

# RULES & REGULATIONS VTF

Version August 2024

## Valais Triathlon Festival

Any participating athlete in the « Valais Triathlon Festival » race undertakes to respect the regulations following their registration.

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents .....	1
Article 1: Preamble .....	2
Article 2: Conditions of participation.....	2
Article 3: Rules by discipline .....	3
Article 4: Route .....	4
Article 5: Safety & Liability .....	4
Article 6: Registrations.....	5
Article 7: Bib collection .....	5
Article 8: Postponement, Cancellation or Change of DISTANCE .....	5
Article 9: Timing & Classification.....	6
Article 10: Prize-giving .....	6
Article 11: Claim and Protest.....	8
Article 12: Ethics .....	8
Article 13: Respect for the environment .....	8
Article 14: Legal provisions .....	8
Article 15: Image rights .....	9
Article 16: Data protection.....	9
Article 17: Acceptance of the rules.....	9

## ARTICLE 1: PREAMBLE

The Valais Triathlon Festival is an event organised from 17 to 18 August 2024 by the Valais Triathlon Festival Association and R&D Cycling Sàrl. The event offers:

### Saturday, August 17, 2024:

- Race 6 to 7 years old (25m / 1000m)
- Race 8 to 9 years old (50m / 1000m)
- Race 10 to 11 years old (100m / 1500m)
- Race 12 to 13 years old (200m / 1500m)
- Race 14 to 17 years (250m / 10km / 2500m)
- Discovery from 14 years old (250m / 10km / 2500m)
- Sunset Sprint Team for teams of 3 people from 15 years old (250m / 10km / 2500m)
- The 1km crossing from 16 years old (swimming, paddle and open)
- Swim & Run Open from 16 years old with a major pair (1200m / 4600m)
- Swim & Run Elite from 18 years old (2400m / 9200m)
- Obstacle course open to all

### Sunday, August 18, 2024:

- Half from 18 years old (1.9km / 90km / 21.1km)
- Olympic from 16 years old (1.5km / 40km / 10km)
- Shorts from 16 years old (500m / 20km / 5km)

### Relay with 2 or 3 participants

In all the above races (except the Swim & Run, children's and obstacle course formats), participants can complete the race with 2 or 3 participants. Each participant will have to transmit, in the changing park, the transponder which will collect the time of each participant according to his discipline (swimming, cycling or running).

The Swim & Run format is available in a single version or in teams of 2.

These Rules are subject to change up to the day of the event in the interest of the runners and their safety. In this case, participants will be notified by electronic means (emails, the Organizer's website and social networks) of important changes.

## ARTICLE 2: CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

With the exception of the 4 formats listed below, the races are open to all, licensed and non-licensed.

A competition license from Swiss Triathlon (StartPass) or a foreign federation is required for the following formats: Half, Olympic, Short and Discovery. If the athlete does not have an annual license, it is possible to purchase a Day Pass at registration.

Format de course	Type de Pass	Prix
Half	StartPass	CHF 42.50
Classic	StartPass	CHF 32.50
Short	EasyPass	CHF 10.-
Découverte	FunPass	CHF 3.-

In addition, each participant must have his or her own insurance (accident and liability insurance), covering bodily injury and property damage on Swiss territory (see Art. 3 Safety and Liability).

The organizer declines all responsibility in the event of damage (theft, breakage, loss, etc.) suffered by the personal property of the participants. Participants will therefore not be able to take action against the organizer for any damage caused to their equipment. It is everyone's responsibility to take out insurance to cover these risks.

Participation in the Valais Triathlon Festival implies the express and unreserved acceptance by each competitor of these Rules.

### **ARTICLE 3: RULES BY DISCIPLINE**

In order to formalize their entry into the transition zone, each participant will have to present themselves to a member of the organization. Indeed, he will be able to check that the participant is in possession of a bib with his assigned number visible. The competitor must be compliant in the use of his race equipment.

Headphones are prohibited on all disciplines.

Swimming: All types of strokes are allowed. The wearing of an official swimming cap, offered by the organization, is compulsory. Goggles are allowed.

