

SHOREHAM BMX

Sanctioned by the National Bicycle League and a Member of the Empire BMX Association.
Operated by the Shoreham BMX Parents Association

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ROOKIE INFORMATION



Welcome to the exciting world of Bicycle Motocross at Shoreham BMX. The following is some information that will help introduce you to our track. We are sanctioned by the NBL (National Bicycle League) and hold all events accordance with the NBL rules. The Town of Brookhaven has been extremely helpful in letting us develop Robert C. Reid, Sr. Park for the purpose of hosting BMX events. The operation of the track, however, is not subsidized in any way and is completely self-sufficient. We maintain a reputation of being among the finest tracks in the country, while keeping fees at the lowest rates possible.

The Shoreham BMX Parents Association is dedicated to producing the safest, finest quality BMX found anywhere. We strive to promote a healthy, competitive attitude and teach the importance of good sportsmanship. Let's not forget that from its inception, BMX racing was, is and should always be F-U-N for riders of all ages! !!

Also, please note: The information contained in this pamphlet is only to help you understand the basics. For questions, you can refer to the NBL Rules of Competition, which are located in each issue of Bicycles Today. You can obtain a copy from the Registration Booth.

SPECIAL NOTE: Because the risk of injury is always present, it is mandatory that a parent or responsible adult accompany the rider at all BMX events. Thank you.

So, you want to participate and race in BMX. Well, let's start with the basics and then we'll get to equipment and rules.

LICENSES

In order to ride on our track you must hold an NBL license. This entitles you to accumulate local points when you race, receive monthly issues of Bicycles Today, have your name and ranking at the track printed in Bicycles Today, compete in state, regional and national competitions and secondary medical insurance during all events. Your license will indicate your assigned bike #.

If you have never held a license in any BMX sanction, you'll be classified as a Rookie. A PARENT MUST BE PRESENT TO SIGN THE APPLICATION FOR ALL RIDERS UNDER THE AGE OF 18. NO EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE! We'll also need a PHOTOCOPY of proof of age (birth certificate or driver's license) to send to the national office. First time riders (Rookies) may apply for a full-paid membership (\$45.00), which is good for 1 year after their date of application. They may also take advantage of the "trial" membership (\$30.00), which is good for the first 30 days. Then you can decide if BMX is for you. Pay the remaining \$15.00 and begin to enjoy the benefits of being a fully licensed rider (earning points, getting Bicycles Today, etc.). Your license will expire 1 year from the original trial application date. Remember, you must convert to a fully paid license after 30 days or you will not be allowed to practice or race. Each race day you must pay an entry fee at the time of registration.

As a Rookie, you'll race against other rookies of similar age. Sometimes not enough riders of a particular age will show up to make a class. Riders will then be combined with other ages. This is done automatically by the NBL computerized race program.

After you win 15 qualifying races you'll move up to the Novice class. 20 more qualifying wins, as a Novice and you'll move up to the Expert class. Qualifying wins carry over from one season to the next. You may request to be updated to Novice any time after your license is paid in full.

Once you submit your application, register to race and pay your race day fees, you'll need to take your bike and equipment for weekly inspection. When your bike passes inspection, the bike inspector will place a color-coded sticker on your brake cable, which must remain visible for the entire race day.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO GET STARTED

In order to pass inspection, your bike and equipment must meet certain standards.

1. Bikes must be in good condition. No cracked frames, bald tires, missing spokes, etc. The front and rear wheels must be the same diameter.
2. Handlebars may not exceed 28.5" in width. They must have grips that completely cover the ends.
3. A device that prevents the seat post from penetrating the bicycle seat.
4. An operable brake on the rear wheel.
5. A number plate with your assigned NBL number. Numbers must be legible and at least 3" high. Stickers may not interfere with the numbers. Illegible plates will not be scored and you will lose points for the day.
6. A BMX approved helmet, not a street-riding helmet. The helmet must have a mouth guard, either full face or snap-on style. The helmet and mouth guard must be in use whenever on the track.
7. Long sleeved shirts and long pants of denim or other heavy material. Shirttails must be tucked in. Loose pant legs must be taped or tied securely. Pants may not be rolled up to allow skin to show while racing ~ NO CUTOFFS WITH SHIN PADS.
8. Shoes with soles soft enough to grip pedals.
9. Gloves, socks, knee and elbow pads are HIGHLY recommended, especially since we have paved asphalt turns.

The following is optional equipment, but highly recommended by the track:

1. Pads covering the handlebars's crossbar, the top tube and the stem, which connects the bars.

The following equipment is prohibited:

1. Drop-style handlebars
2. Kick stands, side stands, chain guards and reflectors.
3. Axles that extend more than 1/4" beyond the hub nuts.
4. Two-way radios that facilitate communication between a rider and anyone else during a race or practice.

The referee at any event may refuse a rider admission to the track if he/she determines that the rider's equipment is unsafe, whether or not the condition-giving rise to this determination is specifically addressed in the previous section.

Riders and spectators are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner while at the track. BMX is a family affair. Profanity, fighting, vandalism, theft or unsportsmanlike conduct are grounds for the rider and/or spectator to be disqualified, removed from the park or have their license suspended.

