

Valkenburg - Limburg

HAMMER STONE

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18 2026

etixx sports nutrition

SHIMANO XTR

GEMEENTE VALKENBURG AAN DE GEUL

LIMBURG CYCLING

www.hammerstone.nl

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1 WELCOME

You're about to ride one of the most thrilling mountain bike adventures of the year!

On October 18, Valkenburg, the South Limburg region and a little bit from Belgium transforms into the ultimate playground for mountain bikers. Hammerstone, presented by Shimano, is the Dutch National Championship Marathon, a UCI C.1 race and the most beautiful tour ride.

Whether you're chasing a podium, securing some UCI points, or simply soaking up the trails and the atmosphere, this weekend is designed for riders like you who crave adventure, challenge, and unforgettable moments. Over 1,000 bikers will take on the course —are you ready to join them?

Your start and finish awaits at the Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg, the heart of a weekend packed with mountain biking, inspiration and good vibes. Everything you need to tackle race day is in this Rider's Guide. If anything is unclear, or if questions pop up, reach out to us anytime at info@hammerstone.nl. A huge thank you to Shimano and all the incredible volunteers who make this weekend possible. Gear up, hit the trails, and get ready to make Hammerstone 2026 your mountainbike story.



2 LOCATION AND PARKING

LOCATION

Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg aan de Geul.

PARKING VALKENIER

During the Hammerstone on Sunday, October 18, parking will be available at P Valkenier in Valkenburg aan de Geul. At the registration desk you can buy exit tickets for limited price. Limited offer

PARKING ODAPARK I

During the Hammerstone on Sunday, October 18, parking will be available at P Odapark I in Valkenburg aan de Geul. You can buy an exit ticket at the parking machine at the parking place. The standard rate applies here.



Always follow the traffic signs and the instructions of the traffic controllers on site. The route to the parking areas is signposted from the highway.
We kindly ask you to use theseparking areas in order to minimize inconvenience for local residents.

By public transport:
From Maastricht station, a train departs for Valkenburg every half hour. From there, it's a 1.2 km bike ride to the Shimano Experience Center. You can also cycle from Maastricht to Valkenburg, which is about 10 kilometers.

3 ROUTES



GPX FILES

4 SAFETY

RED AND GREEN FLAG
Before the race begins, a motorcyclist wearing a red vest and/or carrying a red flag will check the course for approximately 10 minutes to ensure it is clear, that traffic marshals are in place, and that oncoming traffic is being warned.
A second motorcycle with a red vest/flag opens the race approximately 250 meters ahead of the first riders.
Note: Although traffic marshals assist participants as best they can during the race, each participant remains fully responsible for their own safety. The official end of the race is marked by a motorcyclist with a green flag/vest. This motorcyclist adheres to the final times stated in the race regulations. Once this motorcyclist has passed you, the responsibility of the traffic marshals ends, and you must strictly obey all traffic laws. You may continue your ride, but as a regular road user.

WARNING – FIRST 5 KILOMETERS
The first kilometers after the start from the Shimano Experience Center lead through the center of Valkenburg. While the organization does its best to ensure a safe passage using traffic marshals and by warning local residents, participants are reminded of their own responsibility and safety. Extra attention is required on the climb of the Daalhemmerweg: stay on the right-hand side of the road at all times.

OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS
Although traffic marshals are present to support participants, riders must behave like any other road users and have no special privileges. All traffic rules apply and must be respected at all times.

4 SAFETY

CODE OF CONDUCT
Participants are expected to behave respectfully towards other road users and local residents at all times.

RESPECT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
Participants must respect nature and the environment. All waste, including banana peels, must be disposed of in the designated waste bins located at the start, in litter zones, and at the finish. Throwing away bottles or other waste outside the official feed and waste zones will result in disqualification.

PARTICIPATION AT YOUR OWN RISK
Participants are fully aware of all risks associated with taking part in the event. They are responsible for their own safety as well as the safety of other road users. Participation is entirely at the partici-pant's own risk. The organizer cannot be held liable for any damage, in any form, suffered as a result of participation.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM UCI, KNWU, POLICE AND ORGANIZER
Participants must follow all instructions from the police and the organization (including traffic marshals) immediately and without delay. Failure to comply with these rules or any misconduct may result in exclusion from the event. The handlebar plate, bib number, and wristband will be confiscated on the spot.

