 3:30pm
Friday March 13	7:00am – 4:30pm

Entry Fees:

UCI Licensed Racers: \$180.00 NZD (incl. GST and Fees)

Non-UCI Licensed Racers: \$190.00 NZD (incl. GST and Fees)

Entry fee covers shuttle access for course walk, official practice sessions and competition.

Entry fee also includes Athlete Accreditation which allows general admission to the Skyline venue for the duration of Crankworx.

Refund Policy:

Entry fees are refundable for any reason up to 30 days prior to the official registration closing date (less \$15.00 administration fee) and all entry fees are 50% refundable up to 30 days before the official registration closing date (less \$15.00 administration fee), providing cancellation notice is received in writing to nzathletes@crankworx.com by the registration deadline, Registration deadline is Sunday March 8, 2026 at 23:59 NZDT. All entries are non-refundable or transferable after the registration deadline (even in the case of injury or mechanical problems).

Competitors who need to withdraw after the registration deadline should email nzathletes@crankworx.com to confirm their withdrawal otherwise, they will appear on the start list as a DNS.

RACE LICENSES

Competitors in the Karearea Downhill will need to have either a UCI license issued by their national federation or purchase a Cycling NZ One Day Event license (available for foreign competitors with proof of adequate insurance).

Only riders with UCI Elite licenses can enter in the Elite/U19 category.

Riders purchasing a One Day Event License (cost \$10) will be subject to Cycling New Zealand's Terms and Conditions.

License Check for riders competing in the Elite/U19 categories:

Location: Next door to Skyline Rotorua Mountain Bike Park at Te Kōhea (previously Rainbow Springs Nature Park), 192 Fairy Springs Road, Fairy Springs, Rotorua. It is advised that all athletes park at the Rowi Street car park area and walk to the Riders Office.

Wednesday March 11	6:30am – 1:00pm + 1:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday March 12	7:00am – 12:00pm + 1:00pm – 3:30pm

IMAGE RELEASE

As a condition of my participation in Crankworx Rotorua, I hereby unconditionally and irrevocably consent, authorize and grant Crankworx Events Inc. ("CEI"), the event organizers of each event, and their respective affiliates, sponsors, promoters, advertisers, broadcasters, webcasters, contractors, agents, representatives, licensees and assigns (together, the "Releasees") all the necessary authority, right and license and permission to use photographs, audio or video recordings, or other forms of recordings that capture my image, likeness, voice or performance (or all of these) (collectively hereinafter referred to as "Images"), in which I may be included in whole or in part, in any manner or media, including print, broadcast, internet media, direct marketing channels, downloadable content and applications, and all other technologies now known or hereafter developed. I acknowledge that drones may be used in capturing these images and accept that they may be flying above me. The Images may be used or exploited for any commercial or non-commercial purpose whatsoever, and may be altered, modified, changed, combined, or incorporated into other works I hereby relinquish any rights I may have in the Images (including privacy, personality and publicity rights. In no event shall I seek or be entitled to injunctive or other equitable relief in connection with the use of the Images. No fees or other compensation whatsoever will be provided to me for or in connection with the use of the Images. I hereby release the Releasees from any and all claims which I may now or in the future have relating to the ownership, reproductions, display, distribution or other use of the Images.

EVENT LOCATION

The Karearea Downhill will be held at the Skyline Rotorua Mountain Bike Park, 178 Fairy Springs Road, Fairy Springs, Rotorua. The race will follow a purpose-built trail at Skyline Rotorua.

VENUE ACCESS/ACCREDITATION /PARKING

To pick up your accreditation and race packs it is advised that you park at the Rowi Street Reserve car park and walk to the Riders Office, located at Te Kohea (previously Rainbow Springs) - next door to Skyline. There is no Public Parking at Te Kohea or Skyline.

SCHEDULE

Schedule is subject to change.

Please refer to <https://www.crankworx.com/rotorua/schedule/> for updates.

