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NORTHAMPTON CYCLOCROSS

Presented By:

SHIFTGEAR

www.nohocx.com

October 31- November 1, 2026

Look Park, Northampton, MA

Table of Contents

Inclusion Policy
Staff
Schedule
Rules
Course
Prize List
Directions
Medical

About Us

The 2026 **Cycle-Smart Northampton Cyclocross presented by ShiftGear** (#NohoCX) is back as a UCI event on October 31 - November 1, 2026, and is part of the USA Cycling National Cyclocross Series. This will mark the 35th year of the race, and its 51st and 52nd editions. Founded in 1991, the event's storied heritage is unmatched, and each year is a continuation of its place as the rock of New England cyclocross.

Sponsors

Inclusion Policy

Inclusion Policy

The Northampton Cyclocross organization firmly believes that all attendees should have an equal opportunity to participate in our event regardless of their race, color, religion, disability, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or national origin. We recognize that participation in sport is a human right. We strive to create an enjoyable event for those currently active in cyclocross in all the different ways they participate, and an inviting one for those who have not joined us yet. It is our obligation as race organizers and athletes to create a safe and welcoming space for athletes, staff, and spectators from different backgrounds, identities, and abilities, and this event is part of our work to foster such spaces. Harassment of participants protected under those standards will not be tolerated. Anyone who attempts to harass or otherwise intimidate other athletes, staff, or spectators will be asked to leave the event immediately. Harassment or intimidation will be reported to race officials, USA Cycling, SafeSport, and local authorities. We will use our power and privilege to protect our friends who need it. Our goal is to foster a vibrant and diverse cycling community. We are grateful for your partnership in working towards that goal.

The Northampton Cyclocross is obligated to follow all rules and regulations for participation and inclusion outlined by USA Cycling and the Union Cycliste Internationale. We strongly disagree with USAC's compliance with the Trump executive order to exclude trans women from participating in women's categories, and the directive we were given by USAC to adjust our categories accordingly. Our vision for the Northampton Cyclocross for 35 years has been to run an event that serves riders of all abilities, provides a professional-level experience for beginner racers, and a pathway to the pros for everyone. Excluding trans women from women's categories prevents us from providing those opportunities and experiences to all racers, and forces us to choose between human rights and a pathway to professional cycling. Our priority is to continue to run a professional event that serves everyone as best we can, and in a way that allows us to continue to have a seat at the table and advocate for inclusion. The path we seek is one that welcomes all racers as they are, while still providing world-class event production and race experience, as we always have.

Staff

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Schedule

Friday

Please note that there is NO public course inspection on Friday this year due to Halloween and active Haunted Train Rides. The only permitted pre-riding on Friday is the official course inspection clinic. Please do not attempt to pre-ride the course on Friday.

There will be time between each race to enter the course after the finish, and behind the last rider on the course, as well as the set open course windows on race day.

Cycle-Smart Course Inspection Clinic

Pre-ride Saturday's course with Cycle-Smart coach Stephen Hyde. Ride and re-ride sections, get line and technique advice, and dial in the track. All levels are welcome.

2 PM start, 90-minute clinic.
Register in advance on Bikereg.com, and check in at the Cycle-Smart tent in the expo area at 1:45 on Friday.

Number Pick Up

There will be Friday night number pick-up for all categories from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at Northampton Bicycle. The bar at Northampton Bicycle, the Barb and Olive, will be open!

Northampton Bicycle, 319 Pleasant St, Northampton, MA 01060

All amateur categories will use the same number both days. Numbers are on the right Saturday, and on the left Sunday. Riders who lose their number will be issued new numbers on Sunday, but risk losing their call-up spot. UCI riders will get new numbers each day.
$25 discount for a second race on the same race day.

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Schedule

Saturday and Sunday

Registration opens at 7 am each day. Please be ready to show an active USAC or UCI license.