5 FEEDZONES

Feedzones All Participants
Well-equipped feedzones, with plenty of food and drinks to refuel.

Location **Shimano Experience Center Valkenburg aan de Geul.**
Openings hours: 08.30 am till 10.30 am

Location **Landsrade**
Openings hours: 09.30 am till 12.15 pm



Location **Voeren**
Openings hours: 10.30 am till 02.00 pm

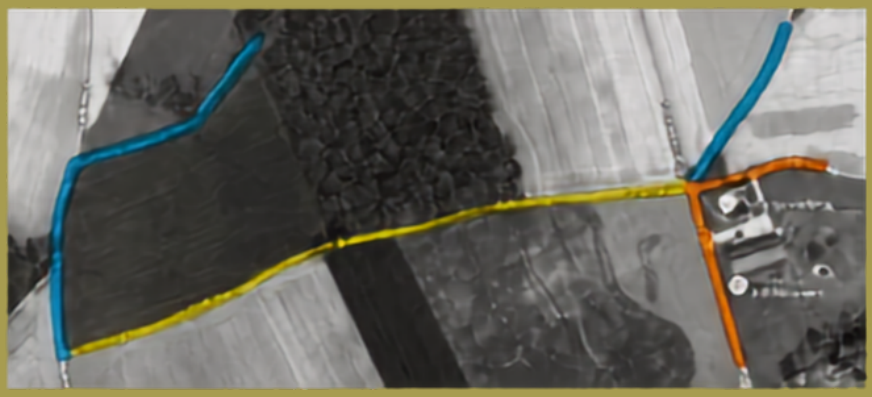
Location **Eckelrade**
Openings hours: 11.15 am till 3.30 pm

5 ADDITIONAL FEEDZONES

At the locations below, soigneurs are allowed along the route. Please leave these spots—and the rest of the route—clean! Do not park on lawns or on main roads. Also, make sure participants have enough space to pass.

LOCATION
DODEMANWEG WIJLRE

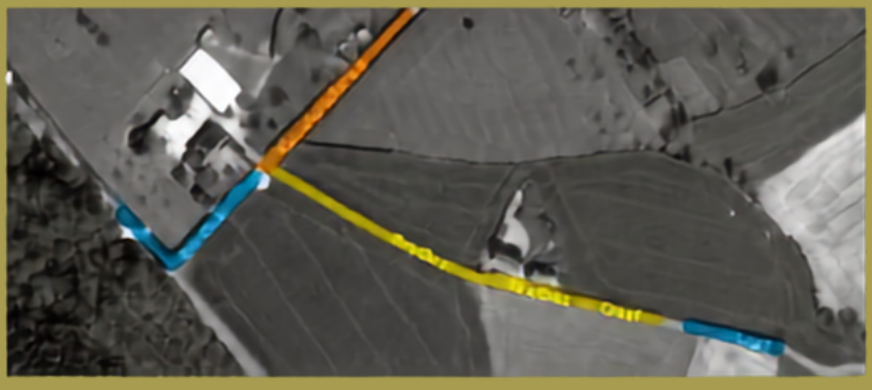
Parking on the grass area at Hoeve Blankenberg or along the side of Bergweg.



