

RAM MX

CHALLENGE

RACE-DAY SURVIVAL GUIDE



New to racing? You're in the right place!

Race weekends can feel confusing when you've never done one before. This guide walks you through the weekend so you can spend less time worrying about what you're supposed to be doing and more time **having fun racing your dirt bike.**

WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	FIRST GATE
Arrival 9 AM-10 PM	Staged practice + fun	Practice 7 AM Rider meeting 8 AM	8:20 AM SHARP

PREPARE • HYDRATE • PAY ATTENTION • HAVE FUN

BEFORE RACE WEEKEND

1 REGISTER ONLINE EARLY

Register online as early as you can.

Registering early helps you:

- Claim the rider number you want before someone else takes it.
- Know what number you've been assigned before race weekend.
- Get the correct numbers installed on your bike ahead of time.
- Have your transponder ready for pickup.
- Avoid long registration lines during race weekend.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Online registration closes at 12:00 PM Friday before the race. In-person registration opens Saturday at 2:00 PM and Sunday at 5:00 AM.

In-person registration may take longer while we enter you into the system and issue your transponder.

2 MAKE SURE WE CAN READ YOUR NUMBER

Your rider number must be easy to read on the front number plate and both side number plates.

Use high-contrast numbers: black on white/yellow or white on blue/black.

Your transponder is our primary scoring method; visible numbers are the backup if it misses.

IMPORTANT

If your number can't be clearly identified and your transponder fails, you may not be scored correctly.

3 PICK THE RIGHT CLASS

Choose the class that best fits your bike size, age, gender (when applicable), and skill level.

Age-based classes use your age on race day.

Men Beginner and Women Beginner are for riders who are NOT comfortable with RAM's larger or gap jumps, regardless of how many rides or races they've done. Jumping is capped for safety.

BEGINNER BELONGS HERE

If you're uncomfortable jumping the larger jumps, Beginner is where we want you.

Novice is for riders who are comfortable on the motocross track and with all of RAM's jumps, but are newer to racing or racing at the Novice level.

Women, Intermediate, and Expert riders should be comfortable with all of the jumps at RAM.

RAM may move riders up a classification based on previous RAM MX Challenge results, lap times, and the race rules.

KNOW YOUR CLASS, WAVE, AND ARRIVAL PLAN

4 KNOW YOUR WAVE

Classes with more than 35 entries may be split into smaller groups called waves.

EXAMPLE

Open Novice - Wave 1 | Open Novice - Wave 2

Waves may be assigned randomly, by registration order, or by another method selected by race organization. You'll stay in the same wave for both motos.

DO NOT MISS THIS

MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHICH WAVE YOU ARE IN.

Wave assignments should be available at the rider's meeting. Check the race order and make sure you know YOUR wave.

5 ARRIVE EARLY

Arrive early. If you can camp at RAM Saturday night, we highly recommend it.

DAY	RACE-WEEKEND ARRIVAL HOURS
Friday	9:00 AM-10:00 PM
Saturday	6:00 AM-10:00 PM
Sunday	5:00 AM-7:00 AM

CAMPING IS RECOMMENDED

If you're able to camp at RAM Saturday night, we highly recommend it.

SATURDAY - STAGED PRACTICE

6 SATURDAY STAGED PRACTICE

Saturday is staged practice: you'll ride only with your assigned practice group during its scheduled sessions.

Practice Stickers

When you register for Saturday practice, you'll get a sticker showing your practice group. Put it on the upper-right corner of your number plate - you need the correct sticker to enter practice.

Register for practice and pick up your sticker:

- **Friday at the ticket booth when you first arrive, or**
- **Saturday at the scoring connex by the track finish.**



Saturday practice groups

1. Expert/Intermediate
2. Novice Even #s
3. Novice Odd #s
4. 30+/40+/Women
5. Men Beginner
6. Women Beginner/Mini Beginner
7. Mini 2 (85cc)/Supermini
8. Mini 1 (65cc)

THREE SESSIONS

Each Saturday practice group receives three practice sessions.

HYDRATION

Dehydration is common during motocross events. Water alone may not be enough. Bring electrolytes too.

After practice, enjoy the Best Whip competition, pit bike races, and any other activities offered at the event.

7 GET YOUR TRANSPONDER

Every scored racer needs a transponder.

If you preregister, you can pick it up at RAM once you're emailed that it's ready.

RAM GENERAL HOURS

7 days a week, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

During race weekend, pick up transponders at the scoring/registration connex near the track.

If you register in person, there may be a delay while we enter you into the system.

Transponder Placement

Preferred: horizontally/crossways on the underside of your helmet visor. Longways has also been working successfully.

BEFORE YOU RIDE

Make sure the transponder is secure before going onto the track.

SUNDAY MORNING

8 SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday morning moves FAST. Have your bike, number plates, transponder, and gear ready before practice.

Sunday Practice

START TIME

Practice begins at 7:00 AM SHARP.

Follow the posted practice order and go out only with the group that fits your classification.

Sunday morning practice groups

1. Expert/Intermediate/30+
2. Novice even #s
3. Novice odd #s
4. 40+/50+/60+/Women
5. Men Beginner
6. Mini 2 (85cc)/Supermini
7. Mini 1 (65cc)/Women Beginner/Mini Beginner

Sunday practice is a very short warm-up. Expect the track to be soft and wet first thing; ride accordingly.