Time	Category	Duration	Entry	Prizes/Places	Field Limit
7:00 am	Course open for warm-up	15 min			
8:00 am	Category 4/Novice Men/Open	40 min	$60	Medals/3	100
8:55 am	40+/55+ Masters Women	40 min	$60	Medals/3	75
8:55 am	Category 4/Novice Women	40 min	$60	Medals/3	75
8:56 am	Category 4/Novice Non-Binary/Open	40 min	$60	Medals/3	25
9:50 am	40+ Masters Men/Open Category 1-4	40 min	$60	Medals/3	75
9:51 am	55+ Masters Men/Open Category 1-4	40 min	$60	Medals/3	75
10:45 am	Course open for warm-up	15 min			
11:00 am	Under 15 and Under 13 Junior Boys/Open	30 min	$30	Medals/3	50
11:00 am	Under 15 and Under 13 Junior Girls	30 min	$30	Medals/3	50
11:45 am	UCI 17-18 Junior Women	40 min	$60	$920/15 places	50
11:45 am	Under 17 Junior Women Category 1-4	40 min	$60	Medals/3	50
11:46 am	Category 2/3 Women	40 min	$60	Medals/3	50
11:46 am	Category 1-4 Non-Binary/Open	40 min	$60	Medals/3	25
12:40 pm	Course open for warm-up	15 min			
12:40 pm	Northampton Cycling Club Youth Races (3-12 years old) - Separate Kids' course	various	FREE	Medals + Ribbons	75
12:55 pm	UCI 17-18 Junior Men	40 min	$60	$920/15 places	50
12:55 pm	Under 17 Junior Men/Open Category 1-4	40 min	$60	Medals/3	50
12:56 pm	Category 2/3 Men/Open	40 min	$60	Medals/3	50
1:50 pm	UCI Elite/Under 23 Women	50 min	$75	$1754/20 places	150
3:00 pm	UCI Elite/Under 23 Men	60 min	$75	$1754/20 places	150

Prize List

UCI Elite Men and Women will race for $1754/20 places each day. UCI 17-18 Junior Men and Women will race for $920/15 places each day. Prize money will be paid in cash at registration once results are official.

Place	UCI Elite Men and Women	UCI Junior Men and Women
1st	$403	$173
2nd	$207	$115
3rd	$138	$81
4th	$104	$69
5th	$98	$58
6th	$92	$58
7th	$86	$58
8th	$81	$46
9th	$75	$46
10th	$69	$46
11th	$63	$35
12th	$58	$35
13th	$52	$35
14th	$46	$35
15th	$40	$35
16th	$29	
17th	$29	
18th	$29	
19th	$29	
20th	$29	

Prize list is based on the UCI Financial Obligations for a Class 2 event.
The rider's contribution to Anti-Doping of 2% is included in the Prize Money.

Notes for Masters, Juniors and U23s

U23s in the Elite fields will be recognized with an additional podium for the top 3 riders.

U11s in the U13 field will be recognized with an additional podium for the top 3 riders.

Fast U15 riders are welcome to race up and register for the U17 field.

U15 and U13 boys and girls junior fields are staged and race separately for separate results with a 30-second gap.

U15s will race a shortened course that skips the traditional steep run-up and drop-off both days.

Fields in the UCI Junior waves are staged and race separately for separate results with a 30-second gap.

40+ and 55+ Master Men/Open fields are staged and race separately for separate results with a 1-minute gap.

Masters Women 40+/55+ are staged and race together for separate results.

Cat. 4/Novice Women and Non-Binary/Open will start at 30-second gaps.

Podium Schedule

10:30 am, following the Masters Men finish:

Category 4/Novice
Men 40+ Masters Women
55+ Masters Women
Category 4/Novice Women
Category 4/Novice Non-Binary
40+ Masters Men
55+ Masters Men

12:30 pm following the UCI Junior Women's Finish:

Under 15 Junior Boys
Under 15 Junior Girls
Under 13 Junior Boys
Under 13 Junior Girls
Under 11 Junior Boys
Under 11 Junior Girls
UCI 17-18 Junior Women
Under 17 Junior Women
Category 2/3 Women
Category 1-4 Non-Binary

2 pm, just after the UCI Women's Start:

UCI 17-18 Junior Men
Under 17 Junior Men
Category 2/3 Men

UCI Elite and U23 Men and Women immediately following their respective finishes.

Rules

This event is held under UCI and USA Cycling permits and governed by UCI and USAC rules. UCI / USAC scale of penalties apply to the respective races. ~~UCI rules~~ can be downloaded from **www.uci.org**

Licensing

Men Elite, Women Elite, Men Junior, and Women Junior races are designated UCI C2 events. Riders entering the Elite Women and Men's events must have a UCI license.

A domestic USA Cycling license is acceptable for other categories, which are run under USAC rules.