Route Feedingzone Parking

LOCATION
ROODBOS VOEREN

Parking on Kloosterhofstraat

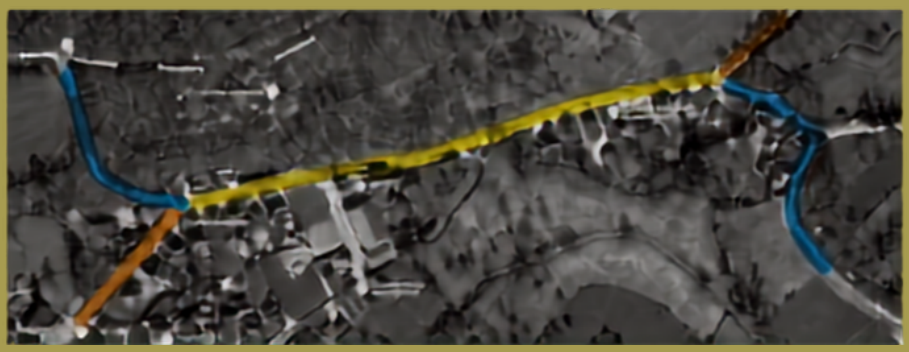


Route Feedingzone Parking

5 ADDITIONAL FEEDZONES

LOCATION VITSCHEN

Parking on
Altenbroek
or Molen



Route Feedingzone Parking

LOCATION GASTHUIS

Parking on
Welsderweg



Route Feedingzone Parking



6 RACE
A: Raceregulations

Article 1: The Hammerstone will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2026, as a Class 1 race, which will also serve as the National MTB XCM Championship. The total race distance is 108.8 km for license holders, and 108.8 km, 91.4 km or 69.8 km for non-license holders.

Article 2: The Hammerstone is organized by Stichting Sport Events and The PEPr Company BV, and will be held under UCI and KNWU regulations. Only the UCI penalty system applies.

Article 3: The race will start per category. Men start at 09:00 am with Elite and Under-23, at 09:02 am Class 1, at 09:04 am Masters 40+, at 09:06 am Masters 50+, at 09:12 am Women, and all non-license holders will start at 09:30 am . Riders must be in their designated start zone 15 minutes before their start, with properly attached handlebar plate and race number.

Article 4: It is prohibited to cut, resize, or otherwise alter the race number or handlebar plate from how they were issued.

Article 5: Participation is only open to license holders:
• Men: Elite, Under-23, Class 1, Masters 40+, Masters 50+, Pro-A, Pro-B, Pro-B U23, and / Sport class.
• Women: Elite, Under-23, Pro-A, Pro-B, Pro-B U23 / Sport class.

Riders without Dutch nationality may participate in the Hammerstone but are not eligible for the national title in the relevant category. Non-license holders may only participate in the tour ride over the 108.8 km, 91.4 km or 69.8 km route and can start between 09:30 am and 10:00 am.

Article 6: Awards: The first three men and first three women across the line will be celebrated as the top three of the Hammerstone. Additionally, the first three per category will be awarded for the Dutch Championship.

Article 7: Award ceremony: Expected time: 2:00 PM.

Article 8: During the race, all participants are regular road users. This means that normal traffic rules apply throughout the race and must be observed. Be courteous to pedestrians and other road users, and do not litter. Traffic controllers will assist participants along the route.

Article 9: Participants and their support crews must follow all instructions from the police, jury, and officials-appointed by the organization. Ignoring these instructions may result in a start ban or disqualification. The Hammerstone is an individual race, and organized external assistance may lead to disqualification from the results. The race commissaires are responsible for smooth operation and enforcement of the rules.

Article 10: The starting order per category is determined as follows:
• Reigning European and/or World XCM Champion
• Riders ranked in the UCI XCM ranking
• Riders ranked in the UCI XCO ranking
• KNWU consistency ranking
• Lottery

Start times are listed in Article 3. The organization reserves the right to place participants without points in the mentioned rankings within the starting order.

Article 11A: Distribution of race numbers and handlebar plates takes place on Saturday, October 17, from 02.00 till 06:00 pm and Sunday, October 18, from 07:30 till 08:30 am, upon presentation of a valid race license. Registration for the Hammerstone and the National Championship is possible until Saturday 06.00 pm. After this time, no further registration is possible. Racs materials will be distributed at Shiniame,Experiehce Center, De Leeuwhof 2, 6301 KZ, Valkenburg aan de Geul.

Article 11B: Each handlebar plate has a timing chip; it is not necessary to ride with a KNWU registered transponder. Plates and race numbers do not need to be returned after the race.

Article 12: Anti-doping control: If conducted, it will follow UCI/KNWU regulations. Location: Shimano Experience Center, De Leeuwhof 2, 6301 KZ. Valkenburg aan de Geul.

