

Veluweloop 2023

Competition regulations



These regulations were adopted by the board of the Veluweloop Foundation Wageningen in its meeting on May 1st, 2014, and revised on May 25th, 2022 and once again revised on April 6th, 2023.

Article 1 – Definitions

Board	The board of the foundation.
Collective employee	A person who through any legal entity in the organization of the Veluweloop has been called in, with the exception of the members of police services and corps who are involved in supervising the competition.
Competition	The actual running event. Competition management (CM) The members of the committee specifically charged with directing the race on the day of the run.
Foundation	De Stichting De Veluweloop, based in Wageningen.
Individual employee	A person who is engaged as an individual by the organization of the Veluweloop, on the day itself and / or in the period prior to and / or the period following the Veluweloop.
Long-distance runner	A team consisting of one person who has registered to participate in the Veluweloop.
Long-distance team	A team consisting of 2 or 3 people who have registered to participate in the Veluweloop.
Organisation committee (VLC)	The committee that annually organizes the Veluweloop.
Participant	Every runner, team leader, every person who guides a runner as a cyclist and any driver of a team vehicle.
Restart location (RSL)	The border between two stages at which starting runners depart at one or more by CM determined times.
Relay point location (RPL)	The border between two stages at which the competitions continues without interruption.
Relay point team (RP team)	The group employees that are charged with organizing the competition at the start, restart and relay point locations and finish
Runner	Any person who runs a race stage for a team.
Running team	A group of twelve people who have registered to participate in the Veluweloop.
Starting group	The teams that start simultaneously at the start.
Team leader	The person who is registered as such with the committee. Each team has a team leader. The team leader is the contact person between the organization and his team.
Veluweloop	Annual green relay race from Wageningen across the Veluwe and ending back in Wageningen. The Veluweloop comprises a competition and a number of accompanying activities (the entourage).

Wherever in these regulations the masculine form (including “he”, “participant”) is used, the feminine form (including “she”, “participant”) can also be understood.

Article 2 - Intern organisation

1. The members of the VLC are appointed by the board. Chairman, secretary, treasurer and members of the competition management are appointed in office.
2. Individual employees are appointed by the VLC on behalf of the board. An agreement is concluded with each of them, the so-called employee statement.
3. Agreements with legal entities about the deployment of collective employees are made by the VLC on behalf of the board.

Article 3 - Liabilities and authorizations

1. These regulations are adopted by the board after hearing the VLC.
2. Participants declare that they are familiar with these regulations and that they will comply with them.
3. Competitors, running teams and long-distance teams participate at their own risk. Neither the board nor the VLC is liable for the loss or damage of the property of teams or participants, nor for any personal injury sustained. In the case of minors, the parents, caretakers and/or team leader are responsible for assessing whether participation in the Veluweloop is justified.
4. The VLC may refuse to register a team if the registration conditions are not met or if the team has been disqualified in previous years.
5. Medical support is authorized to remove a runner from the race on medical grounds.
6. The CM is authorized to punish or exclude a runner or team from further participation in the competition or in the Veluweloop.
7. Vehicles of emergency services, CM, VLC and employees must be allowed unimpeded passage at all times.
8. The CM has the power at all times to change the route or to cancel one or more stages or to exclude the determination of the result or to cancel the race.
9. The board is at all times authorized, having heard the VLC, to cancel the entire Veluweloop.
10. The VLC takes out liability insurance that covers damage caused by employees and CM to third parties. This insurance only relates to the cases where the foundation according to art. 2 is responsible for.
11. During the event, traffic wardens will be deployed to regulate traffic. Instructions from these traffic wardens must be followed. Failure to follow this will have consequences, see Article 11.

Article 4 – Registration, participation and refund of registration fees

1. A team is registered for participation if the requirements set by the VLC have been met. These are:
 - a. The registration fee must be received by the VLC in a manner to be determined by the VLC and the latest day.
 - b. A name of the team is known to the VLC.
2. The amount of the registration costs is determined by the VLC.
3. If a registered team withdraws from the Veluweloop, a refund scheme applies. This is determined annually by the VLC.
4. A withdrawal must be made according to the re-registration module. After re-enrollment, the withdrawal can only be made via email to the VLC. The date for the withdrawal is the date on the postmark or electronic date (for email).
5. If the race or the entire Veluweloop is canceled after the start of the first runner, no refund of the paid entry fees will be given.

