

All participants in the "UCI Gravel Suisse" cycle race and courses of the "UCI Gravel Suisse" undertakes to comply with the following regulations at the time of registration.

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Article 1 : Preamble

The UCI Gravel Suisse is a cyclosporptive event organised by the Villars Roule Association and R&D Cycling Sàrl (hereinafter the Organiser) offering the following courses:

- Long loop: individual
- Short loop: individual
- Discovery loop: individual

The event is supported by the resort of Villars and the canton of Vaud.

The event will take place on Saturday 6 July 2024. All the races will take place on roads open to traffic. Consequently, participants must comply with the Federal Road Traffic Act ([LCR](#)) and abide by the instructions of the race management, officials and staff.

These regulations may be amended up to the day of the event in the interests of the riders and their safety. In this event, participants will be informed of any significant changes by electronic means (email, Organiser's website, and social networks).

Article 2 : Qualification through the UCI Gravel World Series

Each UCI Gravel World Series event confers qualification rights for the UCI Gravel World Championships. The top 25% of athletes in their age group qualify for the UCI Gravel World Championships. This 25% is calculated based on the number of starts in each age group, not the number of riders crossing the finish line.

In addition, the top three riders in each official age group qualify automatically for the World Championships, regardless of the number of starts in that age group. Riders must finish the race to qualify. A rider's age group is calculated based on his age on 31 December of the year of the 2024 UCI Gravel World Championships.

Only participation in the Big Loop qualifies a rider for the UCI Gravel World Championships.

Article 3 : Conditions of participation

The UCI Gravel Suisse is a cycling tour open to anyone, male or female, regardless of nationality, provided they are 19 years old or over on 31 December of the year of the event for the long loop, 18 for the short loop and 16 for the discovery loop. Participants compete as individuals. Participation is limited to 500 people. No licence is required.

By registering, participants certify that they are in perfect health and fit to make the physical effort required for such a cycle race. All participants must be covered by accident and liability insurance.

The organiser declines all responsibility if participants experience health problems during the event.

Article 4 : Commitment of participants

The principle of this individual cycle race is to encourage riders to be semi-autonomous, from preparation to the finish line. In terms of food supplies, drinks, cycling equipment, clothing and safety equipment, as well as repair materials. Each rider can adapt to any problems encountered on the course, without needing assistance or help from outsiders.

To take part in the UCI Gravel Suisse, each competitor undertakes to respect the rules of the course:

- Remain equipped with all the compulsory equipment throughout the event and submit cordially to any unannounced checks that the organiser reserves the right to carry out along the route.
- Be a confirmed cyclist / Be sufficiently physically prepared.
- Manage your food and drink requirements throughout the race without relying solely on the accompanying refreshments: participants have enough water and food (dried and fresh fruit, cereal bars, protein bars, etc.) to get them to the finish line. They can secure or complete the supply of provisions and water points to fill the containers they find along the way.
- Do not accompany or ask for help during the event outside the checkpoints and refreshment points along the route. The participants' entourage may be present to encourage them as they pass, but they undertake not to disrupt the organisational systems.
- Respect private property near the routes and refreshment posts.
- Do not assemble more than 2 cyclists, especially on public roads (the highway code prohibits assemblies). If you are travelling in a group, participants must ride in pairs abreast or in single file.
- Visibly attach the numbered handlebar plate allocated at the time of registration to the front of the gravel. This will identify each participant at the start line, at checkpoints along the course and when crossing the finish line.

If the Organiser observes infringements or non-compliance with these rules, it may impose penalties, disqualify participants from the Competition and permanently exclude participants from the Competition. After receiving a warning SMS from the Organisers, his number plate was removed, and his beacon deactivated.

Article 4 : Safety & Responsibility

Cycling in general and competitive cycling in particular is a physical activity with risks. Each participant in the event must take part in the knowledge that he or she will be cycling on mountainous terrain with intense climbs and rapid descents.

The Organiser will put in place several measures to ensure the safety of the route: signposting, motorbikes, signs indicating passages requiring particular attention.

Throughout the course, participants must comply with the safety instructions and instructions of the race personnel (civil protection, motorcyclists, volunteers, etc.). The safety arrangements for the race end when the finish line is crossed or at the time barrier.

The race will take place on roads open to traffic. Participants must comply with the applicable highway code in all circumstances. However, a safety concept with safety motorbikes and volunteers will cover the route.

