



Draft Legal Sarasota, FL T r i a t h l o n 2026 ATHLETE GUIDE



January 11, 2026



319 Main Street, Saugerties, NY 12477
845.247.7275 | Alpha.Win

ATHLETE GUIDE | Sarasota, FL - January 11, 2026

Message from **ALPHA WIN**



Dear Alphaletes,

Alpha Win welcomes you to the Alpha Win Sarasota Triathlon in Nathan Benderson Park for the seventh year in a row in beautiful Sarasota, Florida. We look forward to kicking off our 2026 triathlon season with you and announcing a brand new feature of the event – the new draft legal bike course!

Whether you have raced with us before, or this is your first time, it is our mission is to get you to the finish line with a smile and a sense of fulfillment. By completing an Alpha Win triathlon, duathlon, or aqua bike, you will have tested your limits and accomplished a phenomenal feat that most people only dream to attain. We aim to deliver the best service and experience to help you achieve your goal.

Alpha Win Sarasota would not be possible without the help and support of Nathan Benderson Park Conservancy, Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Ryder Bikes for its bike tech support, Triathlon Coach Amy Maxwell, our athletes, and of course, our volunteers.

We are proud to continue offering A Distance For Everyone® at some of the most beautiful destinations across the country, including our Florida race here in Sarasota. In all, we will produce 10 races and host approximately 10,000 athletes this year, demonstrating our unending passion for the sport and our commitment to providing a fun and safe race for all.

We hope you, your family, and friends enjoy your Alpha Win experience. We look forward to having you join us again in 2026 and beyond!

Sincerely,
The Alpha Win Team





48 HOUR SALE FOR NEXT YEAR!
HUGE SAVINGS
WHEN YOU REGISTER
FOR SARASOTA TRIATHLON 2027

Alpha Olympic
Alpha Sprint

ONLY \$109
ONLY \$72

Monday & Tuesday, January 12-13, 2026

Register at Alpha.Win



319 Main Street, Saugerties, NY 12477
845.247.7275 | Alpha.Win

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USE DISCOUNT CODE: R-ALPHAWIN



Getting to know

Alpha Win Triathlon Series

WHO ARE WE?

Alpha Win was formed in 2020 as a successor to HITS Endurance, and produces more than a dozen events annually in three states; New York, California and Florida, bringing endurance sport to the doorstep of athletes around the country. With the mantra "A Distance For Everyone®," Alpha Win prides itself on catering to athletes of every level, from the first-time competitor to the elite athlete. With its family-friendly feel and beautiful locations, Alpha Win provides a destination racing series that anyone can enjoy.

Thomas (Tommy) Z Struzziere – Owner, CEO and Race Director Alpha Win

Tommy's interest in endurance sports started at an early age, going to watch his father race and joining in on some early morning track workouts. He fell in love with endurance sports and was named a USA Triathlon All-American age group triathlete at 12 years old. Throughout high school, he began to focus on running and despite several large-scale injuries, ran Division 1 Track and Cross Country at Syracuse University.

In 2020 Tommy took the reins of the family endurance business from his father, rebranding HITS Endurance to Alpha Win, bringing the company into the new decade with a new energy and vigor. With the mantra "A Distance For Everyone®," Alpha Win prides itself on offering competitive opportunities for everyone, from the beginner athlete to the seasoned veteran, and everyone in between.

Tommy is a USAT-certified race director and has served as a Board Member on the USAT Multisport Committee. His races have been selected multiple times to host USAT Championship Events, including the USAT New York State Championship at Alpha Win Lake George in 2022 and 2025, USAT Military and First Responders National Championships at Alpha Win Palm Springs in 2023 and 2024, and USAT California State Championship at Alpha Win Napa Valley Spring in 2024.

Tommy continues to train in track and road racing, driving himself to be successful both personally and professionally, applying his passion and dedication for endurance sports into all aspects of Alpha Win.



Getting to know

Alpha Win Triathlon Series

Thomas (Tom) G. Struzziari - Founder HITS Endurance, Assistant Race Director Alpha Win

In 1977, Tom founded what would become the largest equestrian show jumping company in the world, HITS Horse Shows. With the approach of "Grass Roots to Grand Prix," Tom changed equestrian sport by offering competitive opportunities for riders at all levels, from first-time competitors to seasoned Olympians. HITS Horse Shows were chosen to host multiple international championships including Nations Cup, World Cup and Olympic Qualifying events.

In 2011, Tom combined his passion for events with his personal interest in a healthy active lifestyle and founded HITS Endurance, the predecessor to Alpha Win. He mirrored the competitive format from his equestrian success and brought it to triathlon, where he offered as many as five race distances in a weekend, from an Open introductory race to a 140.6 distance. Under his son's direction, HITS Endurance, now Alpha Win, carries on this approach, reaching a broad range of athletes at more than a dozen races across the country.

Some of the original races and locations from HITS Endurance remain, such as the Palm Springs (CA) and Ocala and Sarasota (FL) triathlons, but his son has added his own flair to the races and added some amazing locations such as Napa Valley and June Lake (CA) and Lake George (NY).