Tuesday March 10	
3:00PM – 7:00PM	Plate Pickup

Wednesday March 11	
6:30AM – 1:00PM + 1:00PM – 6:00PM	Plate Pickup and License Check
8:00AM – 1:30PM	Track Walk (Optional Attendance for all Riders)
2:30PM – 6:30PM	Group A (Elite and U19) Training

Thursday March 12	
7:00AM – 12:00PM + 1:00PM – 3.30PM	Plate Pickup and License Check
8:00AM – 11:00AM	Group B (U15, U17, Sport) and Group C (Masters 1, 2, 3, 4 5) Training
11:30AM – 3:30PM	Group A Training – Timed Training Session
4:00PM – 4:30PM	Group A Seeding (International Riders)
4:30PM – 6:30PM	Group A National Champs Finals (NZ Riders)

Friday March 13	
7:00AM – 4:30PM	Plate Pickup (no license checks available)
8:00AM – 10:00AM	Group A Training
10:30AM – 2:00PM	Group B & C Training
2:30PM – 6:30PM	Group B Finals

Saturday March 14	
7:00AM – 10:30AM	Plate Pickup
8:00AM - 9:30AM	Group C Training
10:00AM - 11:00AM	Group C Finals
11:00AM – 1:00PM	Group A Training
1:15PM – 6:30PM	Group A Finals

TRAINING GROUPS

Group A = Elite and U19
Group B = U15, U17, Sport
Group C = Masters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

COURSE INFORMATION

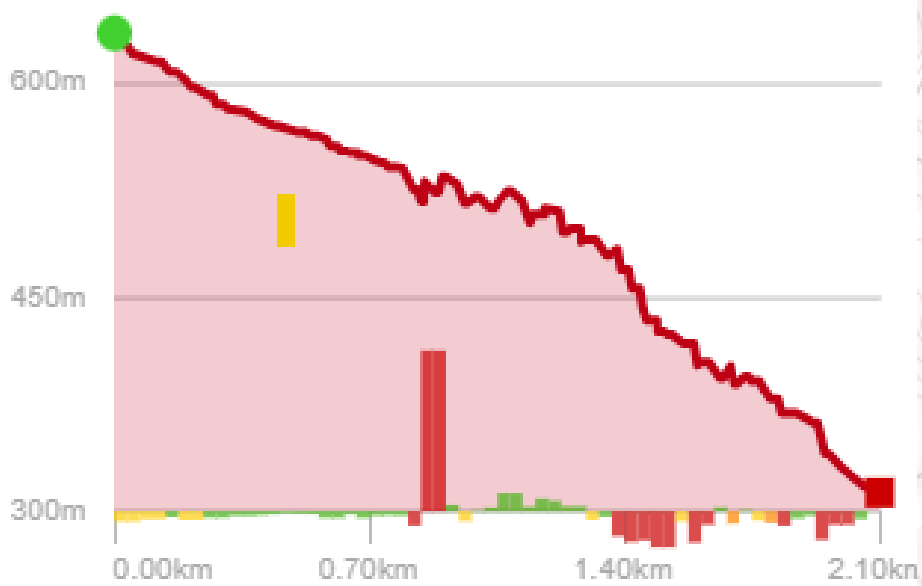
Approximate Start Elevation: 650m (2132ft) | Approximate Finish Elevation: 300m (984ft)

Karearea downhill

near *Rotorua*

☆☆☆☆☆ Crankworx Rotorua Downhill Course

2.1 km	12 m	-319 m	628 m
distance	climb	descent	top



[Crankworx » Specialized Kārearea Downhill Rotorua](#) – for more information on course details and an interactive map, please visit this link above.

SHUTTLES

Crankworx Rotorua will have a shuttle service running for the Karearea DH:

The shuttle loop will circulate between the **Skyline Teams Zone** and the top of the road leading to the **Course Start** continuously throughout each training, seeding and race session (including Track Walk). The first shuttle will depart from Skyline Teams Zone 30 minutes prior to the start of each training/track walk session. Athlete Support (parents, coaches, mechanics etc) and Media may join the shuttle service for Track Walk ONLY, they will be required to have their GA wristband or Accreditation to use the service. **Athletes will be given priority at all times over parents, coaches, mechanics and media.**

These shuttles are NOT available to spectators and/or general public at any point.

This service is a 20-minute trip to the start of the DH track, please ensure that you arrive for your uplift approximately 40 minutes before you wish to be at the start of the track.

