



Official Rulebook

Revised 1/27/2017

Sierra OTHG Official Rulebook

Introduction

Welcome to the Over the Hill Gang! Anyone who is over the age of 30 (Male) or 25 (Female) is invited to join the club. The year you turn 30 for men and 25 for women, you are eligible to join. Only Club Members are allowed to race with the OTHG. When you apply for membership, you may be asked to provide proof of your age.

The purpose of this rulebook is to inform both new and old members of the intent of the club and to set forth guidelines for all members. The rules stated herein shall be followed both in “spirit” and letter of the law by all members at all sanctioned OTHG club events.

How to Join the Club

New members must submit an application and pay membership dues (Currently \$40 for the calendar year). Before racing, new members shall complete two (2) “evaluation” races. Until they complete these two (2) races, they will be in the “unclassified” status. After they complete these races their performance will be evaluated by the **Race Committee**, and the **Race Director** will classify them as one of the following: Beginner, Novice, Intermediate or Expert (Masters are exempt). This is in accordance with their racing abilities and speed. Evaluation riders will only receive 15 points and will not be eligible for trophies during these “evaluation” races. New members are classified under the assumption that they will ride within the normal limits of their ability during their two (2) “evaluation” races, enabling the **Race Committee** to place them in their proper and safest class.

After placement, the new member will then be eligible to enter any OTHG race or two-day National event and receive full points, trophies and awards. All membership renewals must be paid prior to January 31, in order to keep the number from the previous year.

Multiple Chapter Memberships

The Sierra Chapter is appreciative of multiple chapter memberships. However, if it is to be determined a Sierra member has a current membership with another chapter, that member will need to tell the appropriate chapter's race director for clarification purposes and to avoid scoring issues. You will only receive club points from one (1) chapter of your choice.

Past Members

Past members of the OTHG that rejoin within three (3) years of absence in the same skill level will not be required to do evaluation races. Those that choose a different skill level must rejoin as an unclassified member and will be required to re-evaluate. Past members of the OTHG that rejoin after three (3) or more years of absence will be required to do evaluation races.

Race Day Conduct

All members are required to sign up for their race before practice starts. Proof of membership is **required** to sign up for the event. Race entry must be stamped for approval by the chapter tent.

All members should bear in mind that we race for "fun" and most members must go back to work Monday morning, so please be considerate of your fellow racer. Race as fast as you safely can; make clean, non-contact passes; hold your line when being passed; do not block riders from a higher class that are lapping you; obey the flaggers and track

officials; *use great caution when passing a downed club member as you would want them to do for you if you were down.* Fighting, striking, touching, spitting at another member is strictly prohibited. Use of any vulgar language is also strictly prohibited. At no time will threats to sue or petition against the Sierra OTHG, its board members, or its promoters be tolerated. Any member violating this rule will be asked to leave and may be dismissed from the club.

Knock Out Rule

If a rider is knocked unconscious during a race, that rider is not permitted to race the rest of the event. Before the next event, the rider must stop by and talk with the **Race Director** and check in to gain clearance to race.

Age Groups & Classes

The OTHG has five age groups: Thirty (+30) and over, Thirty-eight (+38) and over, Forty-five (+45) and over, Fifty-two (+52) and over, fifty eight (+58) and over. and (+65) and over. Each of the first four age groups have 5 classes: Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Expert and Masters. Fifty eight (58) and over have four classes: Novice, Intermediate, Expert and Master and (65) and over have Novice and Intermediate. The OTHG has 4 classifications for women: Beginner, Novice, Intermediate, Expert. Women 25 years and older may ride in these classes or any one of the other classes. It is up to you to make sure you are in the right age group for your class. After the first classified race, you will stay in that class unless directed by the **Race Director. Class jumping is strictly prohibited.**

Number Plates

All members must have the correct number plates on all three sides at each race. Each number plate must have the proper color backgrounds and number for their class.