If a rider feels he/she is the victim of an intentional violation during a race, the rider may file a protest with the referee at the finish line. All you need to do is raise your hand as you cross the finish line and wait in the scoring area for the protest to be filed. You may NOT file a protest once you leave the scoring area. The referee will consult with the corner marshals on the track and render a decision. All decisions by the referee are final.

O.K. – So it's finally time to talk about racing. After all, that is what you came here for! !

After practice is closed, "moto sheets" will be posted on the motoboards. Look for your age and proficiency (Rookie) and find your name on the sheet. Don't panic. There may be more than one page for your age group. Up to 6 riders will be assigned to each moto. For example: there are 9 riders who are Rookies and 10 years old. There will be two different motos for those riders. The first group will have 5 riders and the second group will have 4 riders. On the top of the page you'll find your "moto" or race number. You'll race in that number moto 3 times. If there are 35 motos, we'll run races 1 to 35 once, then go back to moto #1 and run through 35 again and repeat this for a third time. You will not be in the same moto number every week. Next to your name on the moto sheet, you'll find three numbers. These are the gate positions (numbered 1 through 8) you will start in at the top of the hill. Make sure you write down your moto number and the 3 gate positions that have been assigned to you. (IT IS THE RIDER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THEIR MOTO # AND GATE POSITIONS!!) If you start in the wrong gate, you may be disqualified for that race. If you are unsure of the correct gate position when you are at the top of the hill, simply put your front wheel over the gate and ask the official for your correct gate position.

STAGING

There are 10 lanes on the starting hill. Motos are staged in lanes. Moto #1 stages in lane #1, moto #12 stages in lane #2, moto #34 stages in lane #4, moto #40 stages in lane #0. The last # of the moto determines the lane for staging. Riders need to be in staging 10 motos before their moto is due to start.

SCORING

The track is approximately 1,300 feet long and it takes about one minute from start to finish. Riders are scored using the “Olympic system”. A rider crossing the finish line gets 1 point. A rider crossing the line second gets 2 points, and so on. There are 3 scorers at the finish line to record finishes. Majority rules. Their decisions are FINAL. At the end of the 3rd moto, all of the riders’ points are added. Lower points get first place, next lowest gets second place and so on. Ties are broken based on the riders’ finishes in their third moto. The better finish gets the better placement. After the third set of motos is completed for all the groups that have 6 or fewer riders, the day is finished. Riders can pick up their trophies or ribbons. Trophies are awarded for 1st through 3rd place. Ribbons are awarded for 4th through 8th place. For all other groups that have more than 6 riders, the Semis or Mains will be posted on the motoboards.

There will be up to 8 riders on the gate for all-further qualifying races and the main event.

The top 4 riders from each of the 2 motos that have all of the same age and class will go on to the main event.

Races with 2 to 6 Rookie riders will consist of 3 motos only.

Races with 7 to 12 riders will consist of 3 motos and a main. The top four riders from each group will go on to the main event.

Races with 13 to 24 riders will consist of 3 motos, a semi and a main. The top four riders from each group will go on to a semi and then the top four riders from each semi will go on to the main event.

NBL POINTS

The position that you finish in each moto determines the amount of NBL points that you earn. Each moto earns points. Each race day keep track of how you finish and you can determine your points. Your NBL points are added up from Jan. 1 – Dec. 15. The Rookie class earns 40 points for a 1st place finish in their moto. Rookie moto points: 1st = 40, 2nd = 35, 3rd = 30, 4th = 25, 5th = 20, 6 = 15.

Rookie main points: 1st = 10, 2nd = 9, 3rd = 8, 4th = 7, 5th = 6, 6th = 5, 7th = 4, 8th = 3.

Example: if a rookie rider got 2nd then 4th then 1st in the motos, the points would be 35 + 25 + 40 = 100 points. If there is a main, there are more points added.

Before racing begins each week, there will be a quick orientation meeting for rookies and their parents. The meeting is different each race day, depending on the questions asked. You can attend as many as you’d like. You and your parents are also invited to attend meetings held once a month at the recreation building located in the front of the parking lot. Parents may join the Parents Association for \$5.00 per person for 1 year. Check the schedule sheet for dates and times.

For everyone’s peace of mind, we have medics available at the track whenever it is open.

There are no spectator or parking fees. Visitors are always welcome. Feel free to bring your own coolers. There are bleachers, picnic tables and port-a-johns available. Please note: No alcohol is permitted at any NBL event and since we are located in a town park it and BBQ’s are a violation of the Town’s code as well.

RACING EVERY WEEK (See Schedule)

Sundays (April, May, June, September, October, November) – Registration from 10-11 am. Racing at 12 Noon

Tuesdays (July and August). Registration from 6-7 pm. Racing at 8 pm.

Practice on Thursday nights during July and August. Check the schedule for dates.

If the weather is doubtful, please contact the track for schedule changes at: 631-821-5569.

DIRECTIONS: L.I.E. to Exit 68. Go North on Rte. 46 (William Floyd Parkway) to the very end (about 7 miles). Bear right (heading East) onto Rte. 25A (NOT Rte. 25) to the traffic light. Make a left onto Defense Hill Rd. and the next right into the R.C. Reid Park.