IMPORTANT: The last shuttle uplift will depart 30 minutes prior to the end of the training/seeding/finals session to ensure that you are at the top of the track in time to complete your run.

IMPORTANT: ATHLETES WILL NEED THEIR ACCREDITATION TO ACCESS THE SHUTTLE SERVICE FOR PRACTICE AND RACE DAYS.

RACE FORMAT

The **Specialized Karearea Downhill at Crankworx Rotorua 2026** will also serve as the **2026 New Zealand National Downhill Championships**. Because this race operates under both **UCI National Championship** and **UCI Cat 1** frameworks, we want to clearly explain how categories, finals and points/prize money will work.

ELITE AND U19 RIDERS (GROUP A):

New Zealand vs International Riders:

- **New Zealand riders**
 - **Can** compete for UCI National Championship points
 - **Can** compete for National Champion title and sleeve
 - **Can** compete for UCI Cat 1 points
 - **Can** compete for Crankworx World Tour DH Series points
 - **Can** compete for UCI Cat 1 Prize Money
- **International riders**
 - **Can** compete for UCI Cat 1 points
 - **Can** compete for Crankworx World Tour DH Series points
 - **Can** compete UCI Cat 1 Prize Money
 - **Cannot** compete for New Zealand National Championship points, titles or sleeves.

Your nationality automatically determines which points/prize money you are eligible for - **there is no action required from athletes or parents.**

How Seeding and Finals will work – National Championships:

- **Elite and U19 riders will compete separately**
 - Separate seeding (details below)
 - Separate finals
- Seeding for the **National Championship Race** will occur as a timed training format during practice on Thursday 12th March 2026. All NZ riders (U19 and Elite) will be fitted with their timing chip before this training session.
- Your fastest training lap during Thursday's training session will determine your seeding result for your category in the National Championship Finals.
- National Championship Finals will be held on Thursday 12th March, from 4:30pm – 6:30pm. Only New Zealand riders will be permitted to compete on the course during this timeframe.

How Seeding and Finals will work – Cat 1 Race:

- Elite and U19 riders compete together (all riders 17 years and over are Elite)
 - Same seeding
 - Same finals
- Seeding for the **Cat 1 Race** will occur in the following ways:
 - International riders will complete a seeding run from 3:15pm – 4:00pm on Thursday 12th March.
 - New Zealand riders will be seeded based on their National Championship Finals run (held from 4:30pm – 6:30pm on Thursday 12th March).
- Finals for the **Cat 1 Race** will be raced on Saturday 14th March, race order will be determined based on combination of the two seeding formats outlined above.

How Results will be Awarded:

After the **National Championship race**, results will be awarded in the following categories:

- New Zealand National Championship – Elite
- New Zealand National Championship – U19
- The awards ceremony will be held for the race with an official podium for each category.

After the **Cat 1 race**, results will be awarded in accordance with UCI regulations:

- UCI Cat 1 Results (*any rider aged 17 years or older, per UCI rules*)
- Crankworx World Tour Downhill Series results (*any rider aged 17 years or older, per UCI rules*)

The awards ceremony will recognize:

- The official podium (top 3) for each applicable category, and
- The top 3 U19 athletes within the relevant categories.

U15, U17. SPORT AND MASTERS RIDERS (GROUP B AND C):

New Zealand vs International Riders:

- **New Zealand riders**
 - **Can** compete for National Champion title
 - **Can** compete for National Champion medal
 - **Cannot** compete for Crankworx medal
- **International riders**
 - **Cannot** compete for New Zealand National Championship title
 - **Cannot** compete for National Champion medal
 - **Can** compete for Crankworx medal

Your nationality automatically determines which category you are eligible for - **there is no action required from athletes or parents.**

How Seeding and Finals will work:

- There will be no seeding for Group B and C riders, it will be a Finals only format.
- Finals for **Group B** will be raced on Friday 13th March from 2:30pm – 6:30pm.
- Finals for **Group C** will be raced on Saturday 14th March from 10:00am – 11:00am.