Tom continues his active lifestyle, running or biking most every day. He has completed bicycle rides across the United States, Spain, South America, and Vietnam.

Where will we go next?

Alpha Win is confident you will enjoy every aspect of your race experience, from the course, to the location, to the staff and the smile that will greet you at the finish line. With over 40 years of experience producing major athletic participation events, the Alpha Win team ensures high-quality endurance events with a focus on its participants. Alpha Win offers "A Distance For Everyone®," because there is an Athlete in Everyone. Let Alpha Win be your next race.



BECAUSE THE FINISH LINE SHOULDN'T LEAVE SCARS

Developed by endurance athletes, for endurance athletes. AfterBurn delivers fast, medical-grade relief for skin chafing, friction burns, and irritation.

Formulated to calm, protect and repair - without the greasy feel or medicated smell.

Tested through 4,000 yard swims, century rides and marathon miles. AfterBurn body balm is here to help you heal.

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Heal fast.
Recover stronger.**



AfterBurn is available
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Schedule of Events

Thursday, December 18, 2025

- 6 pm: Pre-Race Clinic, focusing on Draft Legal race strategies, led by Army West Point Triathlon Coach Amy Maxwell** via Zoom ([Click HERE to Sign Up!](#))

Saturday, January 10, 2026 – Race Site at Nathan Benderson Park

- 1 pm: Race Clinic led by Triathlon Coach Amy Maxwell**
- 2 – 6 pm: Packet and Timing Chip Pick-Up for all distances*
- 3 – 4 pm: Athlete Meeting for all distance athletes

**It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that athletes pick up their packets on Saturday*

Sunday, January 11, 2026 – Race Site at Nathan Benderson Park

- 7 – 9:15 am: Additional Packet and Timing Chip Pick-up for all distance athletes
- 7 – 8:15 am: Bike and Gear Drop-Off for Sprint distance athletes
- 7 – 9:15 am: Bike and Gear Drop-Off for Olympic distance athletes
- 8:40 am: Transition area closed to Sprint distance athlete
- 8:50 am: Athlete Meeting for Sprint distance athletes
- **9:00 am: Sprint Male race start**
- **9:03 am: Sprint Female race start**
- **9:08 am: Sprint Duathlon race start**
- 9:40 am: Transition area closed to Olympic distance athletes
- 9:50 am: Athlete Meeting for Olympic distance athletes
- **10:00 am: Olympic Male race start**
- **10:03 am: Olympic Female race start**
- 10:30 am: Sprint distance Awards Ceremony**
- 11:40 am: Transition area closed to Open distance athletes
- 11:50 am: Athlete Meeting for Open distance athletes
- **12:00 pm: Open race start**
- 1:00 pm: Open distance Awards Ceremony**
- 1:30 pm: Olympic distance Awards Ceremony**
- 3:15 pm: Transition area closes

***PLEASE NOTE: Athletes MUST be present at their Awards Ceremony to receive an award. Unclaimed awards may be shipped if request is made within two weeks after the event. Athlete is responsible for a \$10 shipping and handling fee.*

Important Addresses

Race Site: **Nathan Benderson Park**, 5851 Nathan Benderson Circle, Sarasota, Florida 34235

**** Amy Maxwell is a USAT Level II Coach, 2022 College Coach of the Year, and recipient of the 2023 Coach Mike Krzyzewski Developing Leaders of Character Through Sport Award. As the head coach of the [Army West Point Triathlon Team](#) for the past ten years, and the owner and head coach of [Roots Racing](#), she has guided both elite and age-group athletes to numerous podium finishes, personal bests, and world championship podiums. Her coaching approach is simple, direct, and grounded in science—helping athletes perform with confidence, purpose, and consistency.**



LET'S GET SOCIAL!

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#ADISTANCEFOREVERYONE**



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@AlphaWinRacing



FOLLOW US ON TIKTOK!
@AlphaWinRacing





NATHAN BENDERSON PARK

Beach

START

FINISH



KEEP BUOYS ON YOUR LEFT

ALPHA OPEN:

Swim: 100 meters (one loop)

- 1) Beach start
- 2) Swim one loop around the first buoy in counterclockwise direction
- 3) Exit water to T1

ALPHA SPRINT:

Swim: 750 meters (one loop)

- 1) Beach start
- 2) Swim one loop in counterclockwise direction
- 3) Exit water to T1

ALPHA OLYMPIC:

Swim: 1,500 meters (two loops)

- 1) Beach start
- 2) Swim two loops in counterclockwise direction
- 3) Exit water to T1

2x OLYMPIC ATHLETES ONLY

SARASOTA TRIATHLON (SWIM)

