

**Mountain States Trials Association**  
A COLORADO NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
BY-LAWS AND RULES

**PURPOSE OF THE MOUNTAIN STATES TRIALS ASSOCIATION (MSTA) IS; TO ORGANIZE AND PROMOTE THE SPORT OF OBSERVED TRIALS IN THE MOUNTAIN STATES REGION. THE MSTA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:**

- a. Organize a calendar of events
- b. Unify and oversee the running of events
- c. Maintain rules for competitions
- d. Promote the sport for its recreational benefits

---

**GENERAL**

1. The Board of Directors will be made up of six members, President, Vice President, Competition Manager, Publicity Manager, Secretary and a Treasurer. The Treasurer, Vice President and Publication Manager will initially serve a one year term. After the founding year of the MSTA, each will serve for two years. President, Competition Manager and secretary will each serve two year terms.
2. Board or committee positions must be held by a current MSTA member.
3. Officers will pay membership fees, but will be eligible to ride MSTA only events for free during the season(s) in which they serve. This will apply to officers only, not for any family members.
4. Annual membership and riding fees will be set by the MTSA board members according to the non-profit needs of the MSTA.
5. An annual membership meeting will be held after the season's end and before the start of a new season.
6. The MSTA will have spectator liability insurance only, for the current season events. All competitors are expected to have health insurance or ride at their own risk.

---

**BOARD MEMBERS \*\*SUGGESTED DUTIES + TRIALS MASTERS DUTIES**

- Board Member (President)

- Has the tie-breaker vote when necessary, President's vote counts as two votes.
  - To bring a table for sign-up, as needed
  - To delegate duties when appropriate
  - Overseeing club as a whole (making sure rules and events are following mission statements/goals)
  - Preside over meetings
  - Ensure officers can meet deadlines and are able to perform their jobs
  - Assist other officers as needed
  - Finding places to hold events/scheduling/permits (work with Competition Manager)
  - Organize and hold the scheduling/officer election meeting (finding a place to hold it, list of places we can hold events, dates, etc)
  - President's end of year statement for club website
  - President has the tie-breaking vote (counts as two votes if remainder of board members' votes result in a tie)
  - Distribute flyers to local businesses
  - Ensure that insurance is obtained for each event
- Board Member (Vice President/Membership Manager)
    - To bring a table for sign-up, if necessary
    - To maintain the membership list
    - To bring an updated membership list to each meet
    - To delegate these duties when necessary
    - Promote MSTA events on Facebook, and other social media sites, coordinating with Publicity Manager
    - Assist President with club oversight, secure places to ride and obtain necessary permits
    - Assist other officers as needed, such as Publicity Manager
    - Step in to assume Presidential duties when needed
    - Responsible for ensuring portable toilets are provided at each event where bathrooms are not available, when Trials Master is unable to provide them
    - Create and maintain membership form
    - Create and maintain membership database with current information
    - Create membership packets and distributing them to members
    - Assist with year-end banquet and awards

- Distribute flyers to local businesses
  
- Board Member (Secretary)
  - To assist President with securing annual insurance for the club
  - To coordinate with Trials Masters for scheduling
  - To plan the annual meeting agenda
  - To supply and maintain forms for MSTA events
  - Record meeting minutes and helping keep meetings on track
  - File and organize waivers and other paperwork from MSTA events (Information should be kept for seven years)
  - Create waivers and file/organize/archive other club paperwork (insurance, tax forms, etc)
  - Assist President or other members with organizing meetings/banquet
  - To print mailing labels
  - Distribute flyers to local businesses
  
- Board Member (Treasurer)
  - To manage and balance the MSTA banking account
  - To provide a treasurer's report for annual meeting
  - To collect membership and entry fees
  - To settle MSTA debts, as necessary
  - To file the club's annual Non-Profit Corporation with the State
  - Provide account statements at end of year (how much we've spent, what we've spent it on, how much we've made from events, etc)
  - Provide statements for officers at meetings
  - Reimburse members/officers for items purchased for events
  - Handle taxes at end of year.
  - Handle money box at events (making sure Trials Masters have change and securing box after signup or making arrangements if officer cannot be there)
  - Distribute flyers to local businesses
  
- Board Member (Competition Manager)