At level crossings, participants must stop when a train passes.

Roundabouts are only passed on the right.

Participants must drive on the right-hand side of the road.

Any participant who has had or witnessed an accident, or who needs medical assistance, is obliged to assist others and to call the emergency number shown on his/her race number.

The participant remains solely responsible for any incident, accident, or breach of the event regulations. All costs arising from medical attention (ambulance, doctor, hospitalisation, etc.) are the responsibility of the participant concerned. The liability of the Organiser, its employees, and other auxiliaries for direct or indirect damage suffered by a participant as part of or in connection with his or her participation in the event is expressly excluded, whether in the event of accident, theft or damage of any kind. By registering, the participant confirms that he/she is covered by these insurances and waives any legal action against the Organiser.

Motorised assistance or private following vehicles on the course are strictly forbidden.

Offenders will be reported to the police.

By registering, each participant confirms that he/she has read all the information, particularly that relating to safety, and undertakes to comply with it.

Article 5 : Equipment

Each participant is solely responsible for ensuring that the equipment he or she uses complies with current standards and is properly maintained. To take part in the race, they undertake to use a bike that has been checked and is in perfect working order.

Participants must present themselves at the start with the compulsory cycling and sports equipment listed below, as well as a helmet on their head with the chinstrap fastened and keep them on throughout the event.

If the compulsory equipment is missing, the bike plate and the beacon will not be given to the rider at registration: he will not be allowed to take the start and will be excluded from the event. If the compulsory equipment is missing during the race, the organiser may exclude the competitor.

The organiser cannot be held responsible for any accidents or consequences arising from participants not wearing the compulsory equipment.

Characteristics of bicycles admitted:

For the large and small loop, the following bicycles, equipped with tyres with a minimum cross-section of 32 mm (recommendation of 42 mm) are allowed:

- Gravel specific bikes - equipped with a round road handlebar.
- Cyclo-Cross bikes - equipped with a round road handlebar.

For the discovery route, Gravel bikes with electric assistance are also allowed.

Bicycles not allowed:

None of the following bikes, not adapted to the practice of Gravel, will be admitted at the start:

MTB-VTC and any other type of bike with a flat handlebar or Flat Bar.

- Unicycle
- Recumbent bike
- Time trial bike
- Fixed Gear Bike
- Folding bike
- Handbike
- Bicycles with stick wheels and/or lenticular wheels.

Cycling and sports equipment mandatory for the duration of the event,

- Hard shell helmet (CE standards) approved for use under 5 years with chin strap attached.
- Hanger ends with caps.
- 1 bicycle pump or minimum 2 CO2 capsules, two spare air chambers, supplemented by any other repair equipment.
- A mobile phone in full charge
- A GPS meter in full charge, independent of the phone, otherwise an external battery fully charged for any trace tracking from the GPS meter of the smartphone,
- A water can (50cl minimum at the start of the event) and the minimum nutrient supply for a 100 km event
- A bel

Article 6 : Mechanical support

All riders must bring their own spare tools and tire or inner tube during the race. Tools will be provided in the refreshment areas to give runners the opportunity to solve other problems. Riders can change wheels during the event but must use the same bike frame throughout the event.

Article 7 : Registrations

Until 2 July 2024, registrations for the event can only be made via the online registration platform at <https://ucigravelsuisse.com>. Thereafter, registrations will be accepted on site.

Prices are available on the event website: <https://ucigravelsuisse.com>.

The Organiser will not make any refunds or postponements in the event of accident or illness. Registration fees remain the property of the organisers whatever happens. As race numbers are allocated and reserved, no reimbursement will be made in the event of a participant's absence, withdrawal, postponement, cancellation, or neutralisation of the event, for any reason whatsoever.

Any person who transferred his/her race number to a third party without informing the Organiser may be held liable in the event of an accident occurring or caused by the third party during the event.

The Organiser reserves the right to refuse a competitor's entry.

Article 8 : Withdrawal of race numbers

Each participant must collect his/her race number in person. Exceptionally, if registration is full, the group leader (club president) or a colleague may collect the start number on presentation of the registration confirmation letter and a copy of the person's identity document. All allocations of race numbers are firm and final.

Race numbers and start gifts can be collected from the Welcome Village in Villars (sports centre):

- Friday 5 July from 16:00 to 20:00

Race numbers can be collected late:

- Sunday 7 July 2024 from 6.30am to 7.45am

The race number must be attached to the jersey at the bottom of the back.