Additionally, each plate must have the **chapter letter** on it that is at least two (2) inches tall. Penalty for infraction will be docking the rider 1 lap. Any change for any race must be approved by the **Race Director**. Masters are not exempt from this.

The proper number and backgrounds are as follows:

National Champions: May run Black or White numbers on Red backgrounds.

Club Champion: May run White numbers on Red backgrounds.

Masters: May run any color and number they choose.

Expert: Black numbers on White backgrounds.

Intermediate: White numbers on Black backgrounds.

Novice: Black numbers on Yellow backgrounds.

Beginner: White numbers on Green backgrounds.

Women: White numbers on Blue backgrounds.

NOTE: Fluorescent, reflective or day glow colors are not acceptable for backgrounds or numbers.

The following letters denote which chapter the member belongs to:

S = Sierra **B** = Bay **R** = Reno **G** = South **V** = Valley

NOTE: Pre-printed number plate backgrounds can be ordered through Dirt DNA or Decal Works for a discount. Just mention that you are an Over the Hill Gang Member to receive your discount. Dirt DNA website www.dirtdna.com. Or Decal Works website www.decalmx.com.

Race Committee

The Race Committee shall consist of the current **Race Director(s)** and all current **Board Members**. Any rider may be reclassified at any time during the year according to the

vote of the race committee. Any member who wishes to move down in class may request, through a formal written letter, that the **Race Committee** re-evaluate their classification. If the written request is approved, a rider who places in any of the next Four (4) races may be moved back down to his/her prior class. Any rider moved down will receive zero (0) points for 4 consecutive races (8 motos) and be ineligible for trophies, as well as excluded from class & club championship running for that calendar year. A member can only re-eval once per year, and may not ask for a period of One (1) year after re-evaling or requesting a re-eval. Newly promoted riders may not ask for a period of One (1) year to be re-evaluated. A severe injury or lengthy separation from racing or riding can be considered a valid reason to petition for a move down. This will be handled on a case by case basis with the **Race Director(s)** setting the parameters.

Scoring Procedures

The points earned at each race are totaled at the end of each year to determine the top 25 “earned” riding numbers for the following year. This “earned” number is not mandatory to use but cannot be used by any other rider during that year. If you run a top 25 number, your old number will be held from other riders as well.

Race Points are distributed on a matrix based on the number of riders in a given class for that day’s race. Any questions or comments in regards to the matrix should be brought to the **Race Director** for clarification.

If a rider does not start (DNS) a moto the rider will receive 99 points for that moto. If a rider does not finish (DNF) the rider will receive last place points plus 2 positions. A DNF will be scored if the rider does not receive the checkered

flag. A rider must finish 51% of each moto to receive finishing above a DNF or a DNS. If the rider receives the checkered flag the rider will receive their proper position.

If a rider must ride a motorcycle other than their own, they do not have to change the number plates, but they must inform the **Race Director** prior to their race and have their transponder on or they will not be scored. No rider may change motorcycles during the course of their moto at any time after the gate drops. If caught, the rider will be disqualified. A rider leaving on the wrong gate will be scored as a DNS. A rider may return to the gate and cross it only during first lap. Overall standings are determined by moto finishing positions which are added together and the lowest score wins. In the event of a tie, the second moto will be the tie breaker. This applies whether the race is a one (1) day (two motos) event or a two (2) day (four motos) event. In three (3) moto events, the last moto will be the tie breaker.

All protests concerning the races, rules or scoring results should be brought to the attention of the **Race Director** or one of the **Board Members** within one (1) hour of posted results. Any rider may protest another rider in their class for rule infractions with the penalty being from a one lap docking to an automatic disqualification for the day. **Do not address the scorekeepers or the promoter at any race.** Any concerns or comments about your race, scoring, schedule, etc., shall be addressed to the **Race Director**. If the **Race Director** is not present then a club officer shall be your next point of contact. **The Race Director is always your first point of contact.** All scoring is final two (2) hours after posting.

Transponders are mandatory at all OTHG race events for automated scoring and timing.

1) Each member must provide their own AMB transponder

for race scoring and timing.