- Responsible for meet supplies including but not limited to ribbon, gate markers, stakes, punches, pens, markers, binder clips, garbage can/bags, staple guns, staples, etc
  - Ensure that the needed supplies are at each trials meet
  - To restock Trials Master box at each meet
  - To provide result posters
  - To provide rider score cards
  - Order/Supply medals
  - Order/Supply trophies
  - Order/Supply Trials Masters appreciation gift
  - Keep in touch with Trials Masters to make sure all competition related questions related to all competition are answered
  - Hold/lead Trials Master school (along with President) at beginning of year
  - Clerk sections at events (or finding suitable replacements to clerk) to ensure section standards are followed and maintain a reasonable level of safety
  - Order awards and ensure that they have labels available to place on them for event
  - Assist with year-end banquet and awards
  - Distribute flyers to local businesses
- Board Member (Publicity Manger)
    - Responsible for maintaining the MSTA website
    - Responsible for periodic blogs on the MSTA website
    - Responsible for maintaining the MSTA Facebook page
    - To serve as points keeper
    - Create flyers and t-shirts for upcoming MSTA events, coordinating with Vice President
    - To create/order and manage t-shirts
    - Distribute flyers to local businesses and applicable websites
    - Provide flyers for other board members to distribute to available outlets (physical and internet)
    - Create and maintain social presence (Facebook, Website, AdvRider, etc.)
    - Post articles to magazines like On the Pegs
    - Take photographs (or overseeing photographer) and posting pictures/video of events

- Provide schedule for year to AMA magazine and other applicable publications
- Assist Competition Manager with year-end banquet and awards
- Email event flyers, other information to members
- Maintains and post results to MSTA web site
- Promote MSTA events on Facebook, and other social media sites, coordinating with Vice President

\*\*It is the board members' responsibility to communicate with each other and to see that all of the necessary duties are carried out. The board member duties described here may be shared and traded among the board members or be performed by non-board MSTA members to take advantage of any skill or desire to do that duty that a person may have.

a. Trials Master

- Responsible for running sign-up and the trials event
- To coordinate with venue owners / holders and the club officers
- To compensate to the land owner for each event, in the absence of the treasurer
- To set-up sections for all classes
- To be present at the riders meeting to describe the trial
- To total up the points to determine finishing order
- To distribute medals to the top 33% of entrants in each class
- To ensure that the riding area is cleaned up after the event (parking area is clean, all loop and section markers are removed, etc.)
- To arrange for portable toilets if bathrooms are not available at the site
- Trials Master(s) are strongly encouraged to ride-in their sections to verify ridability. When possible two Trials Masters of differing class levels per meet is encouraged. One upper level Trails Master and one lower level Trials Master is preferable.
- Trials Masters are ineligible to compete in their own trial but may ride non-compete in their trial so as not to affect the outcome of the trial. Trials Masters will be awarded 23 points for their class for event that they set. Trials Masters will receive points for setting an event no more than once annually.
- An event sign is encouraged at the venue entrance however is left to the discretion of the Trials Master

---

## MEMBERSHIP TYPES

1. Family: This membership type includes annual association membership for all persons who are a spouse, dependents of or in the same household as the applicant and are 18 years old or younger.
2. Single: This type includes annual association membership for the individual applicant.
3. Membership fees include membership to the MSTA and WMTA (Wyoming Motorcycle Trials Association).
4. All memberships expire at the end of each calendar year.

---

## ASSOCIATION EVENTS

- Event Fees
  - \$25 for MSTA members
  - \$35 for non-MSTA members
  - \$5 for MSTA members riding a junior class
  - \$65 maximum entry fees for MSTA family, per day
- The association's season schedule shall be determined by the Board of Directors
- All members will be required to check, if asked. Checking assignments will be determined by the sign-up committee on the morning of the event. The Trials Masters and the board of directors will not check if there are enough others available to check.
- Helmets are required to be worn by all riders at all times when on a motorcycle.
- Once the sections are established by the Trials Masters, they cannot be changed except by the Competition Manager and/or Section Marshalls before the riders start to compete. If a section has become hazardous to ride, the checker(s) have the ability to attempt to restore the section to a safe state. If unable to restore the section to a safe state, the section will be omitted at the discretion of the President and/or Competition Manager.
- Riders may inspect the sections by walking the section prior to riding, but may not practice in the sections and may not alter the section by moving rocks or other obstacles.
- All protests will be written on the back of the scorecard and turned in to the Trials Master. The Trials Master and/or Board Members will determine the outcome of the protest.