No race numbers or gifts will be sent by post.

Article 9 : Postponement, cancellation or change of itinerary

Each participant can choose the itinerary that suits him or her best, and this choice must be indicated at the time of registration.

The ULTRA FLEX option guarantees flexibility in the choice of itinerary at the time of registration. With this option, from the date of registration until 2 July 2024, participants can, at no cost and with no need to provide proof,

- Postpone their registration to 2025 without providing any justification.
- Change the number holder.
- Change course, adding any difference with the new chosen course if the price is higher. There will be no refund if the new route chosen has a lower price.

Any request made after race day will not be processed.

Without the ULTRA FLEX option, it is possible until 15 June to:

- Postpone registration until 2025 on presentation of a medical certificate for a fee of CHF 25.
- or change the number holder for CHF 10
- or change the course for CHF 10, plus any difference between the new course and the new one if the price is higher. There will be no refund if the new course chosen has a lower price.

After this date and without the UltraFlex option, no further changes are possible. The registration fee will not be refunded, and the welcome pack will not be sent.

All registrations considered valid for the following year are strictly personal and may not be transferred to a third party. If the person is unable to participate a second time, the registration fee will be forfeited.

Article 10 : Timing & Ranking

Timing is done using an electronic detection system. All participants will have a timing chip attached to the back of their race number, which must be worn on the lower back of their jersey.

This chip, detected by the various antennae set up along the event route, will be used to check the regularity of the race and to establish the results and rankings for the event.

To ensure normal operation, the chip must not be bent or damaged. The electronic detection system is selected according to strict reliability criteria. Despite the tests carried out by the manufacturers and the excellent experience gained, there is always a very small risk of non-detection. The absence of data resulting from this non-detection will not allow the Organiser to include the official time of the participant concerned in the classification. The Organiser cannot be held responsible for this.

At the end of the event, a scratch classification, and a classification by age category in accordance with UCI standards for the Gravel will be drawn up and made available on the timing company's website www.mso-chrono.ch :

Big loop men		19-34year	35-39year	40-44year
		45-49year	50-54year	55-59year
		60-64year	65-69year	70-74year
		75year and +	Elites	
Big loop women	Scratch	19-34year	35-39year	40-44year
		45-49year	50-54year	55-59year
		60-64year	65-69year	70-74year
		75year and +	Elites	
Small loop men	Scratch	18-34year	35-39year	40-44year
		45-49year	50-54year	55-59year
		60-64year	65-69year	70-74year
		75year and +	Elites	
Small loop women	Scratch	18-34year	35-39year	40-44year
		45-49year	50-54year	55-59year
		60-64year	65-69year	70-74year
		75year and +	Elites	
Discovery	Mixed alphabetical classification from 16 year			

Qualifying categories for the world final championships:

Categories men from 19 to 59 years old and women from 19 to 49 years old can only qualify by participating in the Big Loop. The categories men 60 and older and women 50 and older will only qualify by participating in the small loop.

Start :

The start of the race will be given by a pistol shot which will mark the beginning of the timing for the elite airlock. Only participants in this gate will be eligible for the scratch classification. The other airlocks will be chip timed. The start will be grouped under control (1300m). Cyclists wishing to qualify for the World Championships will be able to place in the elite airlock. Timing will end when the finish line is crossed. The first participant to cross the finish line will be the winner of the race.

Article 11 : Awards ceremony

The first three in each age category for women and men and the first 25% in each category will be called at the ceremony.

The Organiser reserves the right to establish the prize board. The first three finishers in each category must present their race number and proof of identity to receive their prize.

The prize must be collected on site on the day of the race.

Article 12 : Time barriers & dropouts

For safety reasons, riders must comply with the neutralisation times. These times correspond to the times from which it will no longer be possible to continue the race from

the checkpoint concerned. Failure to pass the checkpoints before the times set out below will result in the participant being disqualified and not appearing in the event rankings.

If he/she so wishes, by signing a waiver, he/she may continue the race under his/her own responsibility. Their time will no longer be timed, and they will not be ranked.

Time Barrier	Col de Bretaye	La Forclaz	UCI Aigle	Les Ecovets	Villars
Big loop	10h20	13h34	14h10	14h10	15h00
Small loop			N/A		
Discovery		N/A			

If a participant wishes to retire, he or she must report to one of the checkpoints set up by the Organiser. They must then report to the person in charge of the checkpoint, who will take away their number and tell them how to get back to the race. Anyone abandoning the race outside the checkpoints must immediately report this to the race management using the emergency number given in the road book and on their race number. Failure to do so may result in costs being incurred by the competitor.