Pit Access

Two pit passes per rider will be issued for UCI categories. Only authorized personnel are allowed access to the equipment pits. Common sense will be the rule for amateur classes. The Pit Official will have full authorization to deny access to any person who interferes or hinders operations in the pit. The pit is not a spectator spot.

Racing Age

Your racing age for the 2026-27 cyclocross season is the actual age you will be on December 31, 2027.

Registration / Number Pick-up

Pre-registration only. Online registration closes on Thursday, October 29th at 8 PM.

There will be Friday night number pick-up
The bar at Northampton Bicycle, the Barb and Olive, will be open!

Northampton Bicycle, 319 Pleasant St, Northampton, MA 01060

All amateur categories will use the same number both days. Numbers are on the right Saturday, and on the left Sunday. Riders who lose their number will be issued new numbers on Sunday, but risk losing their call-up spot. UCI riders will get new numbers each day.

$25 discount for a second race on the same race
Mountain bikes without bar ends are allowed in USAC categories, and no tire width rules will be enforced. UCI equipment rules apply to those categories.

Rules cont.

Call Ups/Start Order

USAC categories will be staged via crossresults.com rankings.

UCI categories will be staged by UCI points and then random draw.

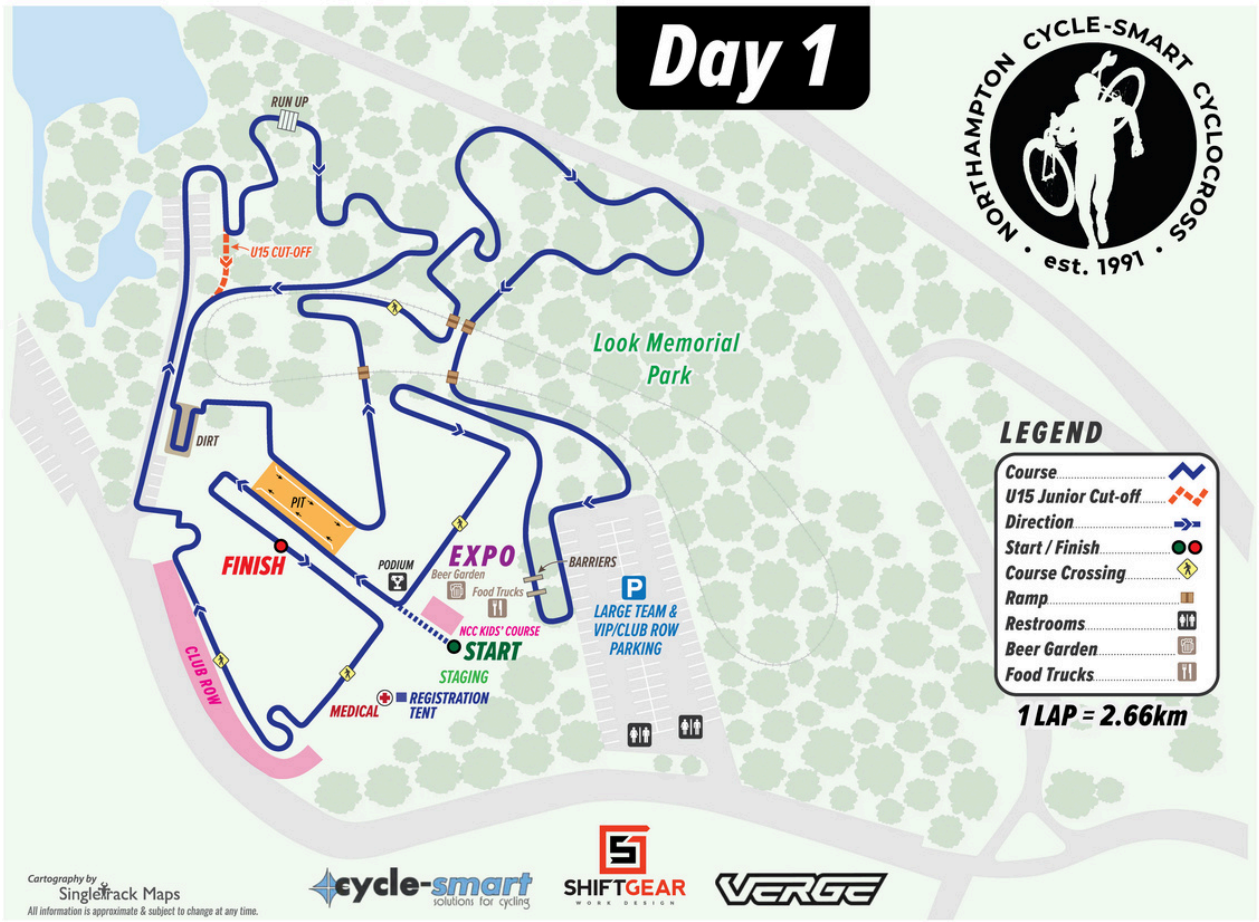
Anti-Doping

Allracesare conducted under USADA and WADA anti-doping regulations. Riders may be tested and selections for doping control will be posted on the Results Board.

Course

Day 1

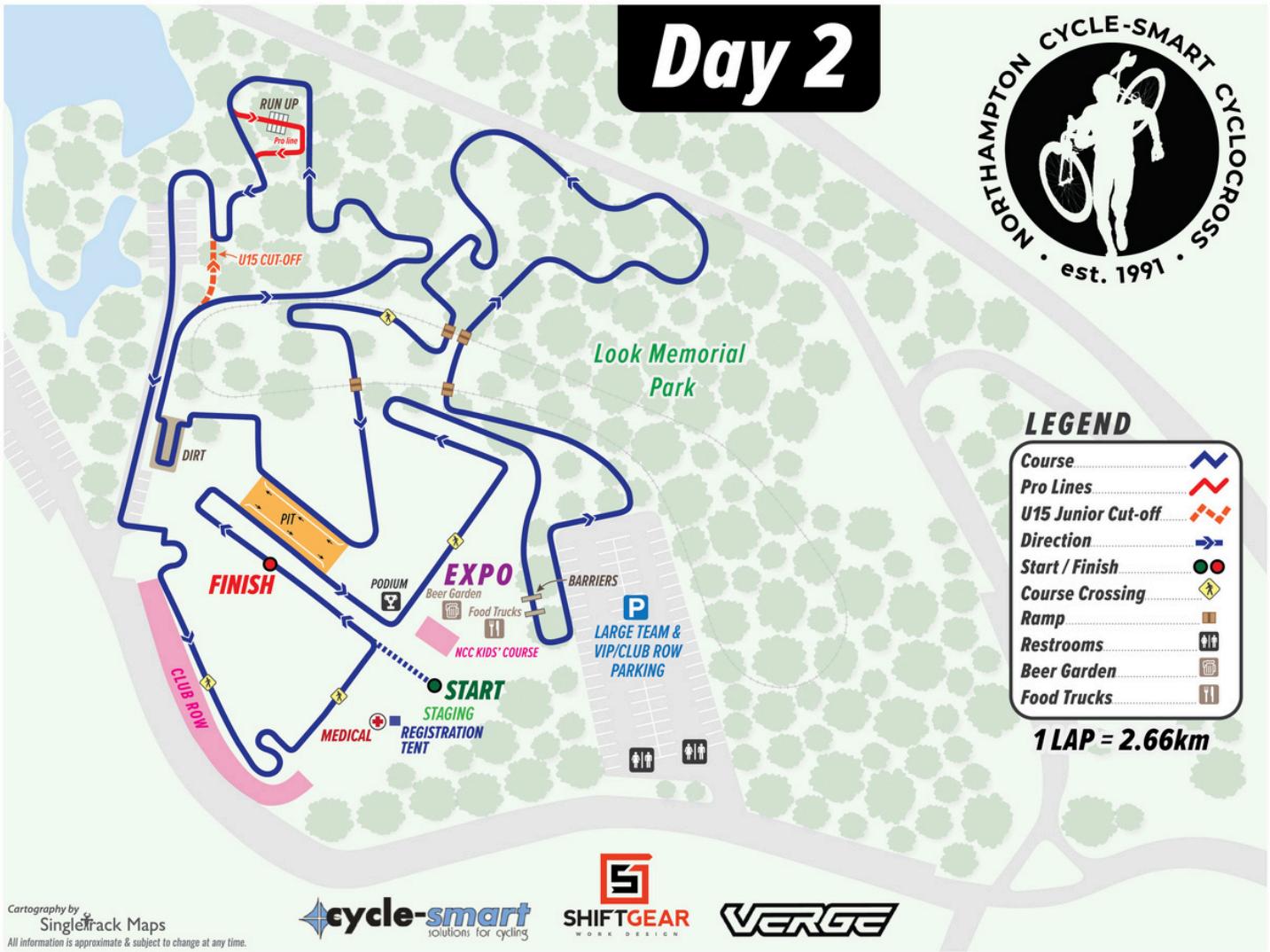
