



24seven – Event Overview 2021

This document is a brief overview of the event to help teams (and Solos) to understand the nature of 24seven, and begin planning logistics. A fuller briefing will follow. It will be sent to team captains and published on the event website (<https://www.durtyevents.com/event/24seven/>) approximately two weeks before race day.

Event Date: 24-25th July 2021

Event Registration: 8:30am to 9:45am, 7 Stanes Glentrool Visitor Centre Car Park, Newton Stewart, Dumfries & Galloway, DG8 6SZ

Event Start: from 10am, 7 Stanes Glentrool Visitor Centre Car Park

Start Method: Small groups (c. 10 teams/solos) in waves, spaced a few minutes apart (our intention is to not have large 'pelotons' forming!). Don't worry – we will be noting the start time for every team and you will get your full 24-hour allocation whichever wave you start in. All teams need to be at the start and ready to ride at 10am. Allocation of start wave will be done prior to the event, look out for the email when you will be asked to select a start wave and provide your support drivers number.

Overview: 24seven is a team relay event for solo, pair, trio and quad teams. The ride will comprise the following sections;

- 7 Stanes Glentrool. Starting at the Glentrool Visitor Centre, we're riding the 'Purple' Big Country route, but clockwise (i.e. not the normal signposted direction) until it meets the Kirroughtree Black MTB Trail at Post 63.
- 7 Stanes Kirroughtree Black MTB Trail following the normal signposted route (which then joins/becomes the Red) from Post 63 (Black Craig) to the Kirroughtree Visitor Centre
- Road Bike from Kirroughtree to Dalbeattie (watch for the rough mile or so of tarmac after leaving Creetown)
- 7 Stanes Dalbeattie – Red MTB Trail (full)
- Road Bike from Dalbeattie to Mabie
- 7 Stanes Mabie – Red MTB Trail (full)
- Road Bike from Mabie to Ae Forest (via Dumfries – care required on busy roads)
- 7 Stanes Ae Forest – Red MTB Trail (full)
- Road Bike from Ae Forest to Newcastleton village
- 7 Stanes Newcastleton – Red MTB Trail (full) (starts/ends in village main square)
- Road Bike from Newcastleton to Glentress
- 7 Stanes Glentress – Red MTB Trail (full, including Matrix and Lombard Street)

The route is compulsory (no freestyling it!). It will not generally be course marked – you will need to self-navigate the road bike sections (.gpx file will be available). The MTB sections will be following the marked Red trails at the 7 Stanes (with the exceptions at Glentool and Kirroughtree as outlined above).

Map My Ride – Road Bike route (complete): <https://www.mapmyride.com/routes/view/4347580957> (.gpx file download available via the 'MORE' tab)

7 Stanes Trail Centres maps: <https://forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/activities/mountain-biking/7stanes>

Glentool section .gpx file is available from <https://www.durtyevents.com/event/24seven/>

In the event of diversions being in place at the Trail Centres, our marshal teams at each of the 7 Stanes will draw your attention to the changes before you leave the trailhead.

GPS Tracking

Each team will be issued with two GPS tracking devices. The GPS devices are small and light – no larger than a pack of playing cards. One will be your relay 'baton', and MUST be transferred from rider to rider at each changeover. The other will be for your support vehicle. You will also be given a weblink that will allow you to see the positions of the trackers on a map in real time. This allows us to;

- a) Keep an eye on everyone from a safety perspective, and quickly re-unite rider and support if required.
- b) Check you've followed the correct route
- c) Monitor that the support vehicle is not remaining too close to the rider (i.e. not leading or tailing the rider, which is specifically NOT allowed during the event – the support vehicle will 'leapfrog' up the course).

Support Vehicles and Changeovers

Your support vehicle and crew are NOT allowed to closely shadow the rider – i.e. no 'tailing' or 'leading/pacing'. Instead, the support vehicle and crew will 'leapfrog' the rider up the course.

You can change riders and bikes wherever you want, assuming it's safe to do so. We strongly advise you do not go overboard with this – it won't be safe or efficient, and could lead to you arriving late for changeovers. Solo riders should have a support driver to transport their selection of bikes and carry any food and drink they may require

Changeovers MUST take place in safe locations off the carriageway. Highway Code rules will apply at all times to both riders and support vehicles.