- ▶▶▶▶ ALPHA OPEN
- ▶▶▶▶ ALPHA SPRINT
- ▶▶▶▶ ALPHA OLYMPIC

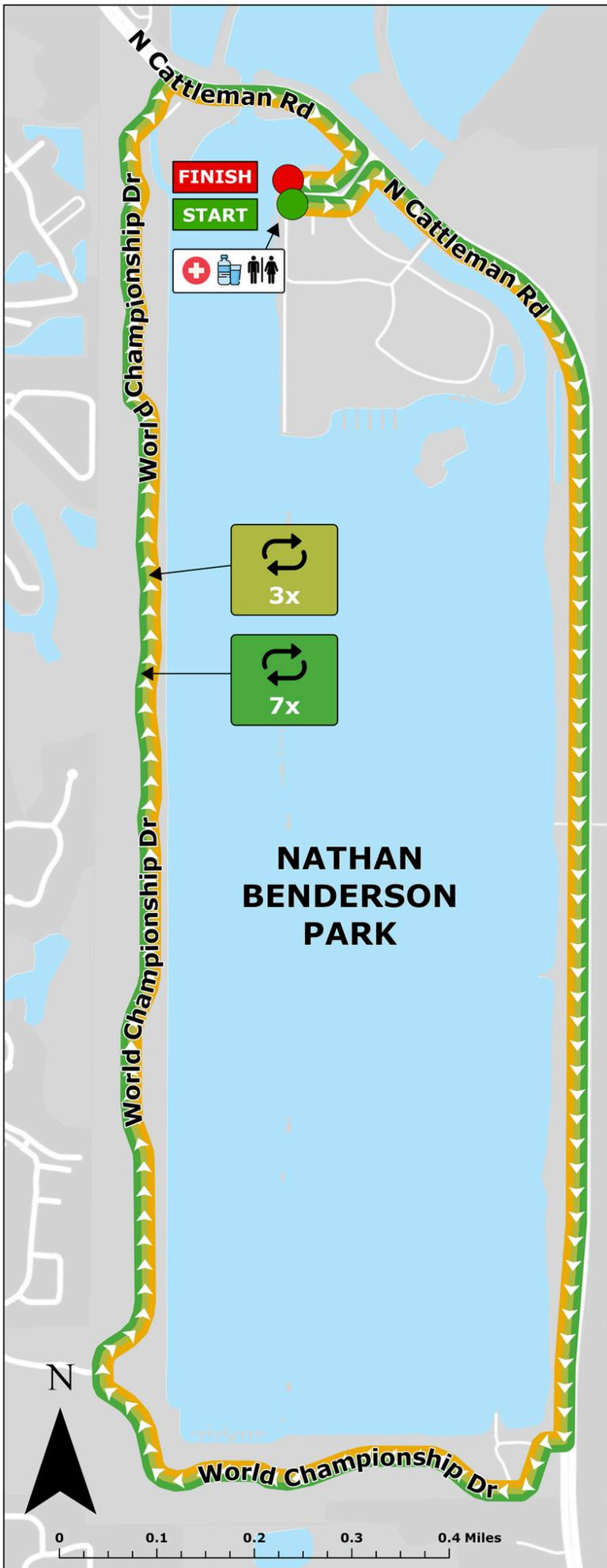
BUOYS

MEDICAL

AID STATION

BATHROOMS





- ALPHA OPEN:**
Bike: 3.8 miles (1 clockwise laps)
- Exit T1, R onto North Cattleman Rd
 - Complete 1 lap:
 - Continue on North Cattleman Rd
 - R on World Championship Dr
 - R back onto North Cattleman Rd
 - R to T2
- ALPHA SPRINT:**
Bike: 11 miles (3 clockwise laps)
- Exit T1, R onto North Cattleman Rd
 - Complete 3 laps:
 - Continue on North Cattleman Rd
 - R on World Championship Dr
 - R back onto North Cattleman Rd
 - R to T2
- ALPHA OLYMPIC:**
Bike: 25.5 miles (7 clockwise laps)
- Exit T1, R onto North Cattleman Rd
 - Complete 7 laps:
 - Continue on North Cattleman Rd
 - R on World Championship Dr
 - R back onto North Cattleman Rd
 - R to T2

SARASOTA TRIATHLON (BIKE)

- ▶▶▶▶▶ ALPHA OPEN
- ▶▶▶▶ ALPHA SPRINT
- ▶▶▶▶ ALPHA OLYMPIC
- ⊕ MEDICAL
- 💧 AID STATION
- 🚻 BATHROOMS



FINISH

START



OLYMPIC Turnaround



3

4

3

4

N



0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

FINISH

START

OPEN

OPEN Turnaround

5

ALPHA OPEN:

Run: 1 mile (one out-n-back)

- 1) Exit T2, R onto Trail
- 2) Turnaround at 0.62 miles
- 3) Return on same route to Finish

ALPHA SPRINT:

Run: 3.1 miles (one out-n-back)

- 1) Exit T2, R onto Trail
- 2) Turnaround at 1.7 miles
- 3) Return on same route to Finish

ALPHA OLYMPIC:

Run: 6.2 miles (one out-n-back)

- 1) Exit T2, R onto Trail
- 2) R to stay on Trail
- 3) R onto Lakeside Path
- 4) Turnaround at 3.28 miles
- 5) Return on same route to Finish