- Anyone who argues with a checker, including disrespecting, intimidating or cursing at, will be disqualified from the event at the discretion of the Trials Master.
- The switching of a bike is allowed if the starting bike will not run or cannot be ridden safely.
- All MSTA events will have one official clock which will be in the sign-up area.
- No pit racing or wheelies in the parking area.
- Parents are responsible for their children and their children's behavior.
- Dogs must be on leash or contained at all times during an event.
- Silencers are required on all machines in the event area.
- Spark arrestors are required on all internal combustion motorcycles.
- Awards will be given to the top three riders in each class with 9 or fewer riders. If more than 9 riders compete in a class, a ribbon will be given to the top 33% of the riders, not including the top three. Awards are to be determined by the board of directors.
- Junior awards will consist of a first place medal to the first place rider in each junior class. Each junior rider from second place back will receive a ribbon.
- A Tenacity award will be given to the rider who finishes with the most points for the day. Tenacity award will be determined by the board of directors.
- End of year awards will be given to MSTA members only.
- All classes will have at least one year end award.

---

## CLASS STRUCTURE AND SKILL LEVELS

1. Classes
  - a. **Junior B** - Inexperienced riders, or beginners, 12 years of age or younger
  - b. **Junior A** - Experienced riders 12 years of age or younger
  - c. **Novice** - For first time riders being introduced to formal trials competition. Sections are essentially a difficult trail, with wide turns, no steps, and lots of recovery room. An experienced rider should be able to clean a section sitting down in second gear with no clutch work.
  - d. **Amateur / Senior Amateur** - Riders that understand the sport and are developing their basic skills. Riders are developing moderate clutch, brake and throttle control. Sections may include vertical steps, or individual logs, of no more than 12" in height.

Tight, but not full lock turns may be required. Moderate recovery room will be provided before and after an obstacle, typically approximately one bike length. Footing will be available on both sides of the bike at all times. An Advanced, or above, level rider should be able to clean a section standing on the pegs, in second gear with no clutch work.

- e. **Intermediate / Senior Intermediate** - Riders who have a good start on their skill development, with well-developed clutch, brake and throttle control. Riders should be working on accurate front and rear wheel placement within sections. Sections may include vertical steps, or individual logs, of no more than 24" in height. Full lock turns may be required. A minimum of one half a bike length of recovery room will be provided.
- f. **Sportsman / Vet** – Riders who have a firm foundation of basic skills and are working on developing more advanced techniques. Sections include full lock turns, and hopping may be advantageous but not required. Sections may include larger vertical steps, or individual logs, with adequate approach and recovery. Sportsman lines will consist of the more difficult Intermediate lines and the less difficult Advanced lines. The Sportsman line will be noted on the start gate for each section. The Sportsman / Vet class is intended for older riders moving down in class levels or for younger riders moving up in class levels. Vet class riders are required to be 50 years old or older.
- g. **Advanced / Senior Advanced** - Riders who have a good development of their skills and are a competent competitor. Sections may include full lock turns, before and/or after an obstacle with adequate recovery, hopping may be advantageous but not required. Sections may include larger vertical steps, or individual logs, with adequate approach and recovery. Multiple obstacles close together are allowed, although footing support will be available on both sides of the bike.
- h. **Expert** - Riders with precise technical skills. Hopping both front and rear wheels may be required. Limited approach and recovery will be available. Splatters and Zaps may be required. Sections should not be intentionally dangerous to man or machine, with footing available only on one side of the bike.
- i. **Pro** - Experienced, consistent and extremely competent rider. Large obstacles, very tight turns, and hopping are a must. Splatters and Zaps are commonplace as is very limited approach and recovery.



- j. **Vintage A** – Post-modern 1985-1994. Can have disk brakes and water cooling.
  - k. **Vintage B** – Pre-1985 motorcycles. Motorcycles must have drum brakes, air cooling and no hydraulic brakes or clutch.
2. Class advancement will be at the rider's choice. MSTA board members have the discretion to force a rider to advance in the event that a rider is considered to be riding a class beneath their skill level.
  3. Any rider who has won a class championship in the same level for 2 of the past 3 years will no longer be eligible for series championship points in that class for 2 year. That rider will still be eligible for individual event awards.
  4. A rider may ride **non-competite** in any class they choose and their score will not be included in the class standing for that event
  5. Age requirement for senior classes will be 40 years or older
  6. Age requirement for vet class will be 50 years or older
  7. Senior Advanced riders will ride the Advanced section lines, Senior Intermediate will ride Intermediate lines, Vintage A will ride Intermediate lines, Vintage B will ride Amateur lines
  8. The board has the right to determine the class level that a rider must ride for safety reasons