Artificial aids such as snorkels, fins, vests, floats, gloves, paddles, pull buoys, or any other equipment to improve floating, as well as the covering of hands and feet, are only allowed during the open crossing on Saturday. Wetsuits must be worn when the water temperature is 15.9°C or lower and it is forbidden to wear them if the water is above 24°C. The swim event will be cancelled if the water temperature is 11.9°C or lower.

Cycling: All types of traditional bikes are allowed, so this includes time trial or mountain bikes, but it does not include recumbent bikes. Fixie bikes (without brakes) and E-bikes are prohibited. Bicycles must have two complete and separate braking systems (a lever and caliper for the front, a lever and a caliper for the rear).

Extenders are allowed but they must not extend beyond the front end of the wheel. All bars must be equipped with end caps. Checks will take place at the entrance to the transition park.

It is mandatory to wear a helmet when using the bike, including on transition areas.

It is forbidden to get on your bike, or to stay on your bike after the designated ascent and descent line which will be clearly marked at the exit and entrance of the transition area.

Drafting is strictly forbidden and sanctions may be taken in case of non-compliance with this rule.

The bib must be worn on the back and visible to all.

Running: Wearing a helmet is prohibited. The bib must be worn in front, not folded.

**During the 3 disciplines, the accompaniment of a third party is prohibited.**

## Swim & Run :

### **Mandatory equipment**

- Suitable footwear
- Neoprene wetsuit if the water temperature is below 16°C
- One whistle without a ball per competitor

### **Equipment allowed** (but not required)

- Pull-buoy size smaller than 32 cm x 30 cm x 15 cm
- Swim Paddles
- Pulling link between the 2 pairs of a team (must be jettisonable and max. 4m long). The lanyard cannot be used for the first portion of the run.
- An ecocup glass (in order to be able to access the refreshment station)

### **Prohibited material** (under penalty of disqualification):

- Fins, snorkel
- Inflatable equipment
- Float/pull-buoy larger than 40cm x 30cm
- All motorized equipment

Each competitor will have to keep all their equipment throughout the race.

## **ARTICLE 4: ROUTE**

The routes of the various events will be available on the [www.valaistriathlon.ch](http://www.valaistriathlon.ch) website.

The organization reserves the right to modify the schedules and/or routes until the day before the event.

## **ARTICLE 5: SAFETY & LIABILITY**

The Organizer will implement a number of measures to secure the route, in particular signage and staff.

Throughout the course, participants must comply with the safety instructions and instructions of the race staff (firefighters, police, volunteers, etc.). The safety system of the event ends when the finish line is crossed.

Each participant who is the author or witness of an accident, or who notices a need for medical assistance, has the obligation to provide assistance to others and to notify the emergency services by calling the emergency number written on their bib.

The participant remains solely responsible for any possible incident, accident or breach of the rules of the event. All costs that would result from medical care (ambulance, doctor, hospitalization, etc.) are the responsibility of the participant concerned. The liability of the Organizer, its employees' bodies and other auxiliaries for direct or indirect damage suffered by a participant in connection with 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. Registration constitutes confirmation that the participant is covered by these insurances and waives any legal action against the Organizer.

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

## ARTICLE 6: REGISTRATIONS

Until August 15, 2024, registrations for the event can be made exclusively on the online registration platform accessible at the following address: [www.valaistriathlon.ch](http://www.valaistriathlon.ch). On-site registration will be possible from Saturday, August 17 to Sunday, August 18 at the Domaine des Iles in Sion.

Prices are presented on the event's website: [www.valaistriathlon.ch](http://www.valaistriathlon.ch).

The Organizer reserves the right to refuse the registration of a competitor.

The Organizer does not make any refunds or postponements in the event of accident or illness. The registration fees remain with the organization no matter what happens. As a bib is assigned and reserved, no refund will be made in case of absence, withdrawal of the participant, due to postponement or cancellation of the event, and for any reason whatsoever. No transfer of registration is permitted for any reason, except as described in Section 8. Any person who hands over their bib to a third party without having made the official change may be held responsible in the event of an accident occurring or caused by the latter during the event.

## ARTICLE 7: BIB COLLECTION

Each participant must pick up their bib in person. All bib assignments are firm and definitive.

Bibs and starting gifts are to be collected on the day of the race. No bibs and gifts are sent by post.

