

COMPLETE RULES & REGULATIONS

Edition 2023 - Version 1.0



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1. GENERALITIES

Matterhorn Ultraks-Trail is Skyrunning competition that takes place in Zermatt every year. It took place for the first time in 2013 and will take place in 2023 from Friday 25 until Sunday 27 August.

Matterhorn Ultraks is organised by the “Association des Trailers du Cervin” and actively supported by the Zermatt local Council, Zermatt Bergbahnen and Zermatt Tourist Office.

2. SANCTIONING

The « EXTREME » race is an official stage of the international circuit « Skyrunner® World Series ». <http://www.skyrunnerworldseries.com/> with in 2023, the status of Premier Race.

The possible cancellation of the circuit would have no direct consequence on the holding of the Matterhorn Ultraks.

3. COURSES

Detailed plans of all courses, as well as profiles, are to be found on the website: <http://matterhorn.ultraks.ch/en/pages/parcours/trail/-active-race-134>.

All courses start and finish on “Ultraks Plaza”, located at Obere Matten in Zermatt (alt. 1,605m).

(exception: Finish “VERTINIGHT” at Sunnegga, 2,260 m)

Data being different depending on the source, our best estimations of the various courses are:

	Distance	D+/D-
« ACTIVE »	19 km	1,150 m
« MOUNTAIN »	32 km	2,000 m
« SKY »	49 km	3,600 m
« EXTREME »	25 km	2,876 m
« VERTINIGHT »	6.3 km	1.000 m / 20 m

WARNING: Do not rely exclusively on your watch’s data. Indeed, depending on the weather and other factors, differences up to 5% must be considered. On a 49 km course, this can sum up to a difference of over 2km.

3.1. Substitution courses

In case weather conditions would prevent using one or the other of the original courses, alternative routes may be proposed

3.2. Signposting/Marking

Signposting and course marking explanations can be found online through the following link: <http://matterhorn.ultraks.com/en/pages/infos-trail/balisage-239>.

4. RACES

4.1. « EXTREME » Race

Estimated length: 25 km

D+ / D-: 2,876 m

Day: Friday

Start Time: 8:00 am (subject to modification)

Start Mode: mass start unless forbidden by sanitary restrictions

Code couleur: Black

4.2. « SKY » Race

Estimated length: 49 km

VD+/-: 3,600 m

Day: Saturday

Start Time: 7:00 am (subject to modification)

Start Mode: Waves of approx. 125 runners.

Colour code: Blue

4.3. « MOUNTAIN » Race

Estimated length: 32 km

VD+/-: 2,000 m

Day: Saturday

Start Time: 9:30 am (subject to modification)

Start Mode: Waves of approx. 125 runners.

Colour code: Red

4.4. « ACTIVE » Race

Estimated length: 19 km

VD+/-: 1,150 m

Day: Sunday

Start Time: 8:30 (subject to modification)

Start Mode: Waves of approx. 125 runners

Colour code: Green

4.5. « VERTINIGHT » Race

Estimated length: 6.3 km VD+ : 1,000m ; VD- : 20m

Day: Friday

Starting time: 8:30 p.m. (subject to modification)

Start Mode: mass start unless forbidden by sanitary restrictions

Colour code: purple

4.6. « RELAY » Race

In partnership with Loyco, Matterhorn Ultraks proposes a corporate relay race ran on the « MOUNTAIN » course.

« MOUNTAIN » course's specifications as well as all specific conditions apply *de facto* to the « RELAY ».

4.6.1. Relay segments

The « RELAY » is ran by teams made of three runners:

	<i>Start point – Relay point / finish</i>	<i>Distance</i>	<i>D+</i>	<i>D-</i>
Runner 1	Zermatt - Sunnegga	7.5 km	665m	10m
Runner 2	Sunnegga - Furi (via Riffelalp)	10.4 km	389m	810m
Runner 3	Furi - Zermatt (via Schwarzsee)	14.1 km	946m	1,180m

4.6.2. Teams' composition

Teams can be composed freely (i.e. women and/or men). The only condition is that each member is at least of age 18 (Birth year 2005) and is employed by the company.

Only a team ranking under company name will be established.

4.7. Kids' Races

Two kids' races are proposed according to age.

