

Gorges Grand Prix – Race Manual

(Pelo Performance – Handicap Road Race)

1) Event Overview

- **Date:** 11th October 2025
 - **HQ / Start–Finish:** Loburn School (wide verge by the school)
 - **First riders off:** 8:30 am
 - **Start List** on the website <https://www.gorgesgrandprix.co.nz/start-list-and-faq-s>
 - **Mandatory race briefing:** 8:20 am at the school (plus a 2-minute on-line briefing before each mark rolls to the line)
 - **Registration:** Opens **30 minutes before** your start time (allow time to pin numbers, warm up, toilet, etc.)
 - **Prizegiving:** **Immediately after racing** at the school – all riders are required to attend.
 - **Start list / group order:** Live on the website. If you have concerns, contact Alex **by 5:00 pm Friday**.
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2) Course Summary

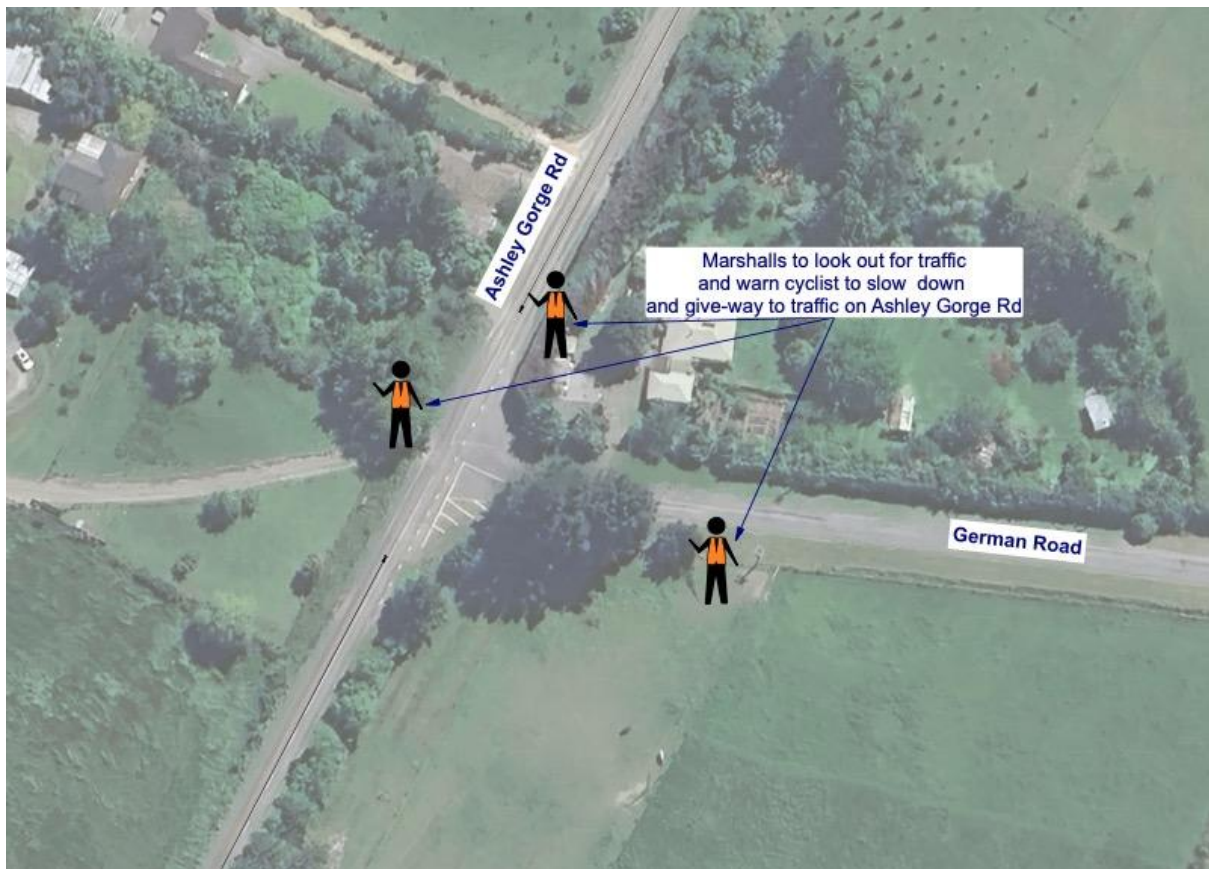
- **Format:** Open-road handicap race.
- **Terrain & surface:** Rural chipseal with occasional grit, cow poo, and potholes—ride with caution, especially on corners.
- **Bridges:** Two one-way bridges on course – **you must give way** to traffic already on or approaching the bridge.
- **Key controlled turn:** **Right turn from German Road onto Ashley Gorge Road** (top end of the circuit on return). **Give way** to traffic; expect to stop if required.
- **Managed stops:** Marshals provide **managed** (not absolute) controls. They **do not** stop vehicles. You remain responsible for giving way and obeying the road code.

Course Map & Notes (to be inserted)

Figure 1. Course Map – full loop with distances.



Figure 4. German Rd → Ashley Gorge Rd Right Turn – approach line, give-way position, safe merge.



