



MOTOCROSS RULEBOOK

FEBRUARY 2020

GOZO MOTOCROSS

A S S O C I A T I O N

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MOTOCROSS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Each rider that take part in any competition organised by the 'Gozo Motocross Association' (GMA) is required and obliged to follow these rules:

SECTION A: DEFINITIONS

Rider	A person taking part in any of the racing events organised by the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.
Dirt Bike	a motorcycle designed for use on rough terrain, such as unsurfaced roads or tracks, and used especially in scrambling.
Event	a planned occasion or competition organised by the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.
Disclaimer	a statement that denies something, especially responsibility.
Waiver	a document recording the waiving of a right or claim.
Rotation	the passing of a privilege or responsibility to each member of the association in a regularly recurring order.
Track	a track for motor racing.
Marshal	an official responsible for supervising sports events, and for controlling crowds during events.

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Race Official	the person in charge of the race.
Normal Route	the typical route of the race track.
Consent	permission for something to happen or agreement to do something.
Warm Up	an exercise race carried out before the first heat of a race category
Starting Line	the starting position from which a race start
Doctor or Head Nurse	the person responsible of the medical team present on race day
Doping Test	a test carried out to check for any use of legal or illegal substances in order to inhibit or enhance sporting performance.
Breathalyser test	a test for estimating blood alcohol content (BAC) from a breath sample.
Full face	a helmet offering the most coverage around the head and neck and is considered the safest type of helmet for motocross racing
Chin protector	a strap with a soft piece that covers the chin area of the face, capable of being attached to a motocross helmet
False Start	an invalid start to a race, usually due to a competitor beginning before the official signal has been given.

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SECTION B: RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR MOTOCROSS RIDERS

1. Each rider must be a member of the 'Gozo Motocross Association' by payment the annual fee, as stipulated by the association committee.
2. Each rider must register his dirt bike before each competition, pay the fee as stipulated by the association's committee and if a rider fails to do so, the rider will not be allowed to compete in the event.
3. Every rider must be 18 years of age or older in order to ride a dirt bike and make use of the track. Any person under the age of 18 is required to fill a **parental/guardian consent form**, signed by the parents/guardian of that same rider.
4. In the case where a rider taking part in an event is under the age of 18 and has submitted a signed parental/guardian consent form with the general secretary of the association's committee, at least one of the parents/guardians who signed the consent form must be present during the event.
5. Each competitor is required to sign a disclaimer/waiver whereby the rider declares that he/she will assume all of the risks of participating in any/all activities associated with an event organised by the 'Gozo Motocross Association'. The disclaimer exonerates the 'Gozo Motocross Association' and all of its officials, sponsors, marshals and helpers from any liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault, death, disability, personal injuries, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to the rider including travelling to and from the activity.
6. Every rider must obey the instructions of the race track official and marshals, during a competition as well as during any training/warm up sessions.
7. Every rider is obliged to provide their help and assistance in the setting up of the track and any maintenance required. This shall be achieved by means of rotation.
8. Each dirt bike must be present for each competition according to and complying with the rules of the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.



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9. No rider is allowed to cross any part of the track in order to shorten the route or pass from any area/path other than that indicated by the marshal and/or race official. If a rider loses control of his dirt bike and ends up outside the track, the rider is required to enter the track from the same part where he/she exited the track or from the nearest point without shortening the route or taking some sort of advantage over the other competing riders.
10. In the event where a dirt bike sustains any failure/damage during a race, it is not permissible that the rider changes his/her dirt bike in order to continue participating in the event.
11. It is not permissible for a rider to exit the track and re-enter the track while a race is taking place.
12. No rider and no member of the public is allowed to enter the track for no reason whatsoever, at any time during an event, without the official consent of the official in charge.
13. Riders are not allowed to race in the opposite direction other than the normal route of the track. If a rider enters the track while a race is taking place, and the rider does not have the consent of the official in charge, the rider will be disqualified immediately.
14. If a rider shows unacceptable behaviour and/or does not show any respect to any decision taken by the official or marshal and/or the behaviour of the rider is deemed dangerous to other riders and/or the general public, the rider will be disqualified immediately.
15. Every rider is expected to 'warm up' before the first heat of each category. Any rider who fails to 'warm up' before the first heat of each category, will not be allowed to warm up during any other heat of the same category.
16. If a rider is not present on the gate and reading on the starting line after two (2) minutes from when the signal that the race is about to start is given, the rider will be eliminated from that race only.
17. If a rider is injured during any time of the event, he/she must obey the orders given by the doctor or head nurse in charge on the day.