4.7.1. Super Wollli

Length: 2,600 m

VD+/-: 151 m

Day: Friday

Start time: 4:45 pm (tbc)

a. Age categories

Category	Birth year
Boys 1	2009 - 2010
Boys 2	2011 - 2012
Boys 3	2013 - 2014
Girls 1	2009 - 2010
Girls 2	2011 - 2012
Girls 3	2013 - 2014

4.7.2. **Wolli**

Length: 900 m

D+/D-: 17 m

Day: Friday

Start time: 4:30 pm (tbc)

Start Mode: Mass

a. **Age Categories :**

Category	Birth year
Boys 4	2015 - 2016
Boys 5	2017 - 2018
Girls 4	2015 - 2016
Girls 5	2017 - 2018

For the Wolli race, the kids can be accompanied by a parent on the course.

5. **TIME BARRIER**

5.1. **Principle**

The Matterhorn Ultraks is a race and therefore time barriers are set up for the comfort and safety of the participants.

The time barriers take into account wave starts and the non-respect of a time limit cannot be justified by a start in a later wave.

5.2. **Course and time limit modifications**

In case of bad weather, and for safety reasons, the organisers are entitled to stop the race, to adapt the courses and/or checkpoints and/or time limits. All such decisions will be issued by the Race Committee.

5.3. **Link to table of time barriers**

[Time barrier page](#)

6. **AID STATIONS**

Aid stations positions and content are detailed [on our website](#).

7. **ENTRY CONDITIONS**

7.1. **Participation**

Except for « RELAY », all races are individual events.

7.2. Minimum age

The persons fulfilling the following conditions can enter the competition:

- « VERTINIGHT »
Birth year 2010 or above
- « ACTIVE »
Birth year 2008 or before;
- « MOUNTAIN », « SKY », « EXTREME » and « RELAY »
Birth year 2005 or before;
- KIDS
see Article 4.7.

7.2.1. Juniors

The races « ACTIVE » and « VERTINIGHT » are featuring Juniors categories for the birth years between 2003 and respectively 2008 for the « ACTIVE » and 2010 for the « VERTINIGHT ».

(i) Exemptions

The organisers keep the right to grant exemptions.

(ii) Parental authorisation

A written parental authorisation will be required for under-18 competitors. The form can be [downloaded](#) and must be filled, signed and presented to collect the bib.

7.3. Special Conditions for the « EXTREME » Race

The new « EXTREME » race of the Matterhorn Ultraks is a demanding course that requires mountain and altitude experience.

The runner must certify that he/she is autonomous in high mountain by bad weather and/or fog out of paths.

Therefore, before validating the registration will evaluate the experience of the person [as per details presented here](#).

Organiser reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse the registration of a person that is considered as not having the sufficient aptitudes and/or experience to face such course. Organiser's decision is final.

In such case, the persons that are refused registration will be proposed either a full reimbursement or a guaranteed start in any other race of the Matterhorn Ultraks at the rate applicable when they registered to the « EXTREME » race.

Fee difference, if any, or if the person decides not to enter any race the whole amount, shall be reimbursed by the organiser.

8. CATEGORIES

	« EXTREME »	« MOUNTAIN » « SKY »	« ACTIVE »	« VERTINIGHT »
Men I	1994 - 2005	1994 - 2005	1994 - 2005	1994 - 2005
Men M30	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993
Men M40	1974 - 1983	1974 - 1983	1974 - 1983	1974 - 1983
Men M50	1973 or before	1964 - 1973	1964 - 1973	1964 - 1973
Men M60+		1963 or before	1963 or before	1963 or before
Women I	1994 - 2005	1994 - 2005	1994 - 2002	1994 - 2002
Women W30	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993	1984 - 1993
Women W40	1983 or before	1974 - 1983	1974 - 1983	1974 - 1983
Women W50		1973 or before	1964–1973	1973 or before
Women W60+			1963 or before	
Juniors Garçons			2003 - 2008	2003 - 2010
Juniors Filles			2003 - 2008	2003 - 2010

9. REGISTRATION

9.1. Entry fee

Prices per person, CHF (incl. 2.5% VAT)

	First 200 entries per race	Fm 201 st to 500 th entry per race	fm 501 st entry per race	Junior
« ACTIVE »	60.-	75.-	90.-	25.-
« MOUNTAIN »	95.-	110.-	125.-	.-
« SKY »	120.-	140.-	160.-	.-
« EXTREME »	140.-	140.- ¹	.-	.-
« VERTINIGHT »	50.-		60.- ²	25.-
« RELAY » (per team)	290.- ³	.-	.-	.-
« WOLLI » and « SUPER WOLLI »	10.-	.-	.-	.-

9.2. Registration deadline

Subject to available places, deadline for entries is set to Friday 18 August 2023.

For « VERTINIGHT » and the Kid's Race, that deadline is extended to Thursday 24 August 2023. However then, for registrations made after August 18, the first name will not be printed on the bib.