Passing immediately through pit 2 and then the finish line on Day 1, the course loops around a few sections of grass and dirt before hitting a long pavement stretch, leading to a steep loose run up to the top level of the course. On the top level the course skirts the top of the bluff, dips in front of the gazebo then turns diagonally down the slope of the bluff back to the lower level. The course then skirts the railroad tracks and heads into a the sandpit, which may be a run. Exiting the sand, the course heads back towards the tracks then turns right into the main field area and into pit 1. Passing through the pit the course turns left, crosses the railroad tracks, turns left again, and follows the inside of the tracks to a series of turns, setting up for another railroad crossing and a steep hill that may be a ride or run depending on conditions. At the top of the hill riders enter a pine forest section with numerous bumps and roots. Winding through the trees the riders pass over gravel path, hard pack, and pavement, eventually paralleling the park road. Turning away from the park road the course descends a winding gravel path back towards the third and fastest rr crossing. Back on grass, the course crosses the tracks one last time and heads left to the expo area. A sweeping left turn on grass brings the riders along the expo and towards a single set of 30 cm planks, 6 meters apart. Passing the planks the course doubles back on itself with another sweeping 180-degree turn and heads back towards the railroad tracks. Turning to follow the tracks again a series of decreasing radius turns bring the riders to pit 2 again. Passing pit 2, the course heads toward the final, large, sweeping U-turn, and then is 100 meters to the finish. Course distance is approximately 2.6 km.