## ARTICLE 8: POSTPONEMENT, CANCELLATION OR CHANGE OF DISTANCE

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

The MAXI FLEX option is a guarantee of flexibility in the choice of distance when registering. Thanks to this option, participants can, without cost or justification, from the date of registration until Monday 12 August :

- Change your route
- Transfer the bib to a third party
- Postpone registration to the following year

Excluding the MAXI FLEX option, in order to offer maximum flexibility, it is also possible until 15 July 2024 to:

- Postpone registration until 2025 upon presentation of a medical certificate for CHF 20.00
- Change the bib holder for 10.00 CHF
- Change your route for CHF 10.00 and add any difference with the new route if the fare is higher. There is no refund, if the new route chosen has a lower rate.

After this date, without the MAXI FLEX option, no changes will be possible.

Any request made after the indicated deadlines will not be processed. In any case, registration fees are not refunded.

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

## ARTICLE 9: TIMING & CLASSIFICATION

Timing is carried out with an electronic detection system. All registrants will have a timing chip, in the form of a transponder (chip to be attached to the ankle).

This chip will be used to establish the results and rankings of the event.

The athlete must collect their bib before the race and arrange it in a conspicuous and distinct manner throughout the competition. Wearing a bib is mandatory during cycling and running, under penalty of disqualification. The participant's number must be written on the arm during the swim event. During the cycling event, the bib must be placed on the back, lined with the self-adhesive support on the seat post and the label on the front of the helmet. The bib must be visible on the runner's stomach for the running course.

The transponder will be provided to you when you pick up your bibs. Wearing it is imperative during the entire period of the competition under penalty of disqualification and/or not being able to count your time officially.

In order to allow 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 still a very low risk of non-detection. The absence of data resulting from this non-detection will not allow the Organizer to include the official time of the participant concerned in the ranking. The Organizer cannot be held responsible for this.

The transponder must be returned at the end of the race, otherwise it will be charged CHF 50.-

At the end of the event, the following categories will appear in the final rankings:

- 6 to 7 years old Kids M6-7/F6-7
- 8 to 9 years old Kids M8-9/F8-9
- 10 to 11 years old Schoolchildren M10-11/F10-11
- 12 to 13 years old Schoolchildren M12-13/F12-13
- 14 to 15 years old Youth U14-15/F14-15
- 16 to 17 years old Youth U16-17/F16-17
- 18 to 19 years old Juniors M18-19/F18-19
- 20 to 34 years old Age category M20-34/F20-34
- 35 to 44 years old Age category M35-44/F35-44
- 45 to 54 years old Age category M45-54/F45-54
- 55 to 64 years old Age category M55-64/F55-64
- 65 years and older Age category M65+/F65
- Women scratch
- Men scratch
- Relay Women's Scratch and Men's/Mixed Scratch

## ARTICLE 10: PRIZE-GIVING

The Organizer reserves the right to draw up the prize sheet. The top three finishers in each category must present their bib and ID to receive the prize.

Prizes will be awarded only to the first 3 women and the first 3 men in the overall classification, all categories combined ("scratch" classification) for each race, as well as to the first 3 women's scratch relay teams and the first 3 men's/mixed scratch relay teams. They will have access to the official prize-giving ceremony and to the podium, which will take place shortly after their race.

For the *Half Triathlon*, *Olympic Triathlon* and *Short Distance* races, the first 3 women and the first 3 men in each category will also have access to the podium.

Prizes must be collected on the day of the race. No prizes will be sent by post.

Please refer to the table below for more information:

	Scratch	Women Scratch	Men Scratch	Relay Women's Scratch	Relay Men's/Mixed Scratch
Half		✓	✓	✓	✓
Olympic		✓	✓	✓	✓
Short		✓	✓	✓	✓
Discovery		✓	✓	✓	✓
Sunset Sprint Team				✓	✓
La Traversée Nage	✓				
La Traversée Paddle	✓				
La Traversée Open	✓				
Obstacle Course	✓				
Swim & Run Open (Solo)		✓	✓		
Swim & Run Open (duo)				✓	✓
Swim & Run Elite (solo)		✓	✓		
Swim & Run Elite (duo)				✓	✓
Kids (6-7)		✓	✓		
Kids (8-9)		✓	✓		
Schoolchildren (10-11)		✓	✓		
Schoolchildren (12-13)		✓	✓		
Youth (14-17)		✓	✓		

## **ARTICLE 11: CLAIM AND PROTEST**

Any complaint may be the subject of a protest to be lodged in writing with the racing office, no later than fifteen minutes after the establishment of the ranking. The protest must be justified.