Registrations are exclusively taken online. No registration on site.

9.3. Limited entries

Each race has a maximum number of entries.

« ACTIVE »:	1,150
« MOUNTAIN »:	825
« RELAY »:	75
« SKY »:	900
« EXTREME »:	250 (220 for the general public).
« VERTINIGHT »:	350
« WOLLI »:	150
« SUPER WOLLI »:	150

¹ Only 250 slots available (among which 220 for the general public)

² From July 1, 2023

³ Maximum 75 teams

9.4. Course change / no show

9.4.1. Course change

- Subject to the new race having availability, a competitor can change course;
 - Free of charge until July 31, 2023
 - From August 1 until Friday, August 18, 2023, midnight against payment of a charge of 10 CHF.
- A change triggers the payment of the difference between the original entry fee and the new one at the time of change.
- No refund will be made, should the entry fee of the new course is lower than the fee originally paid.

9.4.2. Bib transfer – Individual

- If a competitor cannot participate, he/she is entitled to give his/her slot to another person of his/her choice that is fulfilling the entry conditions.
- Such change is possible:
 - Free of charge until July 31, 2023.
 - From August 1 until Friday, August 18, 2023, midnight against payment of a charge of 10 CHF
- To validate the transfer, the registered person must send a request by email to support@mso-chrono.ch precisising the following details of the new person:
 - FirstName Name
 - Birth date
 - Nationality
 - Gendre
 - Full Address
 - EMail
 - Mobile Number
 - Emergency mobile number during the race – Name and link with the person (parent, spouse, friend...)
 - Expected race finish time.
 - T-Shirt Size
 - Wish to add the souvenir medal for a supplement of 3 CHF.
(only possible until March 31, 2023)

9.4.3. Possible retaking of the bib by organisers

- The bib number of a runner that withdraw can be placed by the organisers if and only if a race is full and a person on the waiting list is ready to purchase:
- Cancellations must be announced by email to cancellation@ultraks.com and will be taken into consideration in the chronological order of reception.
- If the bib is indeed placed, the runner giving up his/her bib will receive a financial compensation as follows:
 - 75% of the registration fee if the cancellation is announced prior to April 30, 2023.
 - 50% of the registration fee if the cancellation is announced between May 1 and July 15, 2023.

- No compensation will be made for cancellations announced after July 15, 2023.
- It is important to note that last-minute cancellations are difficult to replace even when there is a waiting list.
- The reimbursement will be done by MSO between 3 and 6 weeks after the race.

9.4.4. COVID 19 Specific rule

- If Switzerland forbid entry to residents of another country or impose them a quarantine, then Article shall apply.
- In case of no-show resulting from restrictions by the authorities of a country on trips to Switzerland, no reimbursement will be made. Articles 9.4.2 and 9.4.3 remain applicable.

9.4.5. No Show

- Subject to what is described above, there will be no fee refund nor registration transfer to the following year in case a registered competitor does not participate for any reason.

9.4.6. Insurance

An optional insurance is made available during the online registration. This insurance covers exclusively the refund of the registration fee for the cases listed in the general conditions. (<https://www.mso-chrono.ch/userfiles/assurance-annulation/cq2-en.pdf>)

Warning, this insurance does not cover pandemic risks.

9.5. Race cancellation

9.5.1. Covid-19 specific rule

- In case of complete cancellation of the race resulting from sanitary constraints linked to pandemic, more specifically Covid-19, runners will be able to choose between a one-time postponement of the registration to the 2024 edition, free of charge, or a reimbursement of 90% of the registration fee paid.

9.5.2. Cancellation for other reasons

- The entry fee will be fully refunded in the event the competition is cancelled by the organisers for reason other than safety or force majeure.
- The entry fee will not be refunded for cancellation due to safety or force majeure other than pandemic.
- No refund of the entry fee will apply in case of cancellation, modification of course or interruption of the competition for safety reasons (particularly bad weather), missing the time barriers, change of day over the race week-end or other reasons resulting from force majeure.

9.6. Benefits

Each competitor will receive the following benefits:

- A bib number giving access to lifts and train for retired competitors who need to get back to Zermatt village because of retiring the race or after the « VERTINIGHT » ;

- An electronic chip for timing integrated to the bib.
The chip is disposable and does not need to be returned.
- Aid stations supplies during the race;
- After-race meal or pic-nic ;
- Access to medical service ;
- Left-luggage. (transport of bag to finish for « VERTINIGHT ») ;
- A souvenir-gift ;
- A Finisher T-Shirt ;
- An optional souvenir medal at a cost of 3 CHF.
- Showers at finish in Zermatt;

For the kids, benefits will be limited to

- Bib with electronic disposable chip
- Souvenir medal included in the registration fee.