Course

Day 2

Day2'scourse is essentially Day 1's course in reverse, with an off camber descent replacing Saturday's traditional run up for amateurs, with an additional run up and drop in for the pros.



U15 Juniors skip the first run up and drop in, and connect directly from the paddle boat road to the sandy dirt section.

Misc Event Info

Parking Fee

LookPark parkingfee is $10 for the weekend **Cash or check accepted**.

Directions

Start LineAddress:
300 N Main St, Northampton, MA 01062

Traveling south on I-91:
Take exit 20 to the first stop light and turn right on Bridge Rd. Bridge Rd. ends at Look Park. Take a left on Rt. 9, and an immediate right into the park.

Traveling north on on I-91:
Take exit 19 and continue straight on to Damon Rd., which becomes Bridge Rd. Bridge Rd. ends at Look Park. Take a left on Rt. 9, and an immediate right into the park.

Nearest Hospital

Theclosest hospital toLook Park is Cooley Dickinson Hospital, located in Northampton. First responder and EMT staff will be located on site at the race venue for first aid and other emergency medical services.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital
30 Locust St
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 582-2000

Club Row

Anyclub withriders registered in the race can also purchase a tent area in Club Row, as noted on the Course Map page. Each spot includes premier parking near the start/finish area, including one reserved parking spot, and a 10 x 10 area on grass directly in front of the parking spot. Clubs may purchase multiple spots on our Registration page. The price is $100 for the weekend, andspotsare limited.

VIP Club Row

For teamsthat want a Club Row spot located in the Train Lot, we offer the VIP Club Row spot. Same 10 x 10 plus one vehicle footprint as a traditional Club Row spot, but located along the course in the Train Lot, closer to the barriers, food trucks, and bathrooms, and an easier parking area.

Large Team Parking

Forlarger teamswith atraileror who need more space, large team parking is available, and includes a 20 x 30 footprint, and parking for a truck and trailer, for $250 for the weekend. Large Team Parking utilizes the Train Lot adjacenttothe expo and barrier area.

Results

Resultswill be posted on the registration tent shortly after each race finishes. Once the results are posted there is a 15-minute protest period. If you feel a mistake has been made, bring errors to the attention of the Chief Judge during the protest period. Mistakes in the results are most often due to your race number not being placed in the proper position where it can be seen by the finishing video camera, or another rider next to you obscuring your race number from the camera. The Chief Judge can be found near the finish line area and is the official responsible for determining the race results. The Chief Judge will try to correct any results errors during the protest period.
Results provided by Velocity Results.