3) Traffic Management & Rider Conduct

1. **Play Nice. Keep Things Simple, Safe & Fun.**
2. **All Sections Open to Normal Traffic.** Side roads, access ways, and driveways are active. Stay alert and courteous; obey the NZ Road Code.
3. **Keep Left.** Ride as far left as practicable; **maximum two-abreast** when safe. Use shoulders where available to aid traffic flow.
4. **No Centreline Crossing.** Zero tolerance.
5. **Respect Other Road Users.** Some drivers may be impatient—control your reactions and de-escalate.
6. **No Reckless Riding.** Dangerous or non-compliant behaviour = disqualification; repeat offenders will be asked to find another series.
7. **Stick to the Course.** All key intersections are marshalled; follow marshal instructions respectfully.
8. **Accidents.** Stop if you witness a crash. Check rider, call **111**, give first aid if you're capable, and notify the nearest marshal. The marshal will escalate to the **Race Director (Alex)**.
9. **Have Fun. Race Hard. Race Fair. Be Safe.**
10. **Prizegiving.** Held at the school immediately after racing; attendance is expected.

Important specifics

- **Bridges:** Treat as single-lane give-way. Don't enter if any vehicle is committed or close.
 - **German Rd right turn:** Come in under control, **look, give way**, merge only when safe.
 - **Finish Zone:** Keep left, no weaving. After finishing, roll through smartly, look for instructions, and clear the chute.
 - **Wind adjustments:** Start gaps may be tweaked on the day to suit conditions.
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4) Registration & Briefings

- **Registration:** Opens **30 minutes before** your start. Bring **exact cash** if paying on the day (no float).
 - **Numbers:** Pin as shown at HQ; ensure visible from the right-rear for finish line camera.
 - **Mandatory briefing: 8:20 am** at the school. A **2-minute on-line** briefing will occur for each mark before roll-off—**you must be on your start line early**.
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5) Equipment & Rider Prep

- Roadworthy bike, safe brakes, secure skewers/axles.
 - Helmet (NZ/AUS standard) worn and fastened whenever on the bike.
 - No aero bars in bunch racing.
 - Carry tube, levers, pump/CO₂.
 - Recommended: rear daytime light (solid mode), rain vest if conditions change.
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6) Parking, Toilets, and Warm-Up

- **Parking:** As directed by marshals; keep school access clear.
 - **Toilets:** At the school. Please respect the facilities.
 - **Warm-up:** Keep left, give way to traffic, and stay off the finish line area once racing is live.
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7) Communications & Contacts

- **Race Director:** Alex Mann – 027 277 6659
 - **On-course escalation:** Advise the nearest marshal; they will contact the RD.
 - **Emergency:** Dial **111** first if required, then inform event staff.
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8) Withdrawals & DNF

- If you abandon, **tell a marshal** or the finish crew so we aren't searching for you. Return to HQ safely and hand in your number.
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9) Weather & Contingencies

- The organiser may adjust **start order/gaps**, neutralise sections, or modify the course if safety requires. Any changes will be announced at briefing and by the start crew.
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10) Pre-Ride Bunch Option (Optional)

- Social bunch departing **Chaneys Corner** (end of Marshlands Rd) at **7:00 am**, ETA Loburn **~8:00 am**. Self-managed, open road; ride courteously.
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11) “I Agree & Understand” Checklist (what you accepted at entry)

- ☐ **Managed Stops:** Marshals don't stop vehicles; I may need to **stop or give way**.
 - ☐ **Exact Cash:** If paying cash, I'll bring the exact amount (no float).
 - ☐ **Assigned Grades/Marks:** I race in my allocated group. If I catch or am caught by another group, I **do not** join or interfere with their race.
 - ☐ **Traffic Management Rules:** Max two-abreast, **keep left**, and **no centreline**—especially near the finish sprint/chicane.
 - ☐ **Rural Road Hazards:** Grit, cow poo, potholes—I'll **ride with caution**, especially on corners.
 - ☐ **Pre-Race Briefing:** I will attend the **mandatory** briefing (8:20 am at the school; plus the 2-minute mark briefing).
 - ☐ **Registration Timing:** I'll be registered **30 minutes** before my start and **on the line early** for roll-off.
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12) Participant Legal Disclaimers

1. **Acknowledgement of Risk:** I understand road cycling involves inherent risks of physical injury.
 2. **Waiver & Release:** I release and hold harmless the organiser, sponsors, partners, and affiliates from claims or liabilities arising from participation, including claims of negligence.
 3. **Personal Responsibility:** I am fit and sufficiently trained; I am responsible for my own safety and will follow all event rules.
 4. **Insurance:** I accept it's my responsibility to arrange personal insurance for injury and property.
 5. **Acceptance of Conditions:** I will comply with race regulations, follow official directions, and respect NZ traffic laws and local road conditions.
 6. **Media & Promotion:** I grant permission for the free use of my name, voice, and image in event-related media and promotions.
 7. **Event Changes:** The organiser may alter format, route, timing, or other aspects due to weather, safety, legal, or administrative requirements.
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Final Reminders

- Keep left, give way at the two bridges and the German Rd right turn.
- Be early: registered 30 mins prior; **briefing 8:20 am**; first riders **8:30 am**.
- Prizegiving at HQ straight after racing – see you there.
- Questions or start-sheet concerns? **Reply before 5:00 pm Friday** or text **027 277 6659**.

Race hard. Race fair. Look after each other.