Anything not expressly mentioned here above is to be organised and borne by the competitors, including transportation, accommodation, food and beverage.

10. EQUIPMENT

10.1. For all races but exceptions stated below

- The Race Committee does not impose any compulsory equipment.
- We remind runners that no cups will be distributed at aid stations. Thus, it is necessary for a runner to have its own reusable cup.
A cup will be proposed together with the online registration for 5 CHF.
- Each competitor is responsible to evaluate what he/she must take along. It is however recommended to check the weather forecast in order to adjust the equipment accordingly. It is also recommended to take a long sleeve jacket and a survival blanket.
- It is also recommended to well study the positions of the aid stations and take with you sufficient quantity of food and drinks to join the next point.

10.2. For the « EXTREME » Race

Organisers require from runners to carry the following equipment

- An emergency blanket;
- Micro crampons for the glacier segments. Recommended models are Nortec « TRAIL » or equivalent type (see picture).



On the course, a specific segment duly marked « crampons » and controlled by mountain guides will require compulsory use of micro-crampons. Any runner not having those or not wearing them will be immediately disqualified without further notice and not allowed to continue on the course.

Furthermore, the « EXTREME » Race must comply with the official rules and regulations of the *Skyrunner® World Series* that are available on their website (<https://www.skyrunnerworldseries.com/rules-2018/>).

Please ready them carefully.

10.3. For the « VERTINIGHT »

A headlamp is compulsory.

10.4. Poles

Poles are accepted on all courses.

11. COMPETITION RULES

11.1. Start and Timing

- The races « EXTREME » and « VERTINIGHT » have a mass start subject to sanitary restrictions.
- All other starts are wave starts. Each wave is made of approx. 125 runners. Waves are separated by 4-5 minutes.
- At registration, runners shall provide their estimated time to complete the course, so runners can be placed in waves accordingly.
Thank you for indicating real forecasts.
- Only a runner from the first wave can claim scratch victory.
- An “elite” block will be set in front of the first wave for all races.
- The wave indicated on the bib is deemed correct.

11.2. Wearing the bib

- Each competitor must wear the bib number on the chest, the stomach or the right thigh during the whole race. The bib must be well visible (full surface and markings: number and sponsor).
- Bib number gives access to aid stations, medical support as well as all facilities and services dedicated to competitors (such as left luggage, etc.).

11.3. Behaviour on the course

Competitors shall comply with the present Rules & Regulations (including annexes) and follow all instructions of the Race Committee.

It is reminded that:

- Every competitor must observe the signposting/course marking;
- Even in the absence of a specific rule or instruction, competitors will take the appropriate measures required by the circumstances in order to avoid accidents, which may affect them, other competitors, organisers representatives or third parties on the course;
- Competitors have a duty to assist any person in danger or victim of an accident et to inform promptly the Race Committee of any accident by phone (+41 79 765 94 74) or to a course marshal (orange gilet);
- A competitor must give way should he be asked to do so;
- Competitors must respect the environment. No littering on the course;
- Any third party physical assistance is forbidden (pushing, pulling or carry...)

11.4. Withdrawal and disqualification

- A competitor might decide to withdraw or can be pulled out of the race by the Race Committee.
- Except in case of injuries, withdrawal can only take place at a check point. The competitor will then follow instructions from the Race Committee.
- A competitor that does not meet the time limits is to be considered as disqualified and will follow instructions from the Race Committee.

11.5. Anti-doping

The organisers draw competitors' attention on the respect of the integrity and sport ethic rules. Competitors shall abstain from any doping practice.

The list of forbidden substances and methods is the WADA list (in competition) in force at the time of the competition. (<http://www.wada-ama.org/en/>).

The organisers reserve the right to conduct anti-doping tests. Competitors accept to submit to such tests.

11.6. Penalties

11.6.1. Generalities

- Penalties will be imposed in case of breach of the Rules & Regulations by a competitor.
- All decisions related to penalties are made by the Race Committee and are final.

11.6.2. Penalties table

Breach	Penalty
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refusal to comply to direct instructions from Race Committee;• Not wearing micro-crampons on required segment of the « EXTREME » race ;• Positive anti-doping test.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disqualification
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Other non-compliance to Rules & Regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five minutes de penalty by breach (can be added)• Disqualification for severe breaches• Retaining prizes.