Article 5 - Competition, general conditions

1. The race is a relay race with 12 stages, of which 6 men- and 6 women stages. There are 4 and 1 stages for long-distance teams and -runners respectively, in which no distinction is made between men- and women stages.
2. Stages start and end at the start, a RPL, a RSL or the finish.
3. A participant of a running team only competes for one team and on one stage. Runners in a long-distance team are allowed to run more than one stage.
4. Conditions for a long-distance team:
 - a. A long-distance team may consist of 2 or 3 runners
 - b. Each runners must run on average at least 10 km per hour
 - c. It is mandatory to stop at each RSL, after which a restart occurs with the assigned starting group
 - d. Each runner is accompanied by a cyclist
 - e. The last stage can only be run by one of the team members
 - f. The runners of the long-distance teams are obligated to wear a band of the Veluweloop that is given by either the VLC, a collective employee or an individual employee.
5. Conditions for a long-distance runner:
 - a. The whole route is run by one runner
 - b. The runner must run on average at least 10 km per hour
 - c. It is mandatory to stop at each RSL, after which a restart occurs with the assigned starting group
 - d. The runner is accompanied by a cyclist
 - e. The long-distance runner is obligated to wear a band of the Veluweloop that is given by either the VLC, a collective employee or an individual employee.
6. A stage may not be divided among several participants.
7. The runner must complete the entire stage on foot.
8. Each runner is accompanied by a cyclist, except for the last stage.
9. VLC members and employees and / or their cars are recognizable on the day of the Veluweloop by their clothing and / or by indications on their vehicles.
10. At several parts in the route the accompanying cyclists have to follow a different route than the runners. Especially around RPLs and RSLs the cycle routes are adjusted so starting, finishing and transfer of the vests is not hindered.
11. The VLC announces the route in advance on the website and in a program book. At least it is indicated in the directions:
 - a. The name and location of the start, RPLs, RSLs and finish.
 - b. The times between which the time registration at RPLs, RSLs and finish are open.
 - c. The scheduled times when the starting groups will leave at the start and RSLs.
 - d. The length of each stage, a global characterization, if it is a men- or women stage and detailed directions, including differences in the route for accompanying cyclists.
12. A team must start and restart in the starting group determined by the CM.
13. The route description in the program book is binding.
14. Contrary to paragraph 13, "last-minute" changes can be made. These are stated in a race list to be issued to the team leaders and / or at the team leader's instruction meeting that is held prior to the start. Team leaders must inform the participants of their team about these changes.
15. For support, the route is marked with signs, arrows and tension tape.

Article 6 - Course of the race

1. Vests are used as relay batons. The vests are provided by the VLC and contain the team number.
2. A runner starts at an RPL when he has received the vest of its finishing teammate.
3. At the start of the race, the runners per starting group will start on the signal given by or on behalf of the CM.
4. At the start, RPLs and RSLs runners should wear their vests at departure. Runners must wear the vests throughout the stage, and keep it until after the timekeeping at the end of the stage. Not wearing a vest will result in a penalty (see article 11).
5. At all RPLs, RSLs and finish the arrival time of each runner is registered. At RPLs the arrival time is also the departure time of the departing runner.
6. Contrary to paragraph 4 and 5, if a runner of a team has not arrived at 10 minutes before the closing time of a RPL, the departing runner has to report at the RP team. The RP team can allow the runner to start with a replacement vest and possibly without an accompanying cyclist.

Article 7 - Safety

1. Each runner is accompanied by a cyclist. This does not hold for the last stage, at which cyclists are not allowed.
2. If a runner ends his stage prematurely, this must be reported to an employee as soon as possible. The accompanying cyclist stays with the runner that stopped.
3. The Road Traffic Act and the Traffic Rules and Traffic Signs Regulations are in full force during the race, unless explicitly stated otherwise in those situations in which an exemption has been granted to the organization.
4. Participants must follow instructions from traffic wardens, CM, VLC members and employees. Failure to comply will lead to a time penalty or disqualification, see article 11.
5. Ignoring instructions from traffic controllers or employees, stop signals and red traffic lights at intersections and stop signs and signals at level crossings will lead to disqualification of the relevant runner.
6. Runners and cyclists keep as much as possible at the right side of the road or track, unless stated otherwise.
7. Runners must wear their vests, with the starting number visible, throughout the entire stage (see article 6.4). Failure to wear the vests or not having the starting number visible means that runners will not be recognized as such by the organization and employees and therefore no traffic regulation is taken for them. Not wearing the vests results in a penalty (see article 11)

Article 8 – Results

1. Three rankings will be announced after the race: a general classification including all teams, a classification of company teams and a student classification. If possible, the results will be published in printed form on the evening of the day of the VeluweLoop. The results will be published on the website and social media in a few days after the event.
2. The result is based on the total running time of each team. This total running time is the sum of the individual running times of all runners in the relevant team.
3. A runner's individual running time is the time elapsed between the recorded departure time and the recorded arrival time on that stage. A runner who has to wait for traffic lights, level crossings and other obstacles is not compensated for this.
4. The total running time of a team is corrected as follows:
 - a. If a man runs on a women's stage, 40% of his individual time is added to the team time.
 - b. There is no bonus for a woman who runs a men's stage.