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18. The committee has the right to add, omit or change any rule as deemed necessary. Any rules which are agreed upon are obligatory as those written.
19. The committee reserves the right to reduce the number of races or laps, as required during the day.
20. The committee reserves the right to refuse the participation of any rider from any activity or event if the committee deems that the safety of the rider is questionable and/or the dirt bike is not compliant to the rules stipulated by the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.
21. If a rider is confirmed that he/she is under the influence of a legal or illegal substance (alcohol, drugs, medicine, etc), he/she will not be allowed to participate at any time of the event. The rider can be penalised by the executive committee.
22. Each rider may be subject to a doping test or breathalyser test, with the approval of the executive committee.
23. The physical condition of each rider must be good and this needs to be confirmed by the medical team or any of the association officials.
24. Any protest is allowed by any competitor taking part in the event of that day, not later than thirty (30) minutes after the event has finished. Each protest requires a deposit of Fifty Euros (€50.00) of which is lost in the case where the rider who put forward the protest is not right and his/her reasons are unjustifiable.



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SECTION A1: PROTECTIVE GEAR

All riders are required to wear protective gear, during training and during participation in any event/competition organised by the 'Gozo Motocross Association', as follows:

- a. Helmet – The safety helmet (MX type) shall be of the highest quality, adequately worn, of the full face type and includes a chin protector. The helmet must include markings showing that the helmet conforms to standards of FIM – ECE 22 – 05 (P, NP or J), **JIS T 8133:20, JIS T 8133:2015, SNELL M2010, SNELL M2015**
- b. Boots suitable for Motocross racing
- c. Jersey with long sleeves
- d. Long pants with paddings
- e. Chest protector
- f. Back protector
- g. Neck protector
- h. Elbow and Knees protectors
- i. Goggles suitable for Motocross racing

Any rider without any of the above protective gear will not be allowed to make use of the track, whether for training, competition or his/her own personal entertainment.

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SECTION B: RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR USE OF THE TRACK

1. Each rider is obliged to provide his/her assistance in any work required for the maintenance and running of the track. From time to time, riders shall be requested to clean up the track from any rocks or debris present within the track. This shall be achieved by means of rotation.
2. The track shall be ploughed in the late afternoon of the day before the competition or early morning on the day of the competition.
3. The track shall be wetted on the day of the competition.
4. Every time a rider does not obey any of the order given by the race official or marshal, five (5) points will be deducted from the total of the heats of the day. This could change the rider's classification.
5. If a rider's dirt bike experience failure during the last lap (i.e. having passed the white flag with diagonal black cross), he/she is allowed to push his/her dirt bike to cross the finish line in order to retain his/her points of the heat. It is important, that the rider is required to do so in a calm manner, on the side of the track and not block the race path and/or posing any dangerous risk to other competing riders or the general public.
6. On the starting line, each rider is required to keep his/her motor in line with the other competing rider and not try to take any advantage by staying behind or in front of other riders. The race official of the day has the right to not start the race before all riders are all in-line.

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7. When all riders confirm with the race official that they are ready to race, the 15 second board is shown, after which the 5 second board is shown. When the time passes, the gate is lowered and the race starts and will not be halted if any of the competing riders dirt bike switches off. The race shall only be halted in the event of a false start.
8. During a false start, the race is halted in the first lap.
9. Each marshal point is required to have two (2) persons – one to hold the flags and the other to help the rider in any difficulty encountered during a race. The marshals are required to wear high visibility vests in order to be easily recognisable.
10. The marshal is allowed to enter the track ONLY when a rider requires any medical assistance or required help in getting up if the rider ends up underneath his/her motor.
11. In the event where the race official terminates the race for one reason or another, the race may be repeated if more than half the number of laps have been passed. A 15 minute resting period will be allowed before the race is repeated.
12. If a race is halted after half the number of laps had passed, the race will not be repeated and rider will be awarded points according to their last completed lap.
13. In the event of a dirt bike suffers mechanical damage during a race and is non-operational, the rider is not allowed to change the dirt bike in order to continue the race. It is also not allowed for any rider to exit and re-enter the race track during a race.
14. During a race, no rider will be allowed for refuelling, changing of spark plugs or any maintenance work to be done on his/her dirt bike.
15. Every rider has the obligation to stop any member of the general public from entering the track to provide assistance without official permission. If any member of the general public



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enters the track to provide assistance to a rider without the permission of the race official, five (5) points will be deducted to the rider.

16. If an accident happens during a race, and the race has to be terminated in order for the medical team to enter, the same race will not be repeated if more than half the laps + 1 lap have been surpassed. The race stops whenever a rider is not capable of standing up from the ground or whenever deemed necessary by the race official or association president.

Eg:

Class D and Class C have 7 laps. Race will not be repeated if more than 4 laps (3+1 laps) have been passed.

Class B have 8 laps. Race will not be repeated if more than 5 laps (4+1 lap) have beend passed.

Class A have 10 laps. Race will not be repeated if more than 6 laps (5+1 lap) have beend passed.

Points will be awarded to the remaining riders based on the position they pass the finish line in the last lap.

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SECTION C: RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF DIRT BIKES.