11.7. Protest

- Protest shall be made in writing to the Race Committee at the latest 15 min after a competitor crosses the finish line and remit to the timing van. Past this deadline, a protest will no longer be admitted.
- Protest must be accompanied by a deposit of 100.- CHF that will be refunded if the protest is allowed. The deposit is not refunded if the protest is rejected.
- Decisions related to protests are final.

12. RESULTS AND PRIZE-GIVING

12.1. Results

- Rankings per category will be published on the website (www.ultraks.com) after the results are made final.
- In case of discontinuation of the race, ranking will be set according to times at the last check point.

12.2. Prize-giving

Subject to constraints imposed by the sanitary situation, which may reduce possibilities to distribute prizes, for each race, prizes in kind or in cash will be awarded to:

- the top ten competitors in categories Men Overall and Women Overall
- the top three for the Junior categories
- the winner for each category as per Article 6
- the top three teams of the « RELAY » Race

- the top three kids of each kid's category
- These prizes will be awarded during a prize-giving ceremony, of which the schedule will be confirmed in due time.
- It is indispensable to be present at the prize-giving to receive the prize.

12.3. Special Prizes

- 6'000 EUR prize money will be distributed for the « EXTREME » race
- Special prizes may be awarded by sponsors based on intermediary timing.
- In order to win one of these prizes, the competitor must have finished the race.

13. ORGANISATION AND RACE COMMITTEE

13.1. Organisation

- The Matterhorn Ultraks competition is organised by the "Association des Trailers du Cervin".

13.2. Race Committee

13.2.1. Composition

- A Race Committee will be formed by the organisers. It will be made of four persons.
- Officials, such as guides, doctors, etc. that are present along the course must be considered as representatives of the Race Committee.

13.2.2. Sphere of competence

- Manage the competition, including changing or stopping the programme/course;
- Enforce the Rules & Regulations;
- Act as Jury in case of protest;
- Take all decision commanded by the circumstances and that are not expressly covered by the Rules & Regulations.

14. RESPONSIBILITY AND INSURANCES

- Competitors take part to the competition under their sole responsibility. Competitor acknowledges and accepts the risks of running in the mountain.
- In case of accident, the competitor excludes any liability against and shall hold harmless, within the frame of the law, the organisers and all persons or entities involved in the organisation of the race, included but not limited to representatives and employees of organisers, officers, agents, subcontractors, auxiliaries and volunteers.
- Each competitor must be personally insured against accidents and other damages.
- Rescue costs in case of accident are not borne by the organisers.

- In case of need, the official mountain rescue service will be called to operate rescue operations and make decision regarding the engagement of necessary means, including helicopter. Costs resulting from rescue, including cost of transportation from the location where the person is transported, will be borne by the rescued person. It is the sole responsibility of the competitor to submit a claim in due time to his/her insurance.
- In case the organisers have to meet costs of the rescue, such costs will be reimbursed by the competitor (or his/her insurance).

15. PERSONAL DATA

By registering for the Matterhorn Ultraks, you consent to us using your data for the purposes of the race.

You can request a correction of your data at any time by sending an email to support@mso-chrono.ch.

15.1. Swiss Athletics

By registering, you automatically become a Running member of Swiss Athletics and the umbrella federation Swiss Olympic.

For this purpose we will forward your name and e-mail address to Swiss Athletics.

This data will be used exclusively for the registration as a member and will not be passed on to third parties. This membership is free of charge and expires (after one year) at the end of the following calendar year. More information on www.swiss-running.ch/fr/protection-des-donnees (French) or <https://www.swiss-running.ch/de/datenschutz/> (German).

You can revoke your consent to the transmission of data to Swiss Athletics at any time in writing by sending an email to info@ultraks.com.

16. IMAGE RIGHTS AND USE FOR PROMOTIONAL PURPOSE

- Each competitor expressly allows the organisers, as well as its licensees and co-contractors, such as media and sponsors, to use pictures and films of the competition, including its preparation and follow-up phases, where he/she could appear in the context of his/her participation to Matterhorn Ultraks, on any medium, including promotional and/or advertising documents and without limitation in time and space.
- Participation to the competition does not confer any rights to competitors to use the race and/or its name for promotional or commercial purposes, for their own benefit or to confer any right to third party.
- Any communication on the competition or use of images of the race beyond private circles and social networks is forbidden subject to an express and written authorisation from the organisers.
- Matterhorn Ultraks is a registered trademark.

In case of differences between the different versions of the Rules & Regulations, the French version shall be the prevailing one.

Done in Zermatt, November 07, 2022

The Organisers.