Changeovers from Road>MTB>Road at each of the trail centres must take place at the marshal station – this will be in an obvious location on arrival at each trail centre.

We are not envisaging that you will change riders during the MTB sections (it would be really hard to achieve this anyway) – in all likelihood your rider will complete the section in full.

Road Bike sections could be split down with multiple riders as a relay (within the 'do it in safe locations' rule). This will be at the discretion of each team, though we'd suggest no more frequently than 10-25 miles or so. Suitable locations for this are likely to be car parks, lay-bys, towns/villages etc. Passing Places on narrow roads are not acceptable places for changeovers.

We will supply each team with a vehicle ID sheet. This must be completed with the team number and a contact mobile phone number (in the vehicle) and clearly displayed in a window.

There are two 'No Support Vehicle' zones – these are for safety reasons (the roads are too narrow to safely handle both riders and event vehicles);

- a) Minor road between Creetown and New Rusko (B796)
- b) Minor road between Locharbriggs (Dumfries) and Ae Forest

In both cases the support vehicle will need to use an alternative route.

The support vehicle does not need to exactly follow the same route taken by the riders – e.g. you may choose to use the A75 for your support vehicle in the first half of the race to move between locations more quickly.

Our intention (*tbc in final briefing) is to issue each team with a car parking permit for the 7 Stanes – this must be displayed clearly in your vehicle. You do not then need to use the 'Pay and Display' machines at the 7 Stanes. The car park at Newcastleton is in the centre of the village. Please park sensibly and considerately on the nearby square and streets.

Your vehicle will also need to bring the team to the finish line (if you have not already reached it) once the 24-hour limit has been reached. As the 24 hour limit will be reached at slightly different times for each team we will endeavour to alert teams when their cut off time has been reached, please ensure you have given us the correct number for your support driver.

In particular, please be careful about your timings between Mabie and Ae – if Dumfries is busy, you may find your rider can travel quicker than the support vehicle in parts, and you really do not want them to arrive at Ae before the support!

There will be no feed stations provided on the course so please ensure you have all the nutrition that you/your team needs to complete this event

Timing and Cut Offs

You've got 24 hours from the time of your start to complete this monster and the clock will not stop through the night – make sure you bring your lights!

The Cut Off Time is 24 hours from the start time. If you have not reached the finish line then you must collect your current rider and head to Glentress to hand in your timing Chip and officially leave the event.

We need you to check in at the finish line to ensure everyone is accounted for, please don't just head home, this will trigger a search and rescue mission!

Not making it to the Finish doesn't mean DQ though. The way we will rank results is (a) by time at the Finish for those who complete the whole course, and then (b) in order of distance covered when the clock stops – we'll take a snapshot of the GPS locations and use that.

Rules

Yep, no-one really likes them, but, you know... Think of the below as a starter for 10, we will probably need to add to it as we think of stuff, and you ask us questions.

1 – Rule #1 applies at all times. In particular, if it feels wrong, it is wrong.

2 – 24seven is a draft free race. Riders are not permitted to draft other competitors, nor are you allowed to have bike or vehicle drafting/pacing from your support team.

3 – Highway Code applies at all times to riders and support vehicles. In particular: traffic lights, stop signs etc, must be obeyed. Yes, even if that does cost you a few seconds. Changeovers MUST take place in safe locations off the carriageway. This also means no parking in passing places on minor roads

4 – No support from a moving vehicle (All support must be given from outside of the vehicle while parked). This is not the Tour so please do not hand bottles, food etc out of moving car windows

5 – Your rider GPS tracker must be transferred between active riders during changeovers – it's the relay baton (and a safety/event control device). Failure to complete handover may result in a DSQ

6 – Your support vehicle GPS tracker must remain in the support vehicle at all times.

7 – You must be quiet and considerate during the race, especially in residential areas, and in particular in the hours of darkness (Newcastleton will be a likely hot-spot for potential impacts – don't let it be you that jeopardises future events).

8 – Riders do not have priority over other users of the trail centres and roads. In fact, think of your selves as ambassadors for the event.

9 – Penalties may be issued at the sole discretion of the Race Director. These could take the form of time penalties for minor infringements through the DSQ for more serious or repeated issues.