9 RIDER'S MEETING - REQUIRED

SUNDAY RIDER MEETING

8:00 AM - attendance is required.

The rider's meeting covers race rules, schedule/class changes, wave assignments, and last-minute safety information. Even if you've raced before, go to the rider's meeting. Things can change.

10 FIRST GATE 8:20 AM + STAY ON SCHEDULE

Keep the race order handy on your phone or on paper.

Tune an FM radio to the announcement station. The announcer will call what's racing, what's on the gate, and what should be in staging.

SUNDAY RACE ORDER

1. Open Expert / Open Intermediate	8. Women Beginner / Mini Beginner
2. Open Novice	9. 250 Expert / 250 Intermediate
3. 50+ / Moto Amigos 60+	10. Supermini
4. Mini 1	11. 250 Novice
5. Men Beginner	12. Junior Mini 1
6. Mini 2	13. Junior Mini 2
7. 30+ / 40+ / Women	
FINAL ORDER + WAVES: Confirmed at the 8:00 AM rider's meeting. Junior Mini 1 & 2 race during halftime.	

STAGING + THE STARTING GATE

11 STAGING + GATE PICK

Staging is the area behind the starting gate where riders are organized before their race.

TIMING RULE

You need to be **ON THE GATE** one race before yours is scheduled, and **IN STAGING** two races before yours is scheduled.

Moto 1 gate pick may be random or based on registration order. Know your gate pick before you enter staging.

Staff in red shirts will have the gate-pick order.

Line up under your assigned gate-pick number. When you're called forward, choose any remaining gate.

EXAMPLE

If you have Gate Pick #8, find the #8 staging position.

12 UNDERSTANDING THE STARTING BOARD

Watch the countdown board once everyone is lined up.

2 Approximately two minutes before the gate drop. Get yourself ready.	30 Less than approximately 30 seconds remain. You should be completely ready.	SIDEWAYS The gate can drop at any moment. Eyes forward. Bike ready.
---	---	---

**AND WHEN THAT GATE DROPS...
GO!**



13 KNOW YOUR FLAGS

GREEN	Race On The race is underway. Race normally.
YELLOW	Caution Use caution. Keep both tires on the ground. DO NOT PASS. Once safely past the hazard/flagged area, you may return to normal race pace.
MEDICAL	White + Red Cross Dramatically slow down. DO NOT PASS. Keep both tires on the ground. Be prepared for riders, staff, or medical personnel in or near the racing line. Once safely beyond the medical area, you may return to normal race pace.
RED	Race Stopped The race has been stopped and will need to restart. Stop racing and return to the starting area as directed. Follow staff instructions.
BLACK	You Must Exit Your race is over. Safely exit the track immediately and report to the referee or scoring connex as directed. A black flag may be issued for rule violations, misconduct, safety concerns, or another issue requiring removal from the track.
WHITE	One Lap Remaining The white flag is displayed at the finish line. You have one lap remaining.
CHECKERED	Race Finished The black-and-white checkered flag means your race is complete. Follow the designated route and exit the track immediately.

AFTER THE CHECKERED FLAG

14 AFTER MOTO 1

Results are posted near the scoring connex. CHECK THEM after every moto.

CHECK YOUR RESULTS

Technology is helpful, but scoring errors can happen. If something doesn't look correct, tell us.

The posted time will be written on the result sheet.

30-MINUTE PROTEST WINDOW

You have 30 minutes from the posted time to ask scoring to re-check a result. Report problems as soon as you see them.

A protest simply asks scoring staff to re-check the result.

If PROTEST is written on the sheet, the results are still tentative.

Moto 2 gate pick is your Moto 1 finishing order. Check it before returning to staging.

BEFORE STAGING

Check your Moto 2 gate pick before returning to staging.

15 HALFTIME

After all first motos are complete, the main track goes into halftime for touch-up.

Junior Mini 1 and Junior Mini 2 race both motos on RAM's Kids' Moto Playground during halftime.

After halftime, the race order repeats for Moto 2.

16 OVERALL RESULTS + TROPHIES

Overall placement is based on your combined Moto 1 + Moto 2 finishes.

Lowest combined score wins.

EXAMPLE

Moto 1: 2nd + Moto 2: 3rd = Combined score: 5

If there's a tie, the better Moto 2 finish breaks it.

Top 3 overall finishers in each applicable class/wave receive trophies.

Trophies are available after the final results have cleared the 30-minute protest window.

If results are protested, trophies may be delayed until scoring is finalized.

FINAL REMINDERS

Food trucks will be onsite - we encourage racers and spectators to support them!

17 WATER + ELECTROLYTES

HYDRATION MATTERS

Dehydration is common during race weekends.

BRING BOTH

WATER + ELECTROLYTES throughout Saturday and Sunday.

THANK YOUR FLAGGERS

They help make the race safer for everyone.

MOST IMPORTANTLY:

THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE FUN

Yes, this is racing. There are results and trophies - but placement isn't the whole point.

If this is your first race, showing up, lining up behind the gate, and racing is already pretty freaking cool.

Ride safely. Help the people around you. Laugh when things don't go perfectly. Enjoy the experience.

We'll do our best to give you a great race.

YOU JUST FOCUS ON HAVING FUN.

SEE YOU AT THE GATE!