It will be accompanied by a deposit of CHF 100.-. This amount will be reimbursed if the protest is allowed. Protests will be judged by the race jury (race director, timing manager). The decisions of the race director are final.

## **ARTICLE 12: ETHICS**

The Organizer makes it a point of honour to uphold the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect, which are the cornerstone of fair and sustainable sport. Participants must treat other competitors, members of the organization, volunteers and spectators with respect. The Organizer reserves the right to disqualify participants who engage in violent behaviour or discriminatory verbal proliferation towards anyone.

The Organizer is subject to the "Doping Statute" of Swiss Olympic. Anti-doping controls can therefore be carried out. By registering and participating in this competition, athletes are subject to the anti-doping provisions of Swiss Olympic and acknowledge 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 will also have to bear the consequences (suspension/denunciation).

## **ARTICLE 13: RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

In order to respect the environment and the natural areas crossed, it is strictly forbidden to leave waste (paper, plastic packaging, tubes containing energy gels, etc.) on the route.

Participants must keep the waste and packaging while waiting for the places indicated by the Organizer to dispose of them.

The Organizer reserves the right to exclude participants who voluntarily throw their waste outside the demarcated areas.

## **ARTICLE 14: LEGAL PROVISIONS**

Participation in the race is the sole responsibility of the runners, with the waiver of any recourse against the Organizer regardless of the damage suffered or caused.

In the event of an accident, any liability of the Organizer and all persons or entities involved in the organization, including but not limited to the organs and employees of the Organizer, agents, contractors, auxiliaries, including volunteers, is excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Each runner expressly authorises the Organizer and their beneficiaries, such as partners and media, to use the still or audiovisual images of the race, including the preparation phases and those after the race, on which he or she may appear, taken during his/her participation in the VTF, on any media including promotional and/or advertising documents, worldwide and for the longest period provided for by law, regulations, treaties in force, including any extensions that may be made to that term.

Participation in the race does not confer any right to use the race for promotional or commercial purposes. Any communication about the event or use of images of the event is excluded subject to an express written authorization from the Organizer who will set the conditions.

The place of jurisdiction is Sion, Valais.



## ARTICLE 15: IMAGE RIGHTS

Participants are informed and accept that during the race their image may be captured by the organization or its service providers.

By participating in the event, each runner expressly authorises the organisation (or its beneficiaries) to use, have used, copied or have copied his/her name, image, voice and sporting performance in the context of the event for any direct or indirect exploitation, regardless of the medium, place or means known or unknown to date, and for the entire term of protection now granted to such exploitation activities directly or as a result of legal provisions or regulatory, judicial and/or arbitral decisions of any country as well as under existing or future international conventions, including any extensions that may be granted during this period.

## ARTICLE 16: DATA PROTECTION

Confidential data relating to Swiss citizens is governed by the Federal Act on the New Data Protection Act (nFADP) in September 2023. In particular, data subjects have the right to access and rectify personal data concerning them, which can be exercised at the following email address: [info@rd-events.ch](mailto:info@rd-events.ch)

Personal data concerning European citizens is governed by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) of 27 April 2016 and entered into force on 25 May 2018.

R&D Cycling processes personal data for the following purposes:

- Registration, management of participants and the event at the Valais Triathlon Festival
- Information and promotional newsletter
- Publication of results.

The legal bases for this processing are consent and legitimate interest in the organisation and smooth running of the event. The information collected will be communicated exclusively to R&D Cycling. You can access the data concerning you, rectify it, request its revocation 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 in this system, you can contact [info@rd-events.ch](mailto:info@rd-events.ch)

## ARTICLE 17: ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

Participation in the VTF implies the express and unreserved acceptance by each competitor of these Rules. In the event of any discrepancy between the texts of the different versions of the Regulation, the French version of the Regulation shall prevail.

Done at Sion, 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2024.

Association du Valais Triathlon Festival & R&D Cycling Sàrl