

## 2017 Blankets Creek Dirty 15/30 MTB Race Update

Thank you for signing up for the 2017 Blankets Creek Dirty 15 and 30 Mountain Bike Races, presented by Free-Flite Bicycles! We are partnering with SORBA Woodstock for this event, which is the group that built and maintains the trails at Blankets Creek, and a large portion of the race proceeds will be donated back to them for maintenance of these trails. Thank you for helping to support YOUR trails!

### Directions to Blankets Creek Trails (RACE START) from Atlanta:

Take I-75 north to I-575 north. Exit at #11, Sixes Rd, and take a left onto Sixes Rd. Head 1.7 miles to Blankets Creek Trails, which will be on the left, just past the Cherokee Charter Academy School. Those who arrive early may be able to park in the Blankets Creek Parking lot. Once that lot fills, you will be directed to park next door at River Church. You may cut through the grass from the River Church lot to Blankets Creek – you do not need to walk all the way around on the sidewalk.

The address is: 2261 Sixes Rd, Canton, GA 30114

### Limited Parking at Blankets Creek

As there is a trail run going on in the morning at Blankets Creek, there will be limited spaces available in the Blankets Creek Lot as runners leave. You may get lucky and find a spot but you may want to just save yourself the hassle and park over at River Church and ride over – it is not very far and there is a cut-through trail to get you to registration quickly. No vehicles will be allowed into the Blankets Creek lot after 11:45 am as we prep for the bike race starts.

### Race Number/T-shirt Pickup: (2 Options)

#### THURSDAY NIGHT, APRIL 13th- 4 pm to 7 pm at Free Flite Bicycles in Marietta

Store address is: 2949 Canton Road, Suite 1000, Marietta, Georgia 30066 – recommended, especially if like to just show up and head to the start line. You may have someone else check in for you and collect your number/shirt ONLY if you send a signed waiver with them.

**SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 15th – 6:30 am to 11:30 am at Blankets Creek Picnic Shelter (directions and address above)** While there is no good reason to pick up your number at 6:30 am, we WILL be there since we have a trail run going on in the morning and can get you checked in if you are an early riser. You will need to sign a waiver on-site when you arrive, or bring one with you (link in this email). Shirts/swag bags must be picked up during a race check-in, as they will not be mailed. You may have someone else check in for you and collect your number/shirt ONLY if you send a signed waiver with them. You may have another racer pick up your shirt for you if are unable to attend the race.

If you check in Saturday morning, please arrive early to ensure you have enough time to check in and get ready to race. There will be a short racer meeting at 11:40 am near the start line.

The 30 mile race will start in waves at 12 noon and the 15 mile race will start in waves at 12:10 pm. If there is enough interest, we can do a short little kids bike race on Mosquito Flats Creek Side at 12:15 pm.

### Race Distance Changes

If you want to switch from the 30 mile to the 15 mile or vice versa, please do so by contacting me no later than WEDNESDAY APRIL 12th, and we will get you taken care of.

### Courses:

Signs will be up for course pre-ride by noon on Thursday. If you wish to pre-ride in race direction, you need to do so on Tues/Thurs as the trails are directional. You will not be able to ride the course Saturday morning as there is a trail run happening on the same trails before the bike race starts.

Both the 15 mile and 30 mile courses will start near the bathrooms and you will do a parade lap on bikes around the parking lot before heading down the hill, past the kiosk and then right onto the Mosquito Flats Trail onto VMT.

The trail surface is mostly packed dirt singletrack, with occasional rocks and roots thrown in. The trail rolls along the shores of Lake Allatoona and while the grades are not too severe, the only flat sections are the first and last half mile.

**Aid Stations/Drop Bag:**

There is one central aid station for this event that you will have access to multiple times. This aid station is at the Dwelling "T" (At the Directional Sign for Dwelling Trail). You will be able to access it before entering Dwelling, after exiting Dwelling and after exiting South Loop on each lap. This aid station will have water, Sports Drink, and Clif Shot. You may also send a 1 gallon ziploc drop bag or extra camelbak/bottles to this location. **Any items you want to have transported there need to be dropped off NO LATER THAN 11:30 am at registration.**

**Finish Line:** There will be water, Gatorade, soda, PB&J sandwiches, cookies, bananas, chips, granola bars, fig bars, Peanut M&Ms, Skittles, etc. available at the finish line.

**Chip Timing and Real Time Results:**

This race will be scored using the MyLaps Bibtag system. Your race number has a disposable timing chip adhered to the back of it. Please do not bend or fold this chip. Numbers need to be zip tied to your handlebars. You will hear a beep as you cross the finish mats if your chip reads properly. Your race time and category placing will be visible almost immediately upon finishing on tablets that will be located near the finish line. Please check your finish time/category for accuracy when you finish and report any discrepancies BEFORE you leave, as results will become official (meaning won't be changed) 15 minutes after the last person finishes.

**Awards:**

We will present prizes and medals to the top three in each age group in each race. First place finishers will also receive a custom podium T-shirt. Awards for the 15 mile race will be at approximately 1:45 pm. **Awards for the 30 mile race will be at approximately 3:15 pm or when most podium finishers have completed the course.** You must be present to receive your award, as they will not be mailed. If you are in a small category and are still on the course when we have the awards ceremony, you will receive your award as you finish the race.

Thanks again for signing up for our event and we are looking forward to seeing you all on April 15<sup>th</sup>!

If you have any questions not answered here, please contact me before April 13th. I will be out on the trail most of the day on April 14th and may not be able to get you an answer in a timely manner.