2) Transponders are for sale through mylaps.com, or for rent at the track. Transponder clips will be sold, not rented for \$10 each. The Sierra or Bay Chapters will have units available.

3) Provide your transponder number at sign ups. Racers without a transponder will not be scored.

4) Be sure your transponder is charged and ready for every race. If your transponder is dead or dies during a race, or you fail to put your transponder on the bike, you will be placed in last.

5) Transponders will be used at every race event, regardless of how the promoter chooses to score the event.

6) The only exceptions to #5 are evaluation riders. We will **not** run the system at **all** races.

7) Transponders are required for **some** Support motos. Support motos are manually scored by the promoter.

Transponder Loop & Finish Line Flagger:

Please keep in mind that the Finish-Line Flagger may not always be situated over the transponder loop. **Example:** Argyll and 408MX, the Flagger is at the top of the Finish-Line jump, but the loop is at the bottom, at the beginning of the jump. The loop is the finish line, not the Flagger. At some tracks, there will be a slight difference between the electronic finish line (loop) and the person waving the Checkers. ***We will do our best to mark the location of the loop, so you know who crosses first!***

Master Payout

We now offer two (2) styles of Master payout and non-payout Masters. This is noted on the new style race entry forms. If a Master does not check a box, either payout or non-payout, they will automatically be put into a **NON-PAYOUT** classification as per the Summit Meeting at LACR.

Flags and Their Meanings

Green: used to start a race without a starting gate.

Yellow: used to indicate an unsafe situation, downed rider, or bike on the track and to proceed with caution. All riders must not jump, pass, or improve their position until beyond the danger point or they will be penalized 1 lap for unsafe riding. **No exceptions!**

Black: given to an individual rider to indicate they have been disqualified. The rider must pull off the track at the first place that is safe to do so. The rider may then inquire from the **Race Director** why they were disqualified.

Red: indicates the race has been stopped and all riders should return to the starting line in a safe manner for a restart of the race.

Crossed: the race is half completed.

Blue: indicates you are being lapped by other riders and to hold your line and let them pass.

White: indicates that there is one lap remaining in the race until its completion.

Checkered: the race is complete.

Any conduct contrary to the rules will not be tolerated!

Failure to comply with any portion of this rulebook may result in a rider being disqualified for a first offense, a possible suspension for a second offense, and a possible termination of club membership for a third offense. The OTHG promotes safe motorcycle racing and good sportsmanship. We hope that all members will take pride in the OTHG and that they will become involved in furthering the club's objective to enjoy motocross racing in a safe and sane manner.

Club Officers

Officer positions will be filled by nomination of members for each position. An election will be held with a majority club vote deciding each position. If there is no opposition for a position then a vote is not necessary. If more than one person is nominated then an election will be held. The following is a list of official club officer positions and their duties:

President: Oversees day to day operations, race day procedures, meetings, and other club officers. Interacts with promoters, national committee, and sister chapters' board of directors.

Vice President: Fills in when President is absent. Oversees race directors. Take minutes at the meetings.

Treasurer: Oversees and manages our bank accounts
Helps deal with fundraising and sets up a budget

Race Director(s): Interact with promoter on race day; evaluate and monitor all "evaluation" riders; act as single point of contact for members regarding races/scoring/etc on race day; make sure all rules are followed on race day.

Statistician: Be the sole owner of the race points; update race points on a regular basis; distribute updated race points to all other officers.

Webmaster: Act as website administrator; keep website updated; monitor website forum.

Membership: Collect revenues from memberships; maintain list of memberships paid; update address list monthly; send out new membership cards.

Editor: Monitor website forum; control logo usage; work with sponsors and web admin; make program for National.

Other positions may be created at the need of the club. All officers will do their best to respond to members' questions, phone calls and emails. Each officer will be exempt from membership fees for the year they perform their duties. They will also be able to participate in their own chapter's National for no fee.



