

Race Policy

With the understanding that SORBA is an organization that advocates trail preservation, organizers will take into consideration trail conditions and weather when deciding to hold an organized public event (race, time trial, group ride).

SORBA recognizes that some land managers exercise veto power over events on their trails. The following considerations are guidelines to assist a SORBA organizer in making a decision when the land manager is a disinterested party.

1. All SORBA events for which a fee is charged must have an alternate route plan, rain date, cancellation, and refund policy stated on all advertising.
2. If the weather is so bad that even the alternative route is not usable, then event must be postponed or canceled. Environmental protection and the public image of the sport must always come first. If cancellation is the only option, refunds of entry fees may not be possible.
3. An organizer should be sensitive to trail conditions 72 hours before an event. If conditions are poor and it appears they will not improve, then the event should be postponed or cancelled. Cancellation or postponement must be announced on www.sorba.org and every effort to communicate the event change will be undertaken by the organizer.
4. If weather conditions change within the 72 hour window, then the organizer must decide if the event can go forward taking into consideration the trail conditions. Changing the route to make use of roads and to move the event off fragile trail surfaces must be an alternative when possible.
5. After an event begins under good circumstances, but conditions worsen, the organizer should shorten the event to limit impact when possible.
6. The organizer is expected to balance the benefits to SORBA when making a decision to run an event. The trail, the mountain biker, and the reputation of SORBA must all be weighed when making this decision.

This policy will be observed by SORBA, its chapters, and those representing SORBA in any capacity.