Article 13: Participants must wear an approved hard-shell helmet and ride a proper mountain bike. Riding a gravel bike (drop handlebars) is not allowed.

Article 14: Technical assistance is available and can be reached at +31629791652. In case of technical issues, assistance can be called and will come to a location accessible by car. Assistance carries repair materials but cannot guarantee repairs of all components. Bike changes are prohibited; riders must cross the finish line with the same frame and handlebar plate used at the start. Medical support on the route can be reached at +31628836013. In case of emergancy always call 112.

Article 15: Refreshment points provided by the organization are located at approximately 25 km (Landsrade), 53 km (Voeren), 79 km (Steenbergerweg, Eckelrade), and at the start/finish. At approximately 13 km, 40 km, 60 km and 88 km, spots are designated for soigneurs.

Article 16: Time limits during the Hammerstone:
• After 66.6 km: 4 hours race time 01:00 pm
• Finish 6 hours race time: 03:00 pm

Riders passing these points after the time limit will be classified as DNF and must return to Valkenburg aan de Geul on their own. Times are monitored electronically.

Article 17: All routes are marked with visible route arrows.

Article 18: Jury meetings take place Sunday at 08:00 am at Shimano Experience Center, De Leeuwhof 2, 6301 KZ, Valkenburg aan de Geul, and immediately after in the jury vehicle or nearby room.

Article 19: Once race numbers and plates are collected, no registration fees can be refunded.

Article 20: In cases not covered by these regulations, the race commissaires decide on technical race matters, and the organization decides on organizational matters.

Article 21: Final changes will be announced via the PA system before the start.



6 RACE B: PROGRAM + STARTPROCEDURE

B: PROGRAM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

02.00 till 06.00 pm Pick-up starting numbers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

07.30 till 08.30 am. Pick-up startingnumbers

LOCATION Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg aan de Geul

ATTENTION RACE PARTICIPANTS!
Pick-up of race materials on Sunday closes at 08.30 am.

HELPFUL TIP!
Pick up your race materials on Saturday to avoid crowds and stress on Sunday morning!



6 RACE B: START PROCEDURE AND LINE-UP

B: START PROCEDURE AND LINE-UP

LOCATION

Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg aan de Geul

THE RACE WILL START PER CATEGORY.

- 09:00 – Elite and Under-23
- 09:02 – Class 1
- 09:04 – Masters 40+
- 09:06 – Masters 50+
- 09:12 – Women Elite and Under-23

Riders must be in their designated start zone 15 minutes before the start, with the handlebar plate and race number properly attached.

START LINE-UP IS DETERMINED PER CATEGORY AS FOLLOWS:

- Reigning European and/or World XCM Champion
- Riders ranked in the UCI XCM ranking
- Riders ranked in the UCI XCO ranking
- KNWU consistency ranking
- Lottery

The organization reserves the right to place participants without points in any of the above rankings within the starting order.



6

RACE
C: RACE WITH ME

RACE WITH ME

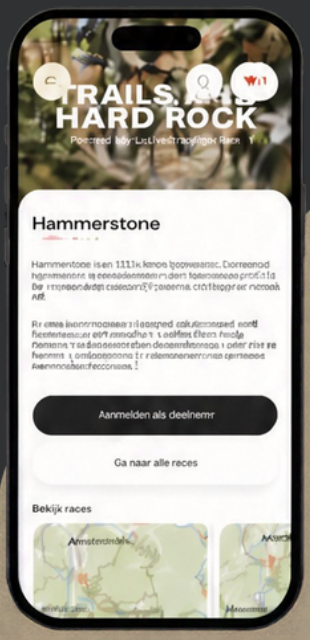
Deel je Race met jouw volgers.

1. Download de app in de App Store of Google Play Store.



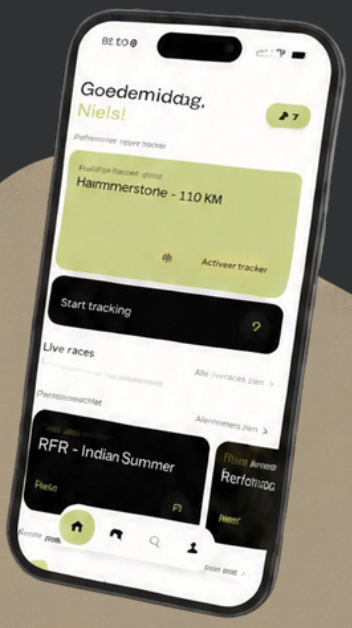
Installeer de app en maak eenmalig je account aan.