---

## FORMAT FOR TRIALS EVENTS

1. Junior sections will be set up by parents or event Trials Masters.
2. General time format for club events;
  - 7:00 to 9:00am - safety committee inspection of sections
  - 8:00 to 9:00am - sign-up
  - 9:00 to 10:00am - Juniors
  - 10:00 to 10:15am - riders meeting and scorer placement
  - 10:15 to 1:45pm - Riders compete (recommended time length 3.5 hours)
  - 5:00 to 5:30pm - event clean-up and awards
 (These are suggested times only. A recommended minimum competition time of 3.5 hours can be increased at the Trials Master's discretion based upon length of loop or other contributing factors.)
3. Checking (group, round, checkers, etc) will be determined per event.
4. It is suggested that an event have approximately 30 total sections with 2, 3, or 4 laps.
5. In case of not enough riders to have checkers, riders will ride in groups of at least 3 riders, starting and finishing with that group. In a question

of section safety, changes to the section must be agreed to by the Trials Master.

6. A time limit will be imposed on the competitors when assigned checkers are used in sections. This time limit will be established by the Trials Masters and is usually around three hours. When time is up, a sweeper will go out to release the scorers thereby closing the sections but will not pass any riders still ahead. Scorers remaining at a section after the sweeper has released them should not punch a competitor's score card. Unfinished riders may still go out after the sweeper has left, they may catch up to and pass the sweeper to ride the remaining sections but will be assessed 10 pts for each section the sweeper has already been through and closed.
7. It is the rider's responsibility to see that his scorecard is properly marked and turned in on time. Lost cards will result in disqualification or taking 5's on a new scorecard to the point of losing the scorecard.
8. A rider may start at any section, unless specified by the Trials Master. Riders must ride the sections in order after starting. The Trials Master can designate the starting section, per class, if necessary. All riders, must start their third loop at section one.
9. Awards for MSTA events are to be determined by the board of directors.

---

### **SCORING (based on current NATC rules)**

1. The scoring shall start with the front axle passing through the in-gate and stops when the front axle passes through the out-gate.
2. A rider may only be penalized for that error that carries the greatest number of penalty points, that is, points in any given section shall not be cumulative, except for the first three dabs.
3. Dabs are defined as each contact (used for support) of any part of the rider or his machine (with the exception of the tires, footpegs, and engine skidplate) with the ground or an obstacle (tree, rock, etc.). Contact includes "Toe Dabs" which is a rider's foot, while on a footpeg, making contact with the ground in such a manner as to propel the machine in an upward or forward direction or used for support.
4. Scoring will be based on the following system / scenarios:

<b>ERROR</b>	<b>PENALTY POINTS</b>
--------------	---------------------------

None(clean)	0
Footing once	1
Footing twice	2
Footing three times or more	3
Pivoting foot while in contact with the ground	0
Sliding a foot on the ground	3
Footing while stopped	1
Failure to complete a section	5
Missing a section	10
Moving backwards	5
Balancing on skid plate without footing	0
Rider passes, with a tire on the ground, in either direction through a gate of another class, breaking the plane of the gate	5
Rider assists the machine, or improves their position, while stopped and footed with either hand in any way other than with the handlebars	5
Handlebars touching the ground	5
Not riding the designated line for their class	5
Jumping the bike over a boundary	5
Floating the front wheel over a marker	0
Riding with a dead engine out of the "end" gate without footing	0
Footing with dead engine	5
Bike "Out of bounds"	5
Displaced marker	5
Dismounting	5
Crossing own tracks (both tracks with both wheels)	5

## 5. Definitions;

- a. **Clean** - no error (see table above) to incur penalty points.
- b. **Footing** - any contact between the rider's body and a supporting surface or object to maintain balance or propel the motorcycle.
- c. **Out of bounds** - when a gate is passed by either tire on the wrong side or where the tire has crossed over the section boundary marking to outside of the section enough that the ground is visible between the tire and the boundary.