How Results will be Awarded:

After the **Group B race**, results will be awarded in the following categories:

- New Zealand National Championship – U15
- New Zealand National Championship – U17
- New Zealand National Championship – Sport
- Crankworx Winner – U15
- Crankworx Winner – U17
- Crankworx Winner – Sport

After the **Group C race**, results will be awarded in the following categories:

- New Zealand National Championship – Masters 1
- New Zealand National Championship – Masters 2
- New Zealand National Championship – Masters 3
- New Zealand National Championship – Masters 4
- New Zealand National Championship – Masters 5
- Crankworx Winner – Masters 1

- Crankworx Winner – Masters 2
- Crankworx Winner – Masters 3
- Crankworx Winner – Masters 4
- Crankworx Winner – Masters 5

The awards ceremony will be held for the race with an official podium for each category.

Registration & Eligibility

- Athletes entered via the **Crankworx Athlete Portal** are **automatically filtered** into the correct results and points category based on nationality
- No additional paperwork or selection is required

Course:

All riders will compete on the same course for training, seeding and finals of both races – the Specialized Karearea Downhill at Skyline Rotorua.

Karearea Downhill race uses a Seeding Run + Finals for UCI Elite and U19 Categories only
All other categories will use Finals only format (U15, U17, Sport, Masters)

Finals Start List for National Champs will be published by 3:45pm, Thursday 11th March 2026 - <https://www.crankworx.com/results/start-lists/> - this will be based off the Timed Training session prior (as outlined above).

Seeding Start List (International Riders only) for Cat 1 Race will be published by 7:00pm, Wednesday 11th March 2026 - <https://www.crankworx.com/results/start-lists/>

Finals Start List for Cat 1 Race (all riders) will be published by 7:00pm on Friday 13th March 2026 - <https://www.crankworx.com/results/start-lists/>

TRAINING

There is a mandatory training requirement for the event.

Minimum 2 training runs must be completed during the March 11th and March 12th training sessions for Elite and U19 Riders, anyone who has not completed their minimum training runs during that window will not be able to participate in seeding or finals (Elite and U19).

Minimum 2 training runs must be completed during the March 11th- 13th training sessions for U15, U17, Sport, and Masters categories. anyone who has not completed their minimum training runs during that window will not be able to participate in finals.

Riders must start all training runs at the official start gate.

FIRST AID / EMERGENCY MEDICAL

Emergency Dispatch: Peak Management +64 (0) 21 555 904 or +64 (0) 21 385 623

First aid personnel will also be available in the Medic tent located the bottom of the DH course in the Event arena.

The First Response Team (Medics) will have radio contact with on-course marshals and the race manager for the duration of training and race sessions. In the case of an emergency the nearest hospital is:

Rotorua Hospital

Arawa St, Rotorua 3010

First Response and Medical Services at Crankworx Rotorua is provided in partnership with Peak Safety Management. Crankworx Rotorua and Peak Safety align their practice with nationally recognised guidelines in the area of head injuries. This includes assessing athletes' course-side for suspected concussions, according to the Cycling NZ Concussion Awareness Policy, if they are aware that a head trauma has taken place during training or competition. If athletes are assessed with suspected symptoms of concussion, Peak Safety will seek further assessment from a qualified medical doctor before returning the athlete to competition and/or training. Please contact nzathletes@crankworx.com for further information.

INSURANCE

Athletes may be covered by New Zealand's public insurance company – Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) – for treatment for injuries sustained while in New Zealand. This is subject to the decision made by ACC alone.

Details at <http://www.acc.co.nz>

ACC does not cover treatment if an injured person leaves New Zealand and therefore is not a replacement for an individual's travel insurance.

It is requirement that all international athletes have adequate medical / health insurance to cover and pay for any medical or other costs that may directly or indirectly result from my participation in Crankworx Rotorua. This includes but is not limited to, insurance for bodily injury (in and out-patient hospital expenses and medical care, transport costs, permanent disablement, death) and material damages (loss of earnings) in case of accident on the occasion of a cycling competition or during training, and third-party liability insurance for material damage or bodily injury caused to others in the course of a competition or cycling event or during training. Athletes must also understand that the Crankworx event organizers are not providing insurance coverage for each individual and by participating each athlete is willing to take full financial responsibility for any and all medical costs incurred as a result of their participation in this event.

RULES

By registering for this event, racers agree to follow and be bound by the rules and procedures outlined in the Technical Guide and agree to follow the rules of UCI, Cycling New Zealand and Crankworx Rotorua.

