

Drafting Rules

Draft-Illegal events:

- To draft is to enter the bicycle or vehicle drafting zone
- It is forbidden to draft off another athlete or motor vehicle. Athletes must reject attempts by others to draft;
- An athlete is entitled to any position on the course, provided they get to that position first and without contacting others. When taking a position, an athlete must allow reasonable space for others to make normal movements without making contact. Adequate space must be available before passing;
- An athlete who approaches from any position to take advantage of the draft, bears responsibility for avoiding the draft;

Standard and shorter distance events bicycle draft zone

The bicycle draft zone will be 10 meters long measured from the leading edge of the front wheel. An athlete may enter the draft zone of another athlete, but must be seen to be progressing through that zone. A maximum of 20 seconds will be allowed to pass through the zone of another athlete;

Motorbike draft zone

The draft zone behind a motorbike will be 12 meters long. This applies also for draft legal events;

Vehicle draft zone

The draft zone behind a vehicle will be 35 metres long and applies to every vehicle on the bike segment. This applies also for draft legal events.

Entry into the bicycle drafting zone

An athlete may enter a bike draft zone in the following circumstances:

- If the athlete enters the draft zone, and progresses through it within 20 seconds in the overtaking manoeuvre;
- For safety reasons;
- 100 metres before and after an aid station or transition area;
- At an acute turn;
- If the Technical Delegate excludes a section of the course because of narrow lanes, construction, detours, or for other safety reasons.

Overtaking

- An athlete is passed when another athlete's front wheel is ahead of theirs;
- **Once overtaken, an athlete must move out of the draft zone of the leading athlete within 5 seconds;**
- Athletes must keep to the side of the course and not create a blocking incident. Blocking is where an athlete who is behind cannot pass due to the leading athlete being poorly placed on the course;

Penalties for Drafting

1. It is forbidden to draft in a race declared as draft-illegal;
2. Technical Officials will notify the athletes who draft they are subject to a time penalty. This notification must be clear and unambiguous;
3. The athlete sanctioned has to stop in the next penalty box and must stay there for a specific time depending on the race distance. **One minute for the sprint distance, two minutes for standard distance and five minutes for middle and long distance;**
4. It is the athlete's responsibility to stop in the next penalty box. Failing to stop will result in a disqualification;
5. A second drafting offence will lead to a disqualification in standard distance events or shorter;
6. The third drafting offence will lead to disqualification for middle and long distance events.

A warning will be given at the discretion of the Technical Official. A blue card will be used for drafting infringements during the bike segment, and a yellow card will be used for the rest of the infringements. If time and conditions permit, a Technical Official will assess a time penalty by:

- Sounding a whistle or horn; showing a blue or yellow card; calling in English the athlete's number and saying "Time penalty". For safety reasons, a Technical Official may have to delay issuing a warning;
- Alternatively, athletes may be informed about penalties by displaying the athlete's number on a panel posted at the entrance of the penalty box. It is the athlete's responsibility to check this board;