



A Message from the Head Official to all Draft-Legal Event Participants:

Welcome to this USA Triathlon Sanctioned Event. You are racing under the USA Triathlon Draft-legal Competition Rules. Before you arrive to put your hard work to the test, there are several things I would like to bring to your attention. The rules of competition are not difficult to follow. However, there are several ways you can change the outcome of your competition in a negative way:

- Miss the pre-race briefing or race day check-in.
- Arrive with the incorrect bike gear.
- Compete without your torso completely covered.
- False start or early start.
- Helmet does not meet established CPSC standards and labeling.
- Mounting your bike prior to the mount line.
- Not completing the appropriate number of laps on the bike or run.
- Dismounting your bike after the dismount line.
- Not having your helmet buckled while in possession of your bike.
- Not serving a penalty when required or not following the instruction of a race official.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior.

The role of officials at the event is to help facilitate a safe and fair environment where you can achieve your goals. Please note that the bullet points above only list a number of the most important competition details. It is not a complete listing of the rules. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with all of the rules of competition that are contained in the ITU Competition Manual at www.competitions.org.

Make sure your helmet is a U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) approved model. All helmets legally sold in the USA are CPSC approved but if you purchased your helmet in a different country or online it may be illegal for use in USA Triathlon Sanctioned Events.

While on your bike, always have your chinstrap securely fastened - before, during and after the event! The chin strap rule is easy to follow and will help you avoid any related penalties, including disqualification.

All participants' torsos must be covered throughout the duration of the event. Violation of this rule, if not amended when instructed to do so, will result in a disqualification. Remember to wear your race numbers, do not leave your trash on the course, and do not carry or use any portable audio devices.

Treat all other athletes, volunteers, and officials with courtesy and sportsmanship. Any unsportsmanlike conduct shall result in Disqualification.

All that being said, I hope you have a great race, lots of fun, and achieve all your goals.

J. Ritterbeck

USA Triathlon Head Official, 2017 Sarasota-Bradenton Triathlon Festival, Draft-Legal World Qualifier