

# E-BIKE RULES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION



## 2021 FNB Wines2Whales Switchback - Pinotage

In 2019 we introduced the E-bike Tour at the FNB W2W Pinotage and received an overwhelmingly positive response. This year we are building on lessons learnt with the introduction of an exciting new start group, the E-bike Race. This will be a fun race for those riders really wanting to spike their adrenaline and push their limits.

In order to prevent e-bike riders interfering with the rest of the field, e-bike riders can find their fit at the 2021 FNB Wines2Whales Pinotage with the choice of riding in either the E-bike Race group, leading the front of the pack or the E-bike Tour group, taking in the spectacular scenery with a more relaxed pace at the back of the pack. The E-bike Race will start 30 minutes prior to A batch and the E-bike Tour group will start an hour after the last batch. All e-bike teams will start each day in their designated start batch.

Riders will be able to ride the entire route of the FNB Wines2Whales Switchback from Hermanus to Lourensford. A battery swap service (conditional to you bringing your own spare battery) will be available at the second water point of each stage. Important to keep in mind is that as an e-bike rider, the responsibility lies with you to ensure that you conserve the charge of your battery accordingly.

All e-MTB bikes are welcome and encouraged and we are looking forward to hosting you in 2021, but there are a few important rules and pieces of information that need to be covered beforehand.

### Rules

1. Riders will only be allowed to participate on mountain e-bikes, without a throttle device, in the Pinotage event.
2. It is not compulsory for both riders in a team to be on an e-bike. An e-bike team may consist of one rider on an e-bike mountain bike and the other on a standard mountain bike, or both riders on e-bikes.
3. If a rider chooses to participate on an e-bike, that team will classify as an e-bike team and will be held to these rules, regardless of whether or not their partner is on a standard mountain bike or not.
4. E-bike riders undertake each stage at their own risk, understanding the technical and challenging terrain of the route and the risks associated with it.
5. E-bike riders will have the opportunity to swap out their spare battery at water point 2 each day.
6. E-bike teams form part of either the E-bike Race or the E-bike Tour and therefore do not qualify for their respective age category.
7. E-bike teams are not eligible for any prize money associated with the event or their age category.
8. E-bike teams will receive their stage time and GC time via the website and SMS each day but will not form part of any overall stage or GC results.
  - i. Times will be displayed under E-bike Race and E-bike Tour.
  - ii. E-bike Race teams will receive a stage and GC ranking within the E-bike Race group.
  - iii. The E-bike Tour results will not be ranked.
9. E-bike Tour riders are to remain behind the E-bike Tour guides at all times along the route.

10. E-bike Race riders are required to maintain a minimum average pace of 22km per hour for the duration of each stage over the 3 days of racing in order to qualify for the E-bike Race group and to avoid interference with the A and B batch riders. The minimum average pace of 22km per hour may be subject to change, should circumstances require it, by the Event Organisers.
  - i. E-bike Race riders are required to apply for this group by emailing a screenshot of their results from recent stage race mountain bike events (covering a minimum of 60km per day between October 2020 and October 2021) or their Strava profile details and to motivate their application in writing to /registration@wines2whales.com. The FNB Wines2Whales reserves the right to use their discretion in selecting the riders who qualify for the E-bike Race group.
  - ii. E-bike Race riders who do not meet the minimum average pace requirement, fall too far behind on a stage and interfere with the A and B batch riders will automatically be relegated to the E-bike Tour group for the remaining days.
  - iii. Varsity MTB riders have priority on the trails and should be given right of way should they need to pass E-bike Race riders.
  - iv. The E-bike Race is a fun event, there is no prize money.
11. Bike Maintenance, Portage, Transfer and Safekeeping
  - i. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure that their e-bike battery is sufficiently charged for the stage and carry the necessary equipment to ensure they can complete the stage successfully.
  - ii. The FNB Wines2Whales takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to e-bikes and their batteries of whatsoever nature or howsoever caused. The FNB Wines2Whales will not take any responsibility for any water damage to electronics, motors etc.
  - iii. The rider is solely responsible for washing their own e-bike at the Squirt Kränzle Bike Wash where a separate e-bike wash station will be provided for riders who wish to make use of this facility.
  - iv. E-bikes will be subject to the same Stor-Age Bike Hotel as all other standard mountain bikes but will be allocated a specific area with e-bike battery charging facilities.
  - v. Riders are responsible for ensuring their bikes are plugged in and charging successfully before leaving their bikes in the Stor-Age Bike Hotel overnight at Oak Valley. A South African 3 prong plug point will be available, but it is the rider's responsibility to bring their own adaptors and charging cables.

## Important Information

All e-bike batteries, charging cables and adapters must be clearly labeled and identifiable with your rider name and rider number. Riders must sign their batteries in and out when dropping them off or collecting them at the Race Office each day. Race Office will open at 05h30 each morning and close at 19h00 at night in Oak Valley and close at 15h00 at the finish, in Lourensford.

It is advised that all e-bike riders bring a spare battery with them to the event. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure that both e-bike batteries are charged the night before you start each stage.

All e-bike riders have the choice to check in a spare battery at the Race Office each morning before 08h00. This will be taken to water point 2, where you can swap out

your battery if necessary. Spare batteries can be collected at the Race Office until 19h00 after you finish each stage.

It is very important that you conserve your battery life during the event. Turbo mode is not recommended. Manage your battery appropriately on the downhills and save your extra power for when you're really going to need it.

All e-bike riders will be required to push their e-bike down the Gantouw Pass as will all riders on standard mountain bikes be. There is no shuttle or bypass option.

### **Charging your e-bike batteries**

Riders must have their own batteries, adapters and 2-point plugs. Loose e-bike batteries can be charged in the race village.

The Stor-Age Bike Hotel is open 24 hours a day and has alternative e-bike battery charging facilities available for batteries that are connected to the e-bikes only. No loose batteries will be accepted for charging at the Stor-Age Bike Hotel.

Don't forget to collect your spare battery at Race Office by 15h00 at the end of Stage 3, in Lourensford.