



## **NorCal League Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Policy-Effective March 2016**

In an effort to maintain the safety of athletes and spectators, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), also known as drones, may only be flown at NorCal races with the written permission of the League Director. With permission, drones may be flown at a NorCal event as long as the operator follows the Federal Aviation Administration Regulations as well as additional regulations specified by NorCal.

The NorCal League will limit the number of approved drone operators flying at each event. The number of operators and approval process will be determined on a case-by-case basis. These steps are necessary so as to maintain a managed airspace over the venue and to avoid collisions with other drones and the people below.

Questions? Contact Vanessa Hauswald at [Vanessa@norcalmtb.org](mailto:Vanessa@norcalmtb.org)

## ***Drone Regulations***

A drone operator must follow the FAA regulations. More information is available online:

<http://www.faa.gov/uas/>  
<http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>

A summary of the FAA regulations:

- May not operate over any persons not directly participating in the operation, not under a covered structure, and not inside a covered stationary vehicle.
- Maximum altitude of 400 feet above ground level (AGL).
- Must weigh less than 55 lbs (25 kg).
- Visual line-of-site (VLOS) only. The operator must be capable of seeing the UAS with vision unaided by any device other than corrective lenses.
- Operate only during daylight hours.
- No careless or reckless operations.
- No carriage of hazardous materials.
- Must yield right of way to other aircraft.

A drone operator at a NorCal event must also follow these additional regulations:

1. Have a written [email] approval from the NorCal League Director: Vanessa Hauswald
2. Be registered with the FAA <http://www.faa.gov/uas/registration>
3. Have their registration number displayed prominently on their drone.
4. Email Vanessa Hauswald **by Thursday prior to the race** you intend to fly with information about your flight plan, which includes the following:
  - Where you intend to fly (e.g. near the start of the course).
  - What time you intend to fly (e.g. from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.).
  - Provide your name, mobile phone number and FAA UAS Certification Number.
5. Receive email approval of flight plan from Vanessa Hauswald.
6. Drones may absolutely not fly near the finish line/timing tent.
7. Drones must maintain a safe distance from riders at all times.
8. League Director reserves the right to revoke drone flying rights at anytime, should she deem it necessary.

**ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS, VIOLATORS WILL BE EXPELLED FROM LEAGUE RACE IMMEDIATELY.**

## **Aerial Imaging and Videography**

Please note that NorCal's television and video rights also apply to aerial imaging and videography.