- d. **Displacement of markers** - any disturbance requiring that a marker be reset (markers should be set so that brushing them will not displace them) touching a marker without disturbing it is not a penalty.
  - e. **Gate Failures** - Breaking the plane of any other class' gate and/or riding backwards through any gate.
  - f. **Dismounting** - Both feet on the ground on the same side of or behind the motorcycle, rear axle in front of both feet.
  - g. **Crossing own tracks** - the motorcycle does a complete loop, crossing both its own tracks, with both wheels.
  - h. **Other penalties** - a rider may report to an observer and receive a five for the section even though the rider does not attempt it. If the rider does not report to the observer, the rider will receive ten points for that section. All blank spaces, where a section score should be, will be considered a non-attempt. If more than one-half the last lap section scores are not completed, the rider will be considered a non-finisher.
6. The rider with the lowest number of points, in each class, wins. In the case of a tie, the rider with the most cleans wins, if still tied, the rider with the most one's wins. If still tied, a ride-off will be held in a section determined by the Trials Masters. The rider with the fewest points in the ride-off, will be awarded the higher of the two positions.

---

## **OBSERVER RESPONSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS**

The observer shall verbally acknowledge or use clear hand signals to authorize a rider to start riding the section. Observers may not be changed during the event, unless relieved by the Trials Master. It is the rider's responsibility to acknowledge his score on each attempt completed through a section.

If a rider is distracted or his line is blocked by spectators or other riders, he may claim a re-ride. At the discretion of the observer, a re-ride of the section may be permitted.

Disagreements between the rider and observer should be settled if possible without inconveniencing or delaying the other riders, while the situation is fresh in their minds. If the disagreement cannot be settled, it will be noted on the back of the rider's score card by the rider and turned into the sign-up committee, who will turn it over to the Trials Master. The decision of the Trials Master will be final.

---

**SEASON POINTS** (TM = Trials Master, eligible to receive 19 points, once per season)

POSITION	POINTS	POSITION	POINTS
TM	19		
1	20	11	5
2	17	12	4
3	15	13	3
4	13	14	2
5	11	15	1
6	10		
7	9		
8	8		
9	7		
10	6		

1. Members will receive championship points in order of finish.
2. Championship points begin to accrue from the date of membership (in point paying events).
3. All riders will eligible for daily awards.

---

## REQUIREMENTS OF THE SECTIONS

Sections should consist of natural obstacles such a mud, rocks, water, logs, etc. Whenever possible, natural boundaries should be used.

- . Ribbon
  - If a section deviates from a natural boundary. ribbon must be used, secured so that it will not be snagged by the motorcycle or rider, the ribbon should be below footpeg height to avoid snagging the ribbon where possible.
    1. White ribbon, on both sides, will be used to mark the boundary of a section.
- a. In and out gates cards
  - A section begins with the start cards forming a gate, a minimum of 36 inches wide.
  - Similar cards are to mark the end of the section.

b. Continuous sections

A long section can be broken down into two shorter sections with a minimum ten foot long neutral zone, where a rider can stop but not dismount his motorcycle.

c. Section gates

Sections will be marked with gates in a manner that requires riders in different classes to take routes of varying difficulty. This is accomplished by placing gate markers in line-of-sight locations. Ribbon, other than white (preferably yellow), will be placed to extend gate lines to and over obstacles.

---

## **AWARDS**

- The MSTA presents awards to the top three finishing competitors in each class during the regular series rounds.
  - For a two-day event each day will be treated as a one day event with awards being given at the end of each day.
  - After the second day of a two-day event, overall awards will be given to the rider with the fewest combined points from both days in each class.

## **YEAR-END AWARDS (CLASS CHAMPIONSHIPS)**

1. Rider must complete, at least, one half plus one (7 of 12, for example) of all series events to be eligible for a Class Championship.
2. The MSTA presents awards to the top three finishing competitors in the series rounds for each class.
3. The class championships shall be determined on half plus one of the championship events as a minimum. The class championship points will be counted from each rider's best scores in 80% of the total number of events (rounded up to the next full number). For example, if there are 9 events, scores from 8 events will be counted ( $.8 * 9 = 7.2$  which rounds up to 8).
4. In the case of a tie on championship points at the end of the series. The tie breaker will be based upon the highest place finish in the last event in which the two riders competed against each other.
5. One championship award will be given to a qualifying MSTA member per season. The championship award for a member that competes in multiple classes during a season will be determined by the class in which they had the most rides or will be awarded for the most advanced

class ridden if that placing is better. If the number of rides per class are equal, the class championship award for the member will be determined by the most advanced of the classes ridden.

---

**THE DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE  
FINAL IN ALL CLUB MATTERS**