2. Alle races in één overzicht.



Meld je alvast aan bij de Race waar jij aan meedoet en ontvang notifications.

3. Volg races vanaf de passagiersstoel.



Start één uur voor vertrek de Live Tracking, en deel het met vrienden & familie.

RACE WITH ME
PASSENDE
N BENT

7 SPORTIVE RIDE

A. Program
B. Start procedure

LOCATION Shimano Experience Center in Valkenburg aan de Geul

A: PROGRAM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16: 03:00 TILL 06:00 PM
Pick-up starting numbers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17: 08:00 TILL 11:00 AM
Pick-up starting numbers

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17: 02:00 TILL 06:00 PM
Pick-up starting numbers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18: 07:30 TILL 09:30 AM
Pick-up starting numbers



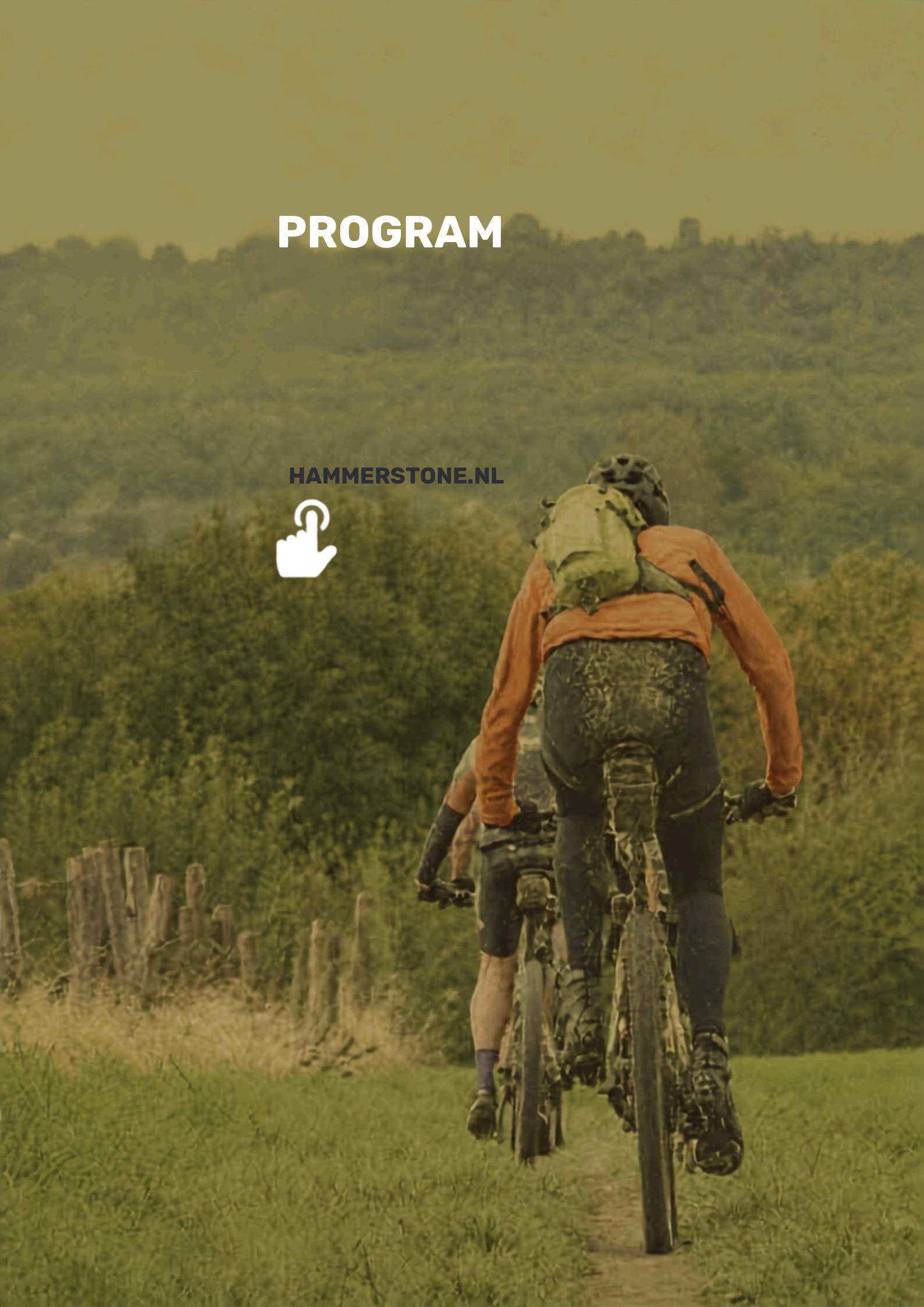
B: START PROCEDURE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18: 09.30 TILL 10.00 AM
Start tour ride