2017 Sierra OTHG Points Matrix								
	Riders	1st	2nd	3rd	4th			
Master	4	35	33	32	31			
	3	34	32	31				
	2	33	31					
	1	32						
	Riders	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th		
EXP	5	35	33	32	31	30		
	4	34	32	31	30			
	3	33	31	30				
	2	32	30					
	1	31						
	Riders	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	
Int	6	35	33	32	31	30	29	
Nov	5	34	32	31	30	29		
	4	33	31	30	29			
	3	32	30	29				
	2	31	29					
	1	30						
	Riders	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
Beg	7	35	33	32	31	30	29	28
+65	6	34	32	31	30	29	28	
Women-(All)	5	33	31	30	29	28		
	4	32	30	29	28			
	3	31	29	28				
	2	30	28					
	1	29						
Min Points		20						
EVAL Riders		15						
For 2017 the 3 lowest scores will be dropped for Sierra OTHG Points								

Important Notes

*Club points and National points are scored with different point matrixes.

*Club points are scored using club matrix including club point scoring for national events.

*Club points and National points are scored each day for Club and National points.

*National Points are not scored using a matrix, as there is no minimums for National Points.

* Riders must attend 51% of races to be eligible for year end awards. National awards must attend all five (5) Nationals. Women's and +65 class matrix are subject to change due to their recent creation.

* Riders must have two (2) races in the past one (1) year or four (4) in the past two (2) years to be eligible to ride at a National event. This applies 365 days prior to the start of that National. Masters are exempt.

*A total of three (3) races shall be dropped and not counted towards the final season points. These would be your lowest scores or 0's if you didn't attend some races. Any ties at the end of the year in adjusted points will be broken by the number of first place finishes.

*Once the Nationals begin, any voluntary move in age group or class between Nationals will render you ineligible for the National Championship. However, you still accumulate your local chapter points for any National you participate in.

*Any involuntary move during the Nationals such as a **Race Committee** promotion will still allow you to be eligible for the National Championship. Your points will follow you into your new class unless your points are greater than the current class point's leader, in which case your points will be reduced to equal that of the leader. Any move after the third National will remove that rider from Sierra class championship contention.

*Race dates and or race venues may be changed with short notice to allow for changes due to inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances. The board of directors will do everything in their power to give as much pre-notice as possible. Thank you for your understanding.*Please keep in mind that there is another set of rules for the National events themselves. These rules may trump some of ours.

Disclaimers

*Please keep in mind that there is another set of rules for the National events themselves. These rules may trump some of ours.

*We are currently updating our rules to make them better and easier to understand, but if a rule is missed, we always revert to our "Parent Chapter" rules for final ruling.

*Also, please bear with us, as we are constantly striving to make this club safer and better. The rules are a work in progress.

Sierra OTHG Life Member

The Sierra OTHG has a life member program for members who have dedicated themselves to the betterment of the club and OTHG as a whole. The program is set aside for members who have served on the board of directors for a long period of time and continue to serve the club after stepping down from the board. Life member status is lobbied by the current board and then presented to the Sierra OTHG Life Member council (Paul Schoep, Jason Rogers, Steve Law & Brent Workman) for approval. All 4 council members must unanimously approve the nomination. Life member status secures that member's number, waives Sierra OTHG Membership and National dues, and reduces banquet fees.

Current Life Members

Dave Harrell 91s, Inducted 2006
Alan McGehee 44s, Inducted 2006
Darrel Burr 945s, Inducted 2006
George Pritchett 28s, Inducted 2006
Paul Schoep 29s, Inducted 2010
Jason Rogers 92s, Inducted 2010
Steve Law 94s, Inducted 2012
Randy Law 45s, Inducted 2012
Brent Workman 205s, Inducted 2014
Jerry Workman 39s, Inducted 2014
Todd Sauls 76s, Inducted 2016

Sierra OTHG Retired Numbers

In Loving Memory of John Croce 808s
In Loving Memory of Rick Helms 474s
In Loving Memory of Greg Pimentel 310s

2016-17
Sierra OTHG Contact List

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