SARASOTA TRIATHLON (RUN)

- ALPHA OPEN
- ALPHA SPRINT
- ALPHA OLYMPIC

MILE MARKERS

MEDICAL

AID STATION

BATHROOMS

NATHAN BENDERSON PARK

SPRINT Turnaround



2

5

2

2

2

2

2

2

2

Race Information

Race Site – Nathan Benderson Park | 5851 Nathan Benderson Park Circle | Sarasota, FL 34235

PACKET PICK-UP

- **Saturday, January 10** 2:00-6:00 pm (all distances) at race site
- **Sunday, January 11** 7:00-9:15 am (all distances) at race site

Athletes must pick up their **OWN** packets, and there will be no exceptions to this policy. **All athletes must present photo ID to pick up. Please Note: All Relay Team members must be present and check in together.**

ATHLETE CHECK-IN

Please bring the following items with you to athlete check-in:

- Photo Identification, i.e. driver's license, passport, or any government-issued identification
- USAT card to show proof of current USAT membership. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you are not a USAT member or you forget your card, you will be required to sign the USAT waiver and purchase a \$15 USAT one day license.
- Official Military Identification
- If you are a professional athlete, you are required to submit your USAT Pro Card at check-in.

Packet pick-up prior to race day is highly recommended – the last thing you want to do on race day morning is wait in line for your packet!

ATHLETE MEETINGS

It is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that all athletes attend their athlete meeting. Athlete Meetings will take place as follows:

- All distances: 3 pm Saturday, January 10 at race site
- Sprint distance: 8:50 am Sunday, January 11 at race start
- Olympic distance: 9:50 am Sunday, January 11 at race start

ATHLETE WRISTBANDS & TRANSITION AREA ACCESS

At athlete check-in you will be presented with a wristband in your race packet. You must wear your wristband for access to all weekend functions at Alpha Win - Sarasota. You will not have access to the Transition Area before, during or after your race without this wristband.

PARKING - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

There is plenty of parking for athletes and spectators. **The park will charge \$15 per vehicle for parking on Sunday, January 11.**

ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE

All athletes and spectators should arrive no later than 9 AM on race day. For the safety of the cyclists, vehicular **traffic in and out of the park will be highly restricted between 9 AM and 2 PM** on Sunday, January 11.

THIS IS THE PARK'S POLICY - NO EXCEPTIONS.

BIKE INFORMATION - Bike shipping is available through Ryder Bikes, the Official Bike Shop of Alpha Win Sarasota. Please visit Ryderbikes.com for more information. Visit them at 5275 University Parkway, Unit #135 University Park, Florida 34201.

Bike & Gear Check-In

Bike and gear check-in is scheduled for Sunday, January 11 from 7:00–8:15 am for Sprint distance athletes and 7:00-9:15 am for Olympic distance athletes. The Transition Area will close 8:40 am to all Sprint distance athletes, and 9:40 am to all Olympic distance athletes.



Race

Information

TRANSITION

Athletes in all distances will need to provide their own transition bags and will be allowed to set up their transition area during bike and gear check in.

Wetsuit Policy - Alpha Win will follow USA Triathlon Competition Rules regarding wet suits for age group participants. When the water temperature is greater than 78 degrees, but less than 84 degrees Fahrenheit, age group participants may wear a wetsuit at their own discretion, provided however, that participants who wear a wetsuit within this temperature range shall not be eligible for prizes or awards. They must be removed from age group and overall competition and cannot be sent to USAT for rankings. Alpha Win will record times for these participants but will not post the names and times in final race results. Participants may not wear wet suits at water temperatures equal to or greater than 84 degrees Fahrenheit.

ROADS

All roads will be closed to traffic for the bike course. While on the bike course, athletes must stay to the right at all times and obey the traffic control or as directed by law enforcement.

COURSE CHANGES

Swim, bike, and run courses are subject to change in the event of unsafe conditions. The swim course is subject to cancellation if conditions in the water are deemed unsafe, to be replaced by an additional run portion and changed to duathlon. The race director may choose to change courses, alter course distances, or cancel the affected course as late as race start if necessary to ensure athlete safety. No refund will be given.

DOG POLICY - ALPHA WIN TRIATHLON SERIES ADHERES TO A STRICT NO DOGS POLICY.

Although Nathan Benderson Park allows dogs, dogs will not be allowed in or around/near any race operation areas such as the Transition Area, finish line, Admin tent, or spectator areas.

TIMING CHIPS

Athletes will receive a timing chip at check-in and will be responsible for wearing the chip at all times while racing. Fasten it to your ankle, facing outward, under your wetsuit with the Velcro strap provided before the swim and leave it on until after you finish the run. If you lose your timing chip at any time during the race, please notify a timing official and you can receive a new one at transition. Volunteers will help you remove the chip at the finish line. If you do not start the race, you are responsible for returning the chip to timing. If you drop out or are pulled from the race at any time, turn in your chip to a race official. Failure to do so may disqualify you from participating in future Alpha Win events. It is essential that we know where you are on the course at all times for your safety and our peace of mind. If you are transported to any medical station, the medical staff will take responsibility for your chip. By picking up your race number and timing chip, you are guaranteeing that you will return the chip to timing, or you will be billed \$25 for its replacement.

