

CARPATH ROGAINING TROPHY
3rd Edition | 29–30 August 2026
Dănești, Harghita, Romania
BULLETIN No. 3

Dear participants,

We are approaching the start of the 3rd edition of the Carpath Rogaining Trophy, and this document contains the final information required to participate in the competition.

We recommend that all team members read this bulletin in full before travelling to Dănești. This document supplements and updates the information published in Bulletins No. 1 and No. 2, and any last-minute changes will be communicated to participants before the start.

1. COMPETITION CENTRE

The Competition Centre is located at Băile Dugaș, Dănești, Harghita County, at coordinates 46.512353, 25.739589.

The Competition Centre will include the Secretariat, validation area, start and finish, as well as facilities for participants.

The location can be found on Google Maps using the coordinates 46.512353, 25.739589.

2. ACCESS, PARKING AND CAMPING

Participants are asked to use only the parking and camping areas indicated by the organisers and to follow the instructions of the staff on site.

Accommodation is available at hotels and guesthouses in Miercurea Ciuc, Dănești and the surrounding localities. For participants who prefer camping, the camping area is located in the immediate vicinity of the Competition Centre.

The sketch below shows the main areas of the Competition Centre:



Camping – red | Parking – yellow | WC – blue | Competition Centre – dark blue

The parking and camping areas will be signposted on site by the organisers.

3. COMPETITION PROGRAMME

Friday, 28 August 2026

TIME	PROGRAMME
12:00	Opening of the camping and parking area
16:00	Opening of the validation desk
20:00	Closing of the validation desk
20:00	Official opening of the competition and technical briefing – Competition Centre

Saturday, 29 August 2026

TIME	PROGRAMME
08:00	Opening of the Secretariat
10:00	Distribution of maps and final information
11:40	Teams enter the start area
12:00	MASS START – 24-hour and 6-hour races
18:00	FINISH – 6-hour race / Opening of the Hash House

19:00	Prize-giving ceremony and meal for participants in the 6-hour race
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Sunday, 30 August 2026

TIME	PROGRAMME
09:00	Closing of the Hash House
12:00	FINISH – 24-hour race
12:45	Closing of the complaints period
14:00	Prize-giving ceremony – 24-hour race

4. TEAM VALIDATION

During validation, the team composition, SI-cards and competition materials will be checked. Participants will receive race numbers, wristbands and the other materials included in the competition package.

Any change to the team composition must be communicated to the organisers before the start and must comply with the rules of the category in which the team is registered.

Final deadline for changes to team composition: Friday, 28 August, 21:00.

5. MAP AND COMPETITION INFORMATION

The competition map was produced in 2026 using OCAD, at a scale of 1:35,000, with 10-metre contours. It will be in A3 format and printed double-sided on Pretex paper, which is resistant to moisture and tearing. Teams will also receive a working map printed on standard paper.

Checkpoint descriptions will be available in English.

The map and final competition information will be distributed at 10:00, two hours before the start.

Any prohibited area, impassable property or other relevant restriction will be marked in red on the map, in accordance with orienteering map conventions.

6. COMPETITION TERRAIN

The competition area covers approximately 110 km² and includes the localities of Mădăraş, Dăneşti, Cârţa, Ineu, Tomeşti and Sân Dominic in the Upper Ciuc region.

The terrain is varied, including agricultural fields, orchards, pastures, hay meadows, patches of forest and dense vegetation, especially near watercourses. The upper Olt River crosses the area, and the elevation difference is approximately 350 metres, between about 700 and 1,050 metres above sea level.

The road network includes paved and gravel roads, cart tracks and trails of various sizes. Only the main roads and trails will be shown on the map.

Please respect private property and all restrictions marked on the map.

7. CHECKPOINTS AND SCORING

There will be checkpoints along the competition course, with a total value of 408 points.

The value of each checkpoint is indicated by the first digit of its code. For example, checkpoint 54 is worth 5 points, while checkpoint 87 is worth 8 points.

Teams determine their own strategy and route. There is no mandatory route, and the objective is to obtain the highest possible score within the allocated time.

8. SPORTIDENT AND CHECKPOINT VALIDATION

Timing and checkpoint recording are carried out using the SPORTident system, with the stations configured in non-Air mode.

Participants may use their own SI-card, provided that it can record the required number of checkpoints. Otherwise, SI-cards can be rented from the organisers for €4.

When entering the start area, each competitor must check their own SI-card using the CLEAR and CHECK stations.

For a checkpoint to be validated, it must be recorded by every team member within a maximum interval of one minute. The team must remain together throughout the course.

If a SPORTident station does not work, competitors must use the mechanical backup system located at the checkpoint. The procedure and method for validating the backup will be explained at the technical briefing before the start.

9. WATER STATIONS

There will be drinking water stations along the course, and their locations will be marked on the competition map.

Each team must start with a sufficient amount of water and plan its resupply according to the chosen route.

10. HASH HOUSE

For participants in the 24-hour race, the Hash House will be open from 18:00 on 29 August until 09:00 on 30 August.

The Hash House is intended for refuelling, changing equipment and resting. The services provided there are included in the entry fee.

Location: indicated on the competition map.

The Hash House will be marked on the map with the HH symbol.

Returning to the Hash House is optional and must be included in each team's strategy.

11. START

All teams must enter the start area by 11:40 and must be present with their full team.

Wristbands and SI-cards will be checked upon entering the start area. Each competitor must ensure that their SI-card has been correctly activated using the CLEAR and CHECK stations.

The maps and competition information will already be available so that teams can prepare their strategy before the start.

Mass Start: Saturday, 29 August 2026, at 12:00.

12. FINISH AND PENALTIES

The official Finish time for the 24-hour race is 12:00 on Sunday, 30 August 2026.