In order for a dirt bike to be eligible for use in the track, each rider must ensure that:

- a. Brakes are fully functioning independently on the front and rear wheels respectively and in good conditions,
- b. Mudguards are installed over each wheel,
- c. No glass is present or installed on any part of the dirt bike,
- d. The accelerator/throttle returns to closed properly on its own without sticking,
- e. Numbers installed on the dirt bike; one on the front and one on each side of the bike,
- f. Tyres are of the 'off-road' type and not road type. Tyres are preferably to be with tube and of the grooves or blocks design and have not less than 3mm of rubber and the lowest part of the tyre,
- g. Tyre rims are in perfect condition without any missing or broken spokes,
- h. Seat is in good condition and fixed tightly with the bike's frame,
- i. Levers on the handle bar are of the highest quality and of the ball-end type.

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SECTION D: RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR HEAT POINTS

Points for each heat shall be as follows:

PLACE	POINTS	PLACE	POINTS
1st	20	6th	9
2nd	17	7th	7
3rd	15	8th	5
4th	13	9th	3
5th	11	10th	1

1. Each event organised in the track will comprise of a number of races divided into different classes – Class A, B, C, etc. Each class will have three (3) heats.
2. The points from each heat will be awarded depending on the placing achieved by the rider after passing the chequered flag (finish flag). If a rider does not pass this flag, the rider loses the points of that heat.
3. Trophies (or prizes) are awarded only for the first, second and third places.
4. The point's scheme of the heats shall also apply to the championship. If during a race, a rider which is not competing in the championship is also racing, he/she will be awarded the points allocated for his/her placement on the day. With regards to the championship points, the same rider, however, will be considered as not having participated and as

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such the championship points are only awarded to those rider who are competing in the championship and has paid the championship fee.

HEAT FINAL PLACINGS

- 1st Place – RIDER A (Championship Rider)
- 2nd Place – RIDER B (Championship Rider)
- 3rd Place – RIDER C (Not Championship Rider)
- 4th Place – RIDER D (Championship Rider)

HEAT POINTS

- Rider A – 20 points
- Rider B – 17 points
- Rider C – 15 points

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

- Rider A – 20 points
- Rider B – 17 points
- Rider D – 15 points

*Rider C is not considered since he/she
does not compete in the championship.*

5. In the case where two riders gained the same number of points at the end of the event, the rider who has gained the larger amount of points during the first heat of the day is declared the winner from the two.



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SECTION E: RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FLAGS

TYPE / COLOUR	MEANING
National Flag (Half White/Half Red)	START Starting flag at the gate
Red	DANGER IN TRACK Everyone must stop and switch off their dirt bike. Or FALSE START Race to be restarted and riders must return to their starting position at the gate
Green	TRACK IN GOOD CONDITION Race track in good condition without and dangers
Blue - Fixed	LET RIDER BEHIND YOU PASS Allow the rider behind you to pass since he/she has lapped you or passing with a higher velocity than you

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Blue – Flown	DO NOT BLOCK Do not block or stop blocking any rider from passing you
Yellow – Fixed	DANGER IN TRACK Ride carefully, with great attention and low velocity
Yellow - Flown	DIFFICULTY AND DANGER IN TRACK. Reduce velocity and you are not allowed to pass the rider in front of you. Anyone who passes another rider during a yellow flying flag will have five (5) points deducted.
Black with White Circle in the centre	WARNING If you are shown this flag, this means that you have not shown sportsmanship and was riding dangerously. Five (5) points will be deducted.
Black	DISQUALIFIED You are disqualified for the rest of the day. The rider will be asked to collect his items and bike and leave the track.



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White with a Diagonal Black Cross	LAST LAP You are in the last lap of the race.
Checked Flag (Black and White)	FINISH End of race or warm-up/training session

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SECTION F – OTHER RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. The organisers and the 'Gozo Motocross Association' are not responsible for any incident or accident that could happen in the track, during the training/warm-up session or during any of the competitions
2. Each member rider is required to attend to all meeting held by the 'Gozo Motocross Association' and has every right to express his/her opinions and put forward any new ideas.
3. Each rider is required to provide his/her assistance in the running and maintenance of the track.
4. The association's committee reserves the right to add, omit, change or revise any rule and regulation as it deems necessary. Any rules which are agreed upon are obligatory as those written.
5. The committee reserves the right to reduce the number of races or laps, as required during the day.
6. The committee reserves the right to refuse the participation of any rider from any activity or event if the committee deems that the safety of the rider is questionable and/or the dirt bike is not compliant to the rules stipulated by the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.
7. The dates of the motocross championship are approved by the Executive Committee of the 'Gozo Motocross Association'. The championship shall be of not less than seven (7) event, unless there is any valid reason that the number of events is deducted.
8. The final decision rests upon the committee of the 'Gozo Motocross Association'.

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