RACE PLATES

Only riders with race plates will be permitted on course during official training. Altering, cutting, or placing of unauthorized sponsors' logos on race plate will result in a fine and/or disqualification. This includes writing on the race plate with a marker.

ALCOHOL

Any racer caught drinking alcohol during the race will be disqualified from the race. Riders may also be suspended from further Crankworx Rotorua competition and may face further penalties on the Crankworx World Tour.

COURSE ETIQUETTE

A rider must act in a sporting manner at all times and must permit any faster rider to overtake without obstructing.

RE-ENTERING COURSE

If a rider exits the course for any reason, he/she must return to the course at the same point from which he/she exited, or as close to that point, without putting themselves, or other riders in danger, and without gaining a time advantage in doing so.

RE-RUNS

Re-runs, when a rider is permitted to do an additional timed run, will only be granted for those riders who are already on course when the race is stopped by the Commissaires in the event of a medical or a course safety reason. These riders must report to the commissaire at the finish line to request the re-run. Re-runs will not be granted to faster riders blocked by slower riders. Slower riders are expected to yield to faster riders.

MISSED OR LATE STARTS

Racers arriving late for their scheduled start should report to the Start Commissaire who will determine if the racer will be permitted to start at a later time.

TIMING PROTESTS

Protests concerning the result or conduct of an event must be made within 15 minutes of the unofficial announcement of the result of the event (or category). If no protest is made, the results become official.

PROTECTION RULES

Racers in the Karearea Downhill will also be subject to other mandatory protection requirements as per NZ MTB technical regulations. [NZ MTB TECH REGULATIONS](#)

	U15, U17	U19, Senior, Elite, Masters
Full Face Helmet	Compulsory	Compulsory
Long Sleeve Shirt	Compulsory	Compulsory
Elbow/Forearm Protection	Compulsory	Highly Recommended
Long or Short Pants	Compulsory	Compulsory
Knee/Shin Protection	Compulsory for short and long pants	Compulsory for short pants
Neck Brace	Compulsory to wear either neck brace or spinal protection	Highly Recommended
Spinal Protection		Highly Recommended
Shoulder Protection	Highly Recommended	Highly Recommended
Protective Eyewear	Highly Recommended	Highly Recommended
Full Finger Gloves	Highly Recommended	Highly Recommended

PRIZE MONEY

Prize money will be paid by electronic transfer in NZD Dollars at the end of the festival. NZD exchange rate for 2026 is set by UCI as 2.0357.

All amounts listed below are in NZD.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS RACE:

Placing (Nationals)	UCI Points (Elite only)	Male (Elite)	Female (Elite)	Male (U19)	Female (U19)
1st	100	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
2nd	90	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
3rd	70	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
4th	60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
5th	50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
6th	40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
7th	30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
8th	20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
9th	10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
10th	5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

CAT 1 RACE:

Placing (Cat 1)	UCI Points (Cat 1)	Men - Prize Money (Elite)	Women - Prize Money (Elite)
1st	60	\$5,450.00	\$5,450.00
2nd	40	\$3,100.00	\$3,100.00
3rd	30	\$1,930.00	\$1,930.00
4th	25	\$610.71	\$610.71

5th	20	\$508.93	\$508.93
6th	18	\$407.14	\$407.14
7th	16	\$305.36	\$305.36
8th	14	\$254.46	\$254.46
9th	12	\$0.00	\$0.00
10th	10	\$0.00	\$0.00
11th	8	\$0.00	\$0.00
12th	6	\$0.00	\$0.00
13th	4	\$0.00	\$0.00
14th	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
15th	1	\$0.00	\$0.00

Pursuant to New Zealand taxation regulations, prize money above \$500NZD is subject to a 20% withholding tax.
<http://www.ird.govt.nz/payroll-employers/make-deductions/staff-benefits/special-benefits/emp-deductions-benefits-special-prize-money.html>

EVENT ORGANISATION AND OFFICIALS

Role	Name	Nat
Race Director	Dave Hamilton	NZL
Event Director	Tuhua Mutu	NZL
Competition Manager - CEI	Jimmi Mackintosh	CAN
Athlete Manager	Kirsty Smith	NZL
Chief Commissaire	Peter Blakey	NZL