A SPORTident station is located at the Finish and must be activated by every team member. After recording the Finish, the team proceeds to the validation desk for SI-card reading and result verification.

Every minute or fraction of a minute late after the official finish time incurs a penalty of 1 point.

A delay of more than 30 minutes is recorded as LATE, and the team will not be included in the final ranking.

For the 6-hour race, the official Finish time is 18:00 on Saturday, 29 August.

13. FINAL SCORE

A team's result is determined by the total number of points obtained at checkpoints, minus any penalties for late arrival.

In the event of a tie, the team that finished earlier will be ranked higher.

14. EQUIPMENT

Participants must be prepared for the competition to take place both during the day and at night.

Mandatory equipment includes the SI-card, whistle, race number and competition map, the wristband provided by the organisers, a headlamp with spare batteries (mandatory for the 24-hour race), and a charged mobile phone. A compass, first-aid kit, emergency blanket and waterproof clothing are recommended.

15. NAVIGATION RESTRICTIONS

The only permitted navigation aids are the official map provided by the organisers and a magnetic compass.

The use of GPS, a phone for navigation, other maps, or any device that can provide positional information is prohibited. Watches may be used only for measuring time, without GPS or navigation functions.

Mobile phones may be carried by competitors only under the conditions established by the organisers and must be sealed so that they cannot be used for navigation.

16. SAFETY AND WILDLIFE

Under normal conditions, the competition area does not present major risks related to wildlife, and the course does not cross extensive forest areas. However, wild boar or bears may be encountered in certain areas, especially in less frequented places.

If you encounter a wild animal, keep your distance and avoid any action that could provoke or frighten it. Do not attempt to follow it and withdraw calmly.

There are also private properties in the area, some of which may be guarded by dogs. These areas should be avoided carefully.

Pets are not recommended in the competition area.

17. EMERGENCIES

In the event of a situation that threatens a person's life or physical integrity, call the emergency numbers indicated on the map and inform the organisers as soon as possible.

If you encounter an injured competitor, stop and provide assistance within the limits of your abilities and training. Communicate the location and nature of the incident as accurately as possible.

18. TEAMS

Teams consist of 2 to 5 members.

Team members must remain together and be able to communicate with each other. Checkpoints are considered valid only when they are recorded by the team members in accordance with the competition rules.

If a team member wishes to withdraw from the competition, the entire team must proceed to the nearest administration area and inform the organisers. The original team will be considered to have finished the competition. Formation of a new team may be allowed only with the organisers' approval, and the new team will not receive points for checkpoints visited previously.

19. CATEGORIES

For the 24-hour race, the categories are Open – male, female and mixed; Youth – male, female and mixed; Veteran – male, female and mixed; Super Veteran – male, female and mixed; and Ultra Veteran – male, female and mixed.

For the 6-hour races, the categories are Open, Veteran and Junior & Senior, and the same categories are used for the 6-hour MTB race.

In Bulletin 2, Veteran is defined as age 40+, Super Veteran as age 55+, and Ultra Veteran as age 65+. Age is calculated as of 29 August 2026.

20. MINORS

The following conditions apply to teams including minors: Teams including members under 14 years of age must include at least one member aged 18 or over. Participants under 18 years of age must have the written consent of a parent or legal guardian, in accordance with the registration procedure. Written consent from a parent or legal guardian will be requested as part of the registration procedure.

21. WEATHER CONDITIONS

At the end of August, daytime temperatures in the Harghita area may reach around 22–26°C, while at night temperatures may drop to around 10–12°C. Rain, cloud cover and rapid changes in weather conditions are possible.

Participants should choose their equipment and route taking these conditions into account and be prepared for cold and wet weather during the night.

22. MTB RACE

For participants in the 6-hour MTB race, the course takes place within the competition area and will require both navigation skills and adaptation to the terrain conditions.

Specific information about the MTB race will be communicated at the technical briefing.

Participants are responsible for their own safety and must comply with traffic regulations when the course uses public roads.

23. COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS

Any complaint must be submitted to the organisers before the official complaints period expires.

Deadline: 12:45, 30 August 2026.

Complaints will be reviewed by the committee appointed by the organisers, in accordance with the competition rules.

Place for submitting complaints: Competition Centre.

24. RESULTS

After the Finish, SI-cards will be read at the validation desk, and teams will be able to check their result.

Provisional results will be displayed at the Competition Centre and online on OResults.

Final results will be published on the official rogaining.ro website.

25. PRIZE GIVING

The prize-giving ceremony for the 6-hour race will take place on Saturday at 19:00, and for the 24-hour race on Sunday, 30 August, at 14:00.

The teams finishing in the top 3 positions in each category will receive awards.

26. SERVICES INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY FEE

For the 6-hour races, the entry fee includes the race number, map, wristband, SPORTident system, hydration and refreshment points, water, tea, fruit, medical assistance, officiating and prizes.

For the 24-hour race, the same services are included, as well as access to the Hash House and the buffet at the end of the competition.

27. BEFORE THE START

Before entering the start area, each competitor must make sure they have their SI-card, compass, whistle, headlamp, spare batteries, charged phone and all other necessary equipment.

The team must be complete, all SI-cards must have been checked using CLEAR and CHECK, and the route strategy must be established taking into account the official race time, checkpoint scores, weather and refuelling opportunities.

28. FINAL INFORMATION

Carpath Rogaining Trophy is a competition of strategy, orienteering and endurance in which each team creates its own route. There is no single correct route – success depends on the team's ability to make good decisions, navigate efficiently, and manage time and resources.

Please respect nature, private property and other participants, and always follow the organisers' instructions.

If there are any important changes before the start, they will be communicated to all participants.

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