NO CHIP = NO TIME.

Race Timing & Cut-Offs - Individual cut-offs for each distance and segment of the races are as follows:

Swim Cut-off:	Alpha Sprint	9:33/9:36 am	(Maximum time 30 minutes)
	Alpha Olympic	11:03/11:06 am	(Maximum time 1 hour)
Bike Cut-off:	Alpha Sprint	11:03/11:06 am	(Maximum time 2 hours)
	Alpha Olympic	1:33/1:36 pm	(Maximum time 3 hours, 30 minutes)
Run Cut-off:	Alpha Sprint	12:03/12:06 pm	(Maximum time 3 hours)
	Alpha Olympic	3:03/3:06 pm	(Maximum time 5 hours)



AID STATION - There will be aid stations approximately every 1 - 1.5 miles on the run courses of the Sprint and Olympic Distances.

Each run aid station will offer: Water, Pretzels, Chips, Ice, Sponges, Gummy Bears, Vaseline, Defizzed Cola, Sunscreen, Chocolate, Orange Slices, Banana Halves, Zym Hydration, and Cadence Gels.

BICYCLE & GEAR RECOVERY

Mandatory bike and gear recovery for Alpha Sprint and Olympic distance athletes is before 3:15 pm on race day. In the event of an emergency, your emergency contact person will be contacted and allowed to claim your bike and gear from transition. Any bikes or gear left in the transition area after the transition area closes will be considered lost and found. You must have your athlete wristband on in order to claim your bike and gear.

LOST & FOUND

If you lose any equipment during the race weekend, please see the Alpha Win staff at the on-site administration tent to claim it. Alpha Win is not responsible for equipment left behind at the race site.

EVENT SANCTION & RULES - All Alpha Win events are sanctioned by USA Triathlon (USAT) and will enforce all USAT draft legal rules and conduct guidelines. Doping is strictly prohibited at all distances at every Alpha Win event. Race Marshals will be present on course penalizing athletes who do not abide by the rules. Please visit UsaTriathlon.org to view a complete set of the competitive rules.

FINISH LINE POLICY - Per USAT rules, Alpha Win will not allow friends and/or family members of athletes to cross the finish line or enter the finish chute with participating athletes of any distance in order to ensure the safety of all participants, volunteers and spectators. Time and space will be provided at the finish line for celebration. Athletes who choose not to respect this policy will receive an automatic disqualification.

HEADPHONES / EAR BUD POLICY - Per USAT rules, the use of headphones, ear buds, iPods, MP3 players or any other listening device is strictly prohibited during all Alpha Win races. Athletes are welcome to use these devices in transition areas only, but will not be allowed to use them on the swim, bike and/or run courses of any distance. Athletes who choose not to respect this policy will receive an automatic disqualification.



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Draft Legal Rules

USAT DRAFT LEGAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule Differences

The primary difference between draft-legal and non-drafting races is that there aren't drafting penalties during a draft-legal race. Below are some of the key rules for the 2026 Sarasota Triathlon. Please be sure to review the rules carefully as they may differ from other Draft-Legal and Non-Draft Legal races.

Athletes may draft off other athletes of any gender.

For the Sarasota Triathlon, the competition rule that prohibits different genders from drafting off one another on the bike segment has been waived by USAT. Athletes may draft off athletes of any gender.

Athletes may draft off other athletes on any lap of the bike segment.

For the Sarasota Triathlon, the competition rule that prohibits drafting off of an athlete on a different lap of the bike segment has been waived. Athletes will be allowed to draft off other athletes regardless of what lap they are on.

Athletes may pass on either side.

Athletes may pass on the left or right side of other athletes when safe to do so on the bike segment.

Unlike elite draft-legal, there is no lap-out rule for age group draft-legal races.

Athletes will not be removed from the course if they are lapped out. They will be allowed to continue competing until the designated cut-off time.

No aero bars or time trial bicycles are allowed in draft-legal racing.

Only road bicycles or bicycles without aero bars will be allowed.

Disc wheels are not allowed.

No bicycle may be used with disc wheels on the bike segment.

The bike course will be closed off from traffic.

The bike course for all distances will be closed from traffic for the duration of the race.

All race distances and categories will be draft-legal.

This includes the Open distance and individual categories.

Bare torsos are not allowed.

All athletes must be fully clothed on the bike and run segments.

All results will be submitted to USAT directly following the race. Race Management will be responsible for the enforcement of the competition rules supported by the USAT Office of the Commissioner of Officials.

Please refer to the subsequent pages for a comprehensive overview of all rules pertaining to the 2026 Sarasota Triathlon under USAT guidelines. For more information on draft-legal racing, [visit USAT's website here](#).



