

Mammoth Winter Biathlon March 18th, 2017

NO SHOOTING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

Winter Biathlon is a sport involving cross country ski racing and shooting. Competitors ski a 1-2.2 km course then go to the shooting range and shoot 5 shots. For each missed shot, a penalty lap of 100 meters must be skied before going out to ski another 1-2.2 km lap. Racers return to the shooting range and again shoot 5 shots. Penalty laps are again skied for each missed target. Then a final 1-2.2 km lap is skied to the finish line. First across the line wins. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be awarded for each group. Sharp shooter awards for the fewest misses are also awarded.

REGISTRATION

Link on the mammothbiathlon.org website. You may enter multiple categories if they pertain to you (Family Fun Race and Kids races or Adult Beginners; Red Book Certified and Masters; Kid vs. Parent and Kids races or Adult Beginners or Masters.

RIFLES AND AMMUNITION WILL BE PROVIDED.

There will be experienced volunteers at the range with each competitor to assist with operation of the rifle and to keep everyone safe

A mandatory safety briefing will immediately precede all races, including explanation of range procedures and demonstration. Any range safety violations will result in immediate disqualification. Athletes under 12 will shoot from 25 meters (or 50 meters with gun rests, TBD), prone (laying down) at 11.5 cm targets.

All other athletes will shoot from 50 meters.

U 14 athletes and Beginner Adults will shoot prone both times at 11.5 cm targets.

U 16, U 18, and Masters Adults will shoot prone once and standing once at 11.5 cm targets.

Elite (Red Book Certified) athletes will shoot twice prone at 4.5 cm targets and twice standing at 11.5 cm targets.

Private rifles may be used but must be left at the range unless the athlete is Red Book Certified by U.S.A. Biathlon. Only Red Book Certified athletes will be allowed to ski with rifles.

Safety protocols must be followed for all rifle handling including getting out of the case and putting back in the case. Please inform a range safety officer if you are using a personal rifle so it can be placed on one of the farthest lanes to the left (start of range) at the start of your race.

Location: Dome and Vista area at Tamarack Ski Area

Getting to race start

Unfortunately the parking is very limited at the site. We request that people do not park at Tamarack or along Twin Lakes Road. There are only a few spots available at the end of Lake Mary Road and just before the bridge that we ask to be left for race staff and volunteers. The best option is to park at the large pay lot just east of the village (6220 Minaret Rd, "The Village at Mammoth Parking") and take the Orange line that leaves from the back side of the village (at the bottom of the stairs below the Westin, about a 300 meter walk from the parking area) every half hour on 3/18. Or you can arrange to have a drop off at the end of Lake Mary Road.

Please allow plenty of time to reach the venue, at least an hour. Due to snow conditions, volunteers, etc. we are on a very tight schedule. Please don't miss your start!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Links to Sign Up Genius on website. Brightly colored Mammoth Biathlon Volunteer t-shirts will be given to all volunteers which we would like you to wear at the biathlon.

Bib pick up

3-6 P.M. Friday March 17 at the Mammoth RV park, 2-3 blocks before McDonald's and first light in town on the left, across from the Visitor's Center. If you cannot make the Bib pick up the remaining bibs will be available at the start area.

Tentative Schedule (depending on entrees, additional start times may need to be added)

Saturday Mar 18

8-8:50 Range open for zeroing of personal rifles and 50 m rifles (open for competitors with personal rifles)

8:55 Opening ceremonies

Red Book Certified Athletes - (prone, prone, standing, standing, 7.25 km)

9:00 Men, 50+, Women, and Juniors

9:45 Wounded Warriors and Athletes with disabilities

Youth - (50 meters with gun rests, prone, prone)

10:30 U8 Boys & Girls, U10 Girls - 3.75 km

10:55 U10 Boys, U12 Boys & Girls - 4.75 km

11:15 MORNING AWARDS

Juniors - 4.75 km, U14 and U16 girls (prone, prone); U16 boys, U18, (prone, standing)

11:30 U16 Boys & U18 Boys and Girls

11:50 U16 Girls, U14 Boys and Girls

Seniors & Masters - (prone, standing, 4.75 km)

12:10 Seniors and M1

12:40 M2, M3, M4 Men and Women

Beginner Adults - (prone, prone, 4.75 km)

1:10 Women

1:40 Men under 50

2:10 Men over 50

2:45 AWARDS and range takedown

BRING FOOD, WATER, SUNSCREEN (and use frequently), HATS, EXTRA WARM LAYERS. There is no food or water available at the range and course.