Any participant who suffers a fall, mechanical breakdown, or physical problems and who is unable to reach the repatriation points by his own means must immediately notify the race management of his withdrawal using the emergency number indicated in the road book and on his race number. The race finishers (broom wagon) will only deal with cases authorised by the race management. Any participant taken in charge by this mobile device will be disqualified from the race.

The medical service, made up of doctors, first-aiders, and ambulances, may decide to withdraw a participant from the race for medical reasons.

Article 13 : Claims and protests

Any protest may be lodged in writing with the race office, no later than fifteen minutes after the classification has been established. Reasons must be given for the protest.

It must be accompanied by a deposit of CHF 100. This amount will be refunded if the protest is upheld. Protests will be judged by the race jury (race director, timekeeper). The decisions of the race direction are final.

Article 14 : Ethics

The Organiser places great emphasis on the Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect, which are the cornerstone of fair and sustainable sport. Participants must treat other competitors, organisers, volunteers, and spectators with respect. The Organiser reserves the right to disqualify participants who behave violently or discriminate verbally against anyone.

The Organiser is subject to the Swiss Olympic "Statute on Doping". Anti-doping tests may therefore be carried out. By registering and taking part in this competition, athletes agree to abide by Swiss Olympic's anti-doping regulations and recognise the exclusive jurisdiction of its "Disciplinary Chamber for Doping Cases" and that of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (Lausanne), to the exclusion of any other ordinary court. They shall also bear the consequences (suspension/denunciation).

Article 15 : Environmental protection

To respect the environment and the natural areas crossed, it is strictly forbidden to leave rubbish (paper, plastic packaging, tubes containing energy gels, etc.) on the course. Refuse bins and "collection zones" will be set up and signposted at each refreshment post along the route. Participants must use them.

Participants must keep their rubbish and packaging until the Organiser has indicated a place to dispose of it.

The Organiser reserves the right to disqualify participants who deliberately dispose of their rubbish outside the designated areas.

Article 16 : Legal provisions

Participation in the race is entirely at the runners' own risk, and they waive any right of recourse against the Organiser for any damage suffered or caused.

In the event of an accident, all liability of the Organiser and of all persons or entities participating in the organisation, in particular but not exclusively, the Organiser's bodies and employees, agents, contractors, auxiliaries, including volunteers, is excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Each rider expressly authorises the Organiser and their beneficiaries, such as partners and the media, to use still or audiovisual images of the race, including the preparation and post-race phases, in which he/she may appear, taken during his/her participation in the UCI Gravel Suisse, on all media including promotional and/or advertising documents, worldwide and for the longest period provided for by the law, regulations and treaties in force, including any extensions that may be made to this period.

Participation in the race does not confer any right to use the race for promotional or commercial purposes. No communication about the event or use of images of the event is permitted without the express written authorisation of the Organiser, who will lay down the conditions.

The place of jurisdiction is Villars, Vaud.

Article 17 : Data protection

Confidential data concerning Swiss citizens will be governed by the Federal Law on the New Data Protection Act (nLPD) in September 2023. The persons concerned have the right to access and rectify their personal data, which can be exercised at the following email address: info@rd-cycling.com

Personal data concerning European citizens is governed by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) dated 27 April 2016, which came into force on 25 May 2018.

R&D Cycling Sàrl & the Villars Roule Association process personal data for the following purposes:

- Registration, participant and event management for the UCI Gravel Suisse
- Newsletter for information and promotion
- Publication of results.

The legal basis for this processing is consent and the legitimate interest in the organisation and smooth running of the event. The information collected will be communicated exclusively to R&D Cycling. You may access your personal data, rectify it, request that it be deleted or exercise your right to limit the processing of your data. To exercise these rights or if you have any questions about the processing of your data by R&D Cycling, please contact info@rd-cycling.com

Article 18 : Acceptance of the rules

Participation in the UCI Gravel Suisse implies each competitor's express and unreserved acceptance of these regulations. In the event of any discrepancy between the texts of the different versions of the regulations, the French version of the regulations shall prevail.

Signed in Villars, on 6th December 2023.

Association Villars Roule and R&D Cycling Sàrl