Tour ride participants can start between 09:30 and 10:00. Your timing will begin when you pass the start/finish line. The finish line and timing will close at 16:30.

PROGRAM

HAMMERSTONE.NL



9 CONTENT

PHOTOS & AFTERMOVIE
During Hammerstone, several photographers and a videographer will be out on the course to capture all the action, emotion, and smiles. We'll be creating a full aftermovie and sharing a photo gallery with all participants in the week following the event. Soak it all in your ride hard and don't forget to look up and smile every now and then!

SPORTOGRAF

Sportograf will be present to capture your ride in a unique way. Photographers are positioned along the entire route. About a day, after the event, you can view your photos and, if you wish, purchase them from Sportograf.

INSPIRE
We'd love it if you took photos and videos during youravel trip! Share them on your socials and tag us with @hammerstone.mtb. Feel free to send your footage to: info@hammerstone.nl so we can share it through our channels as well.

10 PRACTICAL INFORMATION

ATTENTION PARTICIPANTS!
Even though there are traffic controllers along the route, traffic rules still apply. A lead and sweep motorbike will ride the course, with the lead motorbike wearing a red vest and the sweep motorbike wearing a green vest. Once you are passed by the green vest, you are no longer part of the race and must follow normal traffic rules.



SHOWER FACILITIES
After the event, you can use the shower and changing facilities at the Shimano Experience Center.
Please remember that we are guests and kindly ask you to leave the shower area tidy after use.

BIKE WASH AREA
No matter the weather, you'll want to take your mountain bike home clean after the race. Cyclon will be ready at the Shimano Experience Center to make your bike shine like new.



HANDLEBAR PLATE
Attach the handlebar plate to your handlebars so the number is clearly visible.The handlebar plate should not be folded or attached in any other way.

EMERGENCY CONTACT
There is an emergency number you can call if you get into trouble, have a mechanical 'issue, or get lost. We advise to save this number in your phone before the event: +31 (0)6 28 83 60 13 You will also find the emergency number on your race number and in the route description. If you cannot reach the emergency contact in an urgent situation, always call 112.

LOCKERS
There will be no lockers available during the event, so please plan accordingly and keep valuables safe and secure.

RESPECT
One of the unique features of the Hammerstone is its route. Our arrow team has put a lot of effort into marking it, allowing us to offer unique routes, including parts of the Voerstreek. Unfortunately, past incidents have made it increasingly difficult to get approval for challenging routes from the authorities. To ensure that a unique ride like the Hammerstone can continue, we ask everyone to follow the behavioral and courtesy rules and to respect other road users. This will be strictly enforced!

FINISH
After the ride, you can relax at the Shimano Experience Center and enjoy a lively finish celebration with food, drinks, and music. Gather with fellow mountain bikers and enjoy a well-deserved After Ride Party!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
We've listed some questions about Hammerstone. Is your question not on the list...? Please contact us at info@hammerstone.nl

We'll make sure to get back to you a.s.a.p.

11 CONTACT

the pepr company

The PEPr Company
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6226 NV Maastricht
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info@hammerstone.nl



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