



2011 Nature Valley Pro Ride

Official Rules

Overview

The Nature Valley Pro Ride gives individual amateur riders the opportunity to participate in the Nature Valley Grand Prix as guests of the Nature Valley Cycling Team. Riders will be selected at six regional qualifying events. Team members will receive free entries, a generous travel subsidy, housing, and team support. They will also receive pro-level recognition before, during, and after the events; including pre-race call ups and participation in promotional and media appearances (see below).

The Nature Valley Grand Prix is also open to other elite amateurs. However, these other amateurs must pay their own expenses and entry fees, must provide their own team support and will receive a lower priority for promotional/media appearances. (They are, however, eligible for the host-housing program.) Furthermore, the Nature Valley Grand Prix races are invitational, but the riders selected by the Nature Valley Pro Ride will be guaranteed entry.

Eligibility

The Nature Valley Pro Ride program is open to amateur cyclists who will be 18 years or older on June 14 (the day before the Nature Valley Grand Prix), who are legal residents of the United States and D.C. and who hold racing licenses with USA Cycling. Men must hold Category 1 licenses while women must hold Category 1 or 2 licenses **at the start of the qualifier race**. Riders are not eligible if the team shown on their racing license is attending the Nature Valley Grand Prix.

Entries are subject to rejection at any time (including during the event) by the Minnesota Bicycle Festivals, Inc (Organizer) for any reason whatsoever. The reason for rejection may include, but is not be limited to, unbecoming conduct and violations of the rules and regulations in the Nature Valley Grand Prix technical guide.

Amateur Status: Eligible riders may not have been members of UCI-registered teams.

Entries

Rider invitations will be issued following six Nature Valley Pro Ride regional selector events:

Dates	Event	Nearest Metro
March 19-20*	Fayetteville Stage Race	Austin, TX
March 27	Jefferson Cup	Charlottesville, VA
April 9-10*	Tour of the Depot	Salt Lake City, UT
May 7	Sterling Road Race	Boston, MA
May 21-22*	Enumclaw Stage Race	Seattle, WA
May 27-30*	Memorial Day Weekend Omnium	Iowa/Illinois

* Invitations will be based on GC or omnium of these races.

To be eligible, riders must inform the selector race organizers that they would accept an invitation to race for the Nature Valley Cycling Team at the Nature Valley Grand Prix before the start of that selector race.

Invitations

Following each race, eligible riders will be ranked according to their order of finish. The Nature Valley Cycling Team will extend invitations to the top eligible man and woman from each list.

To accept an invitation, the invited rider must register using SportsBaseOnLine, must pay the entry fee for the Nature Valley Grand Prix and must complete and submit the Media Information Form within 72 hours of receiving the invitation. The invitation will be withdrawn and extended to the next rider on the list once this deadline has expired. Should the invitation remain open two weeks after the event, the Nature Valley Cycling Team reserves the right to make a coach's selection.

The Nature Valley Grand Prix entry fee will be reimbursed when the rider reports for participation at the Nature