5. A time penalty can be awarded to a team, see article 11. Time penalties are discounted in the total result.
6. Contrary to paragraph 4, on the last stage no runners of the opposite gender are allowed, except for long-distance teams and runners, resulting in the disqualification of the relevant runner. Long-distance teams may decide among themselves which team member, regardless of gender, runs the last stage.
7. If a team has no departure time and / or no arrival time recorded on a stage, or if the runner of this team has been disqualified on a stage, then it is assumed that the team has not run that stage. The regulation under article 8.8 is used to determine the end time of the team.
8. In the case that a runner does not finish or is disqualified, a fictitious time is used for the relevant stage to determine the finish time of this team. This fictitious time is the time of the slowest runner on this stage plus 15 minutes. When determining the fictitious time, gender is not considered.

Article 9 - Transport before and after the race

1. Each team is responsible for the transport of people and materials during the race between the start, RPLs, RSLs and finish. They can do that exclusively per bike ("cycling team") or by using motorized vehicles ("car team"). The registration of cycling and car teams, when signing up or changing registration, is of importance for the VLC to organize the event logistically.
2. Teams can rent bikes (normal and MTBs) via the VLC by filling in the reservation form.
3. The VLC publishes on the website and as much as possible in the program the routes for cyclists and cars to access the different locations (start, RPLs, RSLs and finish). Teams are obligated to follow these routes between the different locations.
4. At the different locations it is indicated where and how bicycles and motor vehicles should be parked. Instructions from employees must be followed.
5. Only one accompanying cyclist per runner is allowed on the running stage.
6. When the running stage, cycling route and/or car route meet, cyclists and/or cars are not allowed to hinder the runners in any way.

Article 10 - Nuisance to third parties

1. The Veluweloop largely takes place within areas and terrains with great scenic, natural history or cultural-historical value. In many places the organization has received special permission to organize the event there or to lead the route somewhere. Participants are expected to realize this well and to behave accordingly. This means, among other things, that they:
 - a. Do not leave any waste.
 - b. Do not smoke where prohibited or present a risk of fire.
 - c. Do not let go of dogs where prohibited.
 - d. Do not harm the property of others.
 - e. Do not let vehicles drive or park in places not intended for this purpose.
 - f. Do not produce excessive noise, not even through megaphones, radios, amplifiers and the like.
2. Violation of these rules can lead to consequences, see article 11.

Article 11 - Consequences

1. The CM is the only team authorized to award time penalties to teams and / or participants.
2. Consequences can be attributed for:
 - a. Violations of articles 5 to 10 of these regulations.
 - b. All other misconduct by participants or teams that disrupt the proper course of events during the Veluweloop, including the transport of the teams and the behavior at the start, finish and all other activities organized by or on behalf of the VLC and on the used or directly adjacent activities. accommodations and areas such as parking spaces,

eating, drinking, toilet and other facilities, regardless of whether these are always present there or have been specially designed for the VeluweLoop.

3. The following consequences are possible:
 - a. Awarding a time penalty to a team.
 - b. Disqualification of a competitor.
 - c. Disqualification of a team.
 - d. Exclusion of a participant (from further participation).
 - e. Exclusion of a team (from further participation).
 - f. A combination of these punishments.

Article 12 – Protests

1. Only team leaders can submit protests.
2. A protest can be lodged:
 - g. If a team is hindered or disadvantaged by the actions of another team, or if another team gains an illegal advantage, for example by cutting off the route.
 - h. If a team, or members thereof, is affected by a decision of an employee, of a member of the CM or of the CM as a whole. Protests are only possible against decisions of a general nature or against decisions affecting one's own team or the participants of which it consists.
3. Protests must be submitted in writing.
4. Decisions made by an employee or an individual member of the CM are submitted to the CM. These protests must be submitted as soon as possible after the relevant decision has become known.

Article 13 - Cancellation

1. The event will continue under all circumstances, unless the VLC deems the loop impracticable.
2. If one or more stages become too dangerous, for example due to severe storms or smog, the CM can, if possible after having heard the entire VLC and the board, decide to cancel them.
3. The race can be stopped at any RPL, at which the participants assemble at the next RSL.
4. The decision of the competition management is by majority. In the event of a tie, the chairman decides. If due to circumstances not everyone can be reached, the members reached will decide. In the absence / unavailability of the chairman, the vice-chairman takes over his duties. If the latter is also not available, Vice-President B will take over the chair's duties.

Article 14 – Other provisions

1. Only on the day of the VeluweLoop the CM is authorized by the VLC to make decisions.
2. The chairman of the VLC makes the decisions that fall outside the competition management, if possible after consultation with those directly involved and as much as possible in consultation with the VLC members.
3. In all cases not provided for in these regulations, the board will decide after consultation with the VLC and/or the CM.
4. When participating in the VeluweLoop, the team leader automatically agrees on behalf of the entire team to the use of visual material for promotional purposes. If one or more participants of a team object to this, this must be notified in writing or by e-mail to the VLC no later than the day of the event.