

## Snowcross – Parent’s and Coaches’ Survival guide. FAQs

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Congratulations on your decision to be a part of one of the most exciting and rewarding Youth events we host at Whistler Blackcomb.

We have put together some tips as to how you can get the most out of your day while watching the racing unfold in front of you.

### **Q – Where do I go if I have questions or concerns during the day?**

**A -** We make every effort to always have a knowledgeable staff member at the posting board at the start for your questions. It is here that you should raise any questions regarding who advanced or what happened in a heat. Please do not approach the starter or finish line as their job requires 100% of their attention to keep the event flowing smoothly. The bib collectors have some information but they do not have the heats and record of who advances throughout the competition.

Take the time to check this posting board in the morning to see the heat numbers of your athletes’ heat. It takes usually 1m20sec to 1m30sec from heat to heat so you should be able to calculate the start time of the first round of heats. Every heat is pre-numbered so as one advances, you can see the heat number of their next run on the course and calculate the time.

### **Q - Will my Child be supervised while participating in Snowcross?**

**A -** This is not a supervised event. If your athlete is not in a Whistler Kids or Club program, you will need to plan to spend the day with them as they work their way through the days schedule. All athletes in programs will be accompanied by their coach as long as your child is regularly scheduled to ski with a program on both Saturday and Sunday.

### **Q – Where do I find the day’s schedule?**

**A -** Check the website for the latest schedule, posted on line on the wb website event calendar section. And check it again the night before the event as there may be updates depending on conditions.

### **Q – Do I need to sign a waiver for each event?**

**A –** Yes and no. While you are on the website, print off a copy of the Whistler Blackcomb Event Waiver and sign it for your athlete. A coach is NOT considered a legal guardian; it is only a parent or Legal Guardian who can sign for an athlete. At this time, we only require one signed waiver per season so if you signed one for the event in January, you do not have to provide another one. Place the signed waiver in your child’s pocket or give it to their coach or pro to hand in at the bib collection.

### **Q – Is there a scheduled lunch break?**

**A –** The posted schedule will indicate whether or not we have factored in a “lunch break”. This is all dependent on how many participants are signed up. If there is no scheduled break, make a plan with your child or their coach to know when they are going to go in for a bite and a break. In any case, it is a good plan to arm your athlete with a snack or two in the pocket as, on Sunday, if they continue to advance in the heats, they will not have time to go in for a break.

### **Q - What is inspection and can parents accompany kids on course?**

**A -** This means slow travel down the track, having a look at what the corners and rollers look like so that their first run down isn’t a surprise. Everyone must inspect and we check. This is an important part of the day for the athletes and should not be taken lightly.

**Q – What is the rider’s meeting? Is there a Parent’s/coaches one too?**

**A -** The next most important part of the day is the “riders meeting” at the top of the course which is mandatory both days. Here we discuss rules and safety. We will also schedule a coach/parent meeting so that any questions arising can be addressed.

**Q – Will there be 4 kids on course as soon as we start training?**

**A –** No. First run after the riders meeting will always be one at the time down the course to familiarize themselves with it at speed. Slowly, we will may start to run 2 and 3 at a time at the request of athletes or coaches once the kids are comfortable.

**Q - What is the time trial and how can I find out how my child did in the time trials?**

**A -** Time trials are where every athlete has an opportunity to have a timed run which will place them in the ladders for the following day. Time trials are run 1 at a time on course. Similar to an Alpine ski race. Times are posted at the bottom of the race course and as well, the time trial results and the Ladders for Sunday will be posted on the Event webpage by 6pm Saturday evening. Bib numbers will be on the ladders for your info as well. We recommend having a look at them and even printing of the page with the class details for your athlete.

**Q – If we miss time trials or DSQ what happens?**

**A –** We don’t take registration unless we can guarantee that the athlete will advance to the second day. So if you have a crash or don’t make time trials, you will be placed lowest rank on the ladder for Sunday.

**Q – How do you know what colour bib they will be in?**

**A -** The kids all have numbers which correspond to their finish order from the day before – the lower the number, the better they did in the race within their class. When it comes time to put a coloured bib on, the lowest number of the 4 always wears Red, next is Green, then Blue, then Yellow. (RuGBY is the way we remember it) This also the order in which they choose the start gate lane.

**Q – How many runs does my child get?**

**A –** We guarantee that each athlete will get 1 timed run on Saturday and 2 timed runs on Sunday. Plus lots of training runs each day too. For the first heat in each category, the top 2 advance and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> move on to a consolation round. From then on, top 2 advance and the bottom 2 are eliminated. In the consolation rounds, that is the final heat for all 4 kids.

**Q – I know my child’s heat number but how do I know when he/she will be running?**

**A –** We figure on 1 – 1.5 minutes per heat. We have a flip chart at the start that is updated as frequently as possible that will display the heat we are on. If you have one representative of your group stationed at the start, they can be communicating to others on the side of the course as to what heat is in the gate and what heat number your athletes are in.

**Q – What happens once we are eliminated from the heats?**

**A -** We communicate from the finish line to the bib collectors at every run – they collect coloured bibs every time and only collect numbers when the individual is eliminated.

**Q – When and where is the video, awards and prizing given out?**

**A -** Awards and video start at 4pm at 18 below. You have to be there to win any prizes. And all participants are eligible for prizes, regardless of how they placed in the event. We are also working on posting the videos on line so that you can watch the heats again on your computers.