Rules

USAT GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT PENALTIES

3.1 Preparation and Training. No person shall participate in a triathlon or other multi-sport events unless such person:

- a. is trained adequately for that specific event, as might be expected of a prudent person entering a similar competition, and
- b. is in excellent health, based on recent training, physical examinations, if any, and generally accepted standards of good health.

3.2 Age Group Competition.

- a. All age group athletes must participate and compete in the age group division corresponding to the athlete's age on December 31 of the year of the event.
- b. Clydesdale/Athena Categories. The official minimum weight standard for this category is 220 pounds for men, 165 pounds for women, to be monitored by the local race director.

3.3 General Conduct - At or during an event, or while at the event site, all participants must:

- a. Act in compliance with these Competitive Rules;
- b. Conduct themselves in a manner that is not offensive in any way to fellow participants, spectators, officials or volunteers and is considered reasonable and acceptable in the community;
- c. Treat all participants, officials, volunteers and spectators with fairness, respect and courtesy;
- d. Refrain from the use of abusive language or conduct
- e. After violating any of the Competitive Rules, report such violation to the Head Referee or retire from the event.

3.4 Race Conduct - All participants in USA Triathlon sanctioned events must adhere to the rules in this **Section 3.4:**

- a. **ENTIRE COURSE.** Participants must cover the prescribed course in its entirety. It is the participant's responsibility to know the course. Any violation of this section, even if no advantage is gained, shall result in a variable time penalty, unless the Head Referee in his sole discretion determines that (i) the violation was substantial and resulted in an unfair time advantage, or (ii) the violation constituted endangerment under Section 3.4(l). In the event the Head Referee makes such a determination, the penalty shall be disqualification.
- b. **UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT.** Participants shall refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct, including the improper use of language or conduct directed toward an official. Violations of this Section shall result in disqualification or a variable time penalty depending on the severity of the violation as determined in the sole discretion of the Head Referee.
- c. **OBSTRUCTION.** Participants shall refrain from intentionally or accidentally blocking, charging, obstructing, or interfering with the forward progress of another participant. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.



Rules

Continued

- d. UNAUTHORIZED ASSISTANCE.** No participant shall accept from any person (other than a race official) physical assistance in any form, including food, drink, equipment, support, pacing, a replacement bicycle or bicycle parts, unless an express exception has been granted and approved, in writing, by USA Triathlon. The receipt of information regarding the progress, split times, or location of other competitors on the race course shall not be considered the acceptance of unauthorized assistance. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- e. RE-ENTRY.** Upon leaving the course, a participant shall re-enter the course and continue at the same point of departure. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty, unless the Head Referee in his sole discretion determines that (i) the violation was substantial and resulted in an unfair time advantage, or (ii) the violation constituted endangerment under Section 3.4(l), in which case the penalty shall be disqualification.
- f. RACE NUMBERS.** Participants shall plainly display their race numbers at all times, and shall maintain the race number in an unaltered, unobstructed and readable state at the start and finish gates, in the transition areas, and on the course. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- g. UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.** No participant shall use his body, head, arms, or legs to gain an unfair advantage, or to push, pull, hold, strike, or force through one or more participants. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- h. ABANDONED EQUIPMENT.** No participant shall leave any equipment or personal gear on the race course. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- i. UNAUTHORIZED ACCESSORIES.** No participant shall, at any time during the event, use or wear a hard cast, headset, radio, personal audio device, or any other item deemed dangerous by the Head Referee. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- j. GLASS CONTAINERS.** No participant shall utilize any glass bottles or glass containers at any time during the event. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty, unless the Head Referee determines that such conduct constituted endangerment under section 3.4(l), in which case the penalty shall be disqualification.
- k. UNAUTHORIZED EQUIPMENT.** No participant shall use any equipment which the Head Referee determines to be improper, including but not limited to equipment which might provide an unfair advantage or endanger other participants. Unless otherwise provided for in these Rules, any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.
- l. ENDANGERMENT.** No participant shall commit any dangerous act which could cause injury to any participant. Any violation of this Section shall result in disqualification.
- m. WAVE STARTS.** When the beginning of any event is commenced by starting designated “waves” or groups of participants at different times, all participants shall start in and with the proper wave or group. Any participant who violates this section by starting in an improper and earlier wave or group shall be disqualified. Any participant who starts in an open or elite wave in an event with age group waves shall be ineligible for age group awards and USAT national rankings.
- n. INDECENT EXPOSURE.** Public nudity at any time during the event is prohibited. Any violation of this section shall result in variable time penalty.



3.5 Unregistered Participants.

- a. Any person who participates in any portion of a sanctioned event without first properly registering and paying any required registration fee shall be suspended or barred from membership in USA Triathlon and barred from participation in any sanctioned event for a period of up to one year.
- b. Any person who in any way assists another athlete to violate Section 3.5a by providing or selling a race number to that athlete shall be suspended or barred from membership in USA Triathlon and barred from participation in any sanctioned event for a period of up to one year. Any second violation of this Section shall result in a lifetime suspension or ban from membership in USA Triathlon.

