

WHPSC 2026 - Glossary

We use a lot of specific terms in our documentation and at the event. Below is a list of such terms, hope it helps!

Bike: Race vehicle, streamliner, comprises bicycles, tricycles, any number of wheels and riders

Course: The track/road on SR 305: 4 km Course for qualifying, 8 km long course (for higher speeds)

Heat: Series of runs within a session. Typically 4-5 bikes race per heat

Legal start: Bikes may be assisted for the first 15 m of travel by crew on foot for balance and propulsion. Carts and pushing devices are not allowed. Crew on skates are not allowed. A maximum of 3 crew are allowed to assist a single rider vehicle. One additional assistant is allowed for each additional rider in a multirider vehicle.

Minimum speed: Race officials set the minimum speed for a bike to be allowed to run the 8 km course in the morning or evening sessions. This is because of the limited time available within a heat (20 minute road closure).

On deck: Reserve position for a heat, in case one or more riders don't start and a slot becomes available. Start order in case an on deck position is utilized is determined by the Starter.

Percentage: Calculated % to breaking the record in the specific record category, used to determine the order in which riders select heats

Qualifying: Each rider/bike has to qualify to be allowed to run the 8 km course

Race officials: Assigned people in WHPSC official roles of Race Director, Starter, Timer, Chase Vehicle, Sweep

Rider: single pilot of a vehicle/bike, or pilot of a team of riders

Road closure: WHPSC officials can only block traffic for 20 minutes at a time. During these 20 minutes, we run a safety car (sweep) from Catch to Start, stage the bikes and run all bikes. Teams can not travel on the course during road closure.

Run: Single attempt of a bike down the course for qualifying or speed

Scratch: a rider can elect not to run in a selected heat, this is called a scratch and needs to be communicated on time.

Seeding: Order for selecting the preferred heat in which to run, based on percentage

Session: Series of heats where we race bikes. Morning session and Evening session

Slot: A rider's position within a heat

Start: The position where the run starts (8 km, 4 km, 600 meters)

Start order: Within a heat, the bikes start in a specific order, based on expected top speed (fastest to slowest)

Starter: Official running start procedures

Top speed: The fastest speed recorded in the 200m timing traps.

Wind legal: For a set speed to be eligible for a world record, the maximum allowable wind speed is 6 kph or 1.67 m/sec.

Vehicle: Single vehicle in which a rider or team of riders races. A.k.a. bike