

2027 HOG CHARGE COMPETITOR'S INFORMATION LETTER

Dear Competitor,

The **28th** Hog Charge will take place next year on the weekend of 23rd / 24th January 2027.
It is a race on mountain bikes, for teams of 4, between checkpoints on Northlands Ranch, next-door to Peponi Secondary School.

1.) ENTRY CLASSES:
There are 4 Entry Classes --- Under 12 / Under 14 / Open (for anyone over 14) / Family Class.
In the first 3 Classes there will be 3 sections --- Boys / Girls / Mixed.
The Family Class is for 2 parents / relatives plus 2 children Under 12.

Competitors in the Under 12 age Class should be in the British curriculum Year 5 or above, and under 12 years of age on the 1st September 2026.
Similarly, competitors in the Under 14 category should be under 14 years of age on 1st September 2026.

Any Team with competitors under the age of 18, must be accompanied by an Adult at the Event. They will be responsible for the team and must sign the Entry Form and the Declaration Form on the Team's behalf.

2.) ENTRY SPONSORSHIP:
To enter, a team must raise a minimum of Ksh. 25,000 in sponsorship – except for the Family Class which must raise a minimum of Ksh. 20,000 in sponsorship.
The Hog Charge is an event organized to raise money for the Rhino Ark Kenya Charitable Trust. This Trust develops sustainable solutions to challenges facing mountain forest ecosystems and threatened biodiversity areas, through public – private partnerships. Detailed information can be found at www.rhinoark.org.
All sponsorship, raised by the teams, goes directly to Rhino Ark Kenya Charitable Trust.
The Hog Charge Teams have raised nearly Ksh. 100 million for the Rhino Ark Trust over the last 27 years.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP IS NOT AN ENTRY FEE PER PERSON BUT IS THE MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP THAT A TEAM MUST RAISE TOGETHER TO TAKE PART.

IT IS HOPED THAT, AS ALL THE SPONSORSHIP GOES TO THE CHARITABLE TRUST DOING CONSERVATION WORK, TEAMS WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO RAISE MUCH MORE THAN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT.

There are Trophies for the teams that raise the Highest, 2nd Highest and 3rd Highest amounts of sponsorship – previous winners have managed to raise six-figure amounts of sponsorship.
So, if you want to help conserve the water towers of Kenya and help humans live in harmony with the wildlife, PLEASE raise as much sponsorship as you can.

3.) REGISTRATION OF ENTRIES AND SPONSORSHIP:
PLEASE NOTE you MUST submit your Entry Registration Form online at www.peponischool.org/hog-charge before the Closing of Entries Deadline which is 4pm on Saturday January 16th 2027.
PLEASE NOTE THAT FOR ORGANISATIONAL REASONS, WE WILL WITHOUT EXCEPTION ONLY BE ACCEPTING A MAXIMUM ENTRY OF 200 TEAMS STRICTLY ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.
On receipt of your Entry Registration Form on-line, we will confirm receipt and advise you of your team number by return e-mail.

Sponsorship forms and Declaration Forms should be scanned to the following email address: hogcharge@peponischool.org by 4pm on Saturday 16th January 2027, but we will accept further sponsorship funds right up to the Start Time of the Event – 9.00am Sunday 24th January 2027.

4.) THE HOG CHARGE MAIN EVENT:
The Hog Charge Briefing for all teams and spectators, will take place in the Peponi School Grounds at **7:00 am on** Sunday 24th January 2027. Any other last minute and important route and safety information will also be communicated at this time.
It is vital that all teams are present by 7.00am and that the briefing starts promptly.

Prior to the Briefing, all teams will be issued with their competitor's packs containing Hog Charge Competitors T-shirts, team number bicycle plates, route map, and timecard indicating their Starting Control.

Competitors should then proceed to their Start Control and get there by 8:30 am.

The event will start at 9 am on Sunday, 24th January and finish at noon, in good time to allow for the teams to tackle the Gauntlet, and for the calculation of the results before the prize giving, which will start at 2 pm.

Each Checkpoint will provide refreshments for competitors but it is advisable that teams carry their own water.

We recommend that the tyres on the bicycles are fitted with heavy duty tubes and have puncture-resisting slime put into them. However, each team should also carry puncture repair kits and tools.
There will be bike mechanics at each control, plus roaming around the route.

PARENTS / SUPPORTERS:
After the briefing, please collect a Course map from the desk next to the stage in the Main Tent in the School Grounds.
We want the teams to be independent and not to be led around the course so please restrict support of the teams to meeting them at each control. There are Car Parks strategically placed around the route from which you will be able to easily walk to the control points. Please use these car parks.
Please do not accompany the teams around the course on a bicycle.
If parents want to accompany their children then please enter the Family Class.
If parents / teachers want to cycle the course then please enter a team in the Open category.

PLEASE RESPECT THE HOG CHARGE EVENT OFFICIALS – CONTROLLERS, SECURITY MARSHALLS, SAFETY MARSHALLS – AND ADHERE TO THEIR INSTRUCTIONS --- THEY ARE THERE TO ENSURE THAT THE EVENT RUNS SMOOTHLY FOR ALL AND NOT FOR INDIVIDUALS.

5.) THE HOG CHARGE GAUNTLET:
Between finishing the main event and the prize giving, all teams should proceed to the Peponi School grounds, to tackle the separate Hog Charge Gauntlet course. There are separate awards for the fastest teams in each category over the Gauntlet.

6.) CAMPING:
Competitors who wish to camp at the special campsite on Northlands, are invited to do so from 1.30pm on Saturday 23rd January afternoon onwards. The campsite will be equipped with a water bowser and toilet facilities.
Special arrangements can be made for those who wish to camp on Friday night but please let us know well in advance.
Please send an email to hogcharge@peponischool.org by 16th January if you intend to camp.

7.) REFRESHMENTS AND FOOD:
Refreshments and food will be available at Peponi School on Saturday afternoon and Sunday -- all at reasonable prices.
PLEASE support the vendors and refrain from bringing your own food / drinks.

8.) CRAFT MARKET:
There will be a Craft Market and entertainment for children at the school grounds on Sunday.

We hope this special 28th Hog Charge will be another very successful and exciting event for all.

We look forward to seeing you.

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