Range safety basics

The muzzle end of the rifle must remain OVER the shooting line at all times. The athlete must remain BEHIND the shooting line at all time. The rifle must only be pointed at the targets.

Range procedures for athletes

VIOLATIONS OF ANY OF THESE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION

THE MUZZLE OF THE RIFLE MUST REMAIN OVER THE SHOOTING LINE AT ALL TIMES.

The athlete must remain BEHIND the shooting line at all times. The rifle must only be pointed at the targets.

1 - BOLTS OPEN, NO ROUNDS IN CHAMBER - Unless athlete is on mat shooting.

[Exception is RBCAs (Red Book Certified athletes) who will have their bolts closed by race official at start line and should leave open after shooting the last time or have opened by race official at finish line. And no rounds in chamber unless athlete is on mat shooting.]

2 - ACCEPTABLE POSITIONS FOR RIFLES

On rack, on back (RBCAs), laying on mat with muzzle over line, or being carried by one hand with hand on barrel and barrel pointed straight up.

ALL HANDING OF RIFLES MUST BE DONE ON THE MATS (including getting them out of the case and putting them back in the case), AND ONLY AT TIMES ALLOWED BY RANGE MASTER.

3 - Private rifles (if not RBCA) may be used but must be left at the range. If possible we will put these on the mats (started at far left lanes). But if there are races before yours without a break, you will have to ask for your rifle to be carried to mat as you come into the range. Leave it there and we will move it back to rack after you shoot your last time.

Only Red Book Certified athletes will be allowed to ski with rifles.

4 - ONLY RANGE OFFICIALS ARE ALLOWED IN THE RANGE DURING ZEROING AND RACES.

No parents, no other competitors, no unofficial photographers.

5 - A mandatory safety briefing will immediately precede all races, including explanation of range procedures and demonstration.

Gun safely basics

1 - Treat all guns as if they were loaded.

2 - Point the gun in a safe direction at all times. Only point a gun at something you are willing to shoot.

3 - Make sure that your surroundings and behind your target are safe.

4 - Don't close the bolt until the rifle is pointed on target.

5 - Don't put your finger on the trigger until you are ready to shoot.

USBA Rifle Safety Rules

Understanding how a rifle functions, it is clear that by following three simple and logical rules, an accident cannot occur. These rules for safe gun handling apply to all rifles, pistols, and shotguns.

These rules are:

1. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.

2. Keep the action open and rifle unloaded until ready to use.

3. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

There are additional rules and practices that should be followed by biathlon participants to insure your safety and that of others. They are:

1. Always treat a rifle as if it were loaded until proven otherwise.

2. Keep your rifle bolt open unless the rifle is on your back or you are in position and ready to shoot.

3. Never race with a loaded rifle.

4. Do not take your rifle off before you are at the shooting point.

5. Don't load your rifle until you are in position with the rifle pointed in the direction of the target.
6. On the command "Cease Fire", stop shooting and unload your rifle at once.
7. Never handle a rifle on the firing line when someone is down range.
8. When dry firing only point the muzzle in a safe direction.
9. If you see an unsafe act, bring it to the attention of the individual involved and a range official.
10. Store your rifle and ammunition separately out of reach of children.
11. Check the barrel and action of your rifle before using it.
12. No horseplay on the range.
13. Do not leave your rifle unattended in a public area.
14. USBA Open Bolt Rule - It is USBA policy for the rifle bolt to be open (bolt handle completely to the rear) once the rifle is removed from its carrying case or taken off the competitor's back. This includes anytime the rifle is left unattended in a rifle rack or lying on the ground or snow. (USBA strongly encourages the use of a rifle cover at all times other than in competition.) Competitors not abiding by the rule during competitions will be reported to the Chief of Competition.
15. Rifles must be unloaded after each shooting bout - that is, no round may be left in the chamber or in the inserted magazine. At the end of training, athletes must perform a safety check before leaving the shooting range by opening the bolt and removing the inserted magazine. Athletes must also remove all ammunition from both the stock and all the magazines before leaving the shooting range