3.6 Penalties and Prohibited Conduct - Penalties, including disqualification and suspension, may be imposed upon race participants and/or members of USA Triathlon who violate any of these Competitive Rules or who solicit, encourage, or assist a violation of these Rules. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the specific penalty to be imposed in any given case shall depend on the nature and severity of the violation as determined by the Head Referee or USA Triathlon. The following penalties may be imposed for a violation of these Rules:

- a. Assessment of a time penalty
- b. Disqualification
- c. Written reprimand or censure
- d. Monetary fines
- e. Suspension from membership in USA Triathlon (including retroactive suspension), and
- f. Permanent expulsion from USA Triathlon

3.7 Time Penalties.

a. In General. A time penalty may be imposed for a violation of any Section of these Rules in which a time penalty is expressly authorized. In the event that a participant is assessed a time penalty, the applicable time period shall be added to that participant's aggregate finishing time in calculating official race results. Except as otherwise provided in Section 3.7B of these rules, time penalties shall be cumulative and a participant may be assessed more than one time penalty for violations of the same rule.

b. Variable Time Penalties. A "variable time penalty" as used in these Rules shall mean a time penalty that varies in accordance with the distance category of the event, as defined by the length of the cycling course. The variable time penalty for each of the distance categories shall be the following:

Distance Category	First Offense	Second Offense	Third Offense
Youth Events	1 minute	2 minutes	Disqualification
Short/Intermediate -- Cycle Course less than 50k	2 minutes	4 minutes	Disqualification



Rules

Continued

3.7A. Time Penalties for Elites. A “variable time penalty” as used in these Rules shall mean a time penalty that varies in accordance with the distance category of the event. The variable time penalty for each of the distance categories shall be the following:

Distance Category	Time Penalty
Short/Intermediate Cycle Course less than 50k	1 minute
Long Cycle Course 50-100k	2 minutes

a. First Violation – Time Penalty. A variable time penalty shall be imposed for the first violation of these Rules in which a time penalty is expressly authorized.

b. Second Violation. For a second violation of these Rules the athlete shall be disqualified from the event and shall be required to immediately withdraw from the race and vacate the course. Any athlete who fails to withdraw from a race and continues on the course after being disqualified shall be suspended from membership in USA Triathlon and barred from participation in any USA Triathlon sanctioned event for a period of one year.

3.7B Assessment of Time Penalties/Conduct of Athletes. All variable time penalties imposed under **Section 3.7A shall be assessed in accordance with this Section.** Except as otherwise provided herein, any violation of or failure to comply with this Section 3.7B shall result in disqualification.

a. First Violation – Stop and Go System. Unless a Penalty Area System is being used pursuant to subsection (b), an athlete charged with a first violation of these Rules in which a time penalty is expressly authorized shall safely pull over to the side of the bicycle course and shall come to a complete stop, placing both feet on the ground. An athlete charged with a violation while in transition or on the run course shall come to a complete stop. The race official shall properly mark the athlete’s race numbers and the athlete shall remain stopped under the direction of the race official for a period of time equal to the applicable variable time penalty. When the official indicates that the time penalty has expired, the athlete may continue with the race.

b. First Violation – Penalty Area System. Notwithstanding subsection (a), if a Penalty Area is being used in the event, an athlete charged with a first violation of these Rules in which a time penalty is expressly authorized shall (1) safely decrease speed while maintaining a straight line of movement, (2) come to a complete stop, and (3) place both feet flat on the ground while completely stopped. The race official shall properly mark the athlete’s race numbers and allow the athlete to continue with the race. After completing the bicycle course and properly securing the bicycle, the penalized athlete shall immediately report to the designated penalty box or penalty area, which shall be located within or adjacent to the transition area (the “Penalty Area”). The penalized athlete shall remain in the Penalty Area for a cumulative amount of time equal to the variable time penalty assessed against the athlete. After such time has expired as determined by race officials, the athlete may exit the Penalty Area and continue with the race. Any time served in the Penalty Area shall become incorporated into the athlete’s official time for the event. An athlete charged with a violation while in transition or on the run course shall be directed by the official to serve the penalty either in place or at the Penalty Area.



Rules

Continued

c. Penalty marking. For any first violation, the race official shall apply a visible diagonal mark across the face of each race number worn by the penalized athlete. For any second violation, or for any violation which results in disqualification, the race official will apply a second visible diagonal mark across all the athlete's race numbers resulting in an X shaped mark.

d. Penalty Area Conduct. While in the Penalty Area, no athlete shall dress, undress, change uniforms, or adjust any race equipment. Running shoes may be worn into, but shall not be carried into the Penalty Area. While in the Penalty Area, no athlete shall accept any form of aid or assistance, including food, drink, or equipment, from any other person, including race officials. Any violation of this Section shall result in disqualification.

3.8 Acts Warranting Suspension - In addition to other penalties which may be imposed at the discretion of USA Triathlon, the following acts may be grounds for suspension for a period of time designated by USA Triathlon:

- a.** A flagrant or willful violation of the Competitive Rules;
 - b.** Gross or continued unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - c.** Physical violence directed toward a race official, participant, volunteer, spectator, or other person;
 - d.** Any fraudulent act, such as falsifying name or age, filing a false affidavit or protest, or providing false information to USA Triathlon, the Board of Hearings and Appeals, or race officials;
 - e.** Intentionally participating in an event despite failure to register;
 - f.** Repetitive or recurring violations of the Competitive Rules;
 - g.** Failure to notify a race official after withdrawing from a race;
 - h.** Violation of the Medical Control Rules as set forth in Article VIII;
 - i.** Refusal to abide by the final determination by USA Triathlon of any matter relating to these Rules or the sport of triathlon;
- and
- j.** Any act which disgraces or brings discredit to the sport of triathlon.

3.9 Effect of Suspension. Any person suspended from membership in USA Triathlon shall be ineligible to participate in any USA Triathlon sanctioned event and shall be disqualified from any USA Triathlon sanctioned event during the suspension period and until such time as that person has applied for and received written notice of reinstatement from USA Triathlon.

3.10 Reinstatement. Any person who has been suspended must apply in writing to USA Triathlon for reinstatement after or immediately preceding expiration of the suspension period.

3.11 Notice of Disciplinary Actions. Any person reprimanded, censured, suspended, or expelled from USA Triathlon shall be entitled to receive reasonable notice of such disciplinary action.

3.12 Acts of Agents. The conduct of any agent acting with apparent authority on behalf of a participant shall constitute grounds for penalizing such participant if such agent's conduct violates any of these Rules.



Rules

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CLYDESDALE / ATHENA ATHLETES - Sprint and Olympic distances within the Alpha Win Triathlon Series are open to Athletes wishing to compete in the Clydesdale/Athena Category. There will be two categories with the same start and cutoff times:

- Clydesdale (Men 220lbs+)
- Athena (Women 165lbs+)

MILITARY ATHLETES - All active and retired military personnel receive 15% off registration for all Alpha Win events. There will be two categories (male and female) with the same start and cutoff times.

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED ATHLETES - All distances within the Alpha Win are open to Physically Challenged Athletes. Categories will be co-ed and scored the same with the same start and cutoff times, as well as the same awards.

DIVISIONS - Divisions for Alpha Win Series will be based on five year age groups for both male and female athletes starting at age 17 and under and continuing until 85+. In addition to the five year age group scoring for the Alpha Win Championship, each of the events within the Alpha Win Series will follow USAT age group breakouts for sanctioned rankings.

USAT ATHLETE EXCESS MEDICAL POLICY - The athlete excess medical coverage protects each participant for the day of the event at USAT sanctioned races, camps and clinics. When athletes purchase a USAT annual license or one day permit, a portion of those fees cover the cost to provide them with excess medical insurance. This coverage only extends to their participation in an USA Triathlon sanctioned event and is only available after the injured party has filed with any primary insurance policies. A deductible does apply for this excess coverage. If an athlete is injured while participating in a USA Triathlon sanctioned event the following steps must be followed:

- Athletes must file with their primary healthcare provider (i.e. United Healthcare, Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Aetna, traveler's insurance, etc.).
- Athlete completes a medical claim form.
- For serious incidents or for athletes requesting coverage, either the race director or USAT can provide them with a medical claim form. The medical claim form along with all explanation of benefit documents should be sent directly from the athlete to the insurance company as indicated on the claim form. Please email Sanction@UsaTriathlon.org for a copy of the form.
- Athletes will pay a deductible. All claimants will pay anywhere from \$250 USD (two-hundred and fifty U.S. dollars) to \$1,000 USD (one thousand U.S. dollars) out of pocket and possibly more for uncovered expenses.

Be advised that coverage may not apply to each and every claim. Additionally, coverage only extends to participants that have purchased an USA Triathlon annual license or one-day permit and were injured through participation in an USA Triathlon sanctioned event. Please email questions to Sanction@UsaTriathlon.org.



Rules

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USA Triathlon SafeSport and MAAPP Disclosure

As a participant in an Alpha Win USA Triathlon sanctioned event, you are bound by the US Center for SafeSport Code, USAT SafeSport Policy and Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP). Please review the [USAT SafeSport Policies](#), including the [USAT SafeSport Code](#) and [USAT MAAPP Code](#) pertaining to USAT-sanctioned events, and to the [US Center for SafeSport Code and MAAP At-a-Glance](#).

While only certain USA Triathlon Members are required to complete SafeSport training, **all** Adult Event Participants are Mandatory Reporters and must report any reasonable suspicion of sexual misconduct or harassment, child abuse or intimate relationships involving an imbalance of power to the US Center for SafeSport at 833-587-7233 or [online](#). Additionally, if you or someone you know has or is experiencing abuse, call the RAINN Hotline at [800-656-4673](#).

For a list of who must complete SafeSport Training under USAT requirements, click [here](#). For any additional questions or concerns regarding USAT's SafeSport policies, please email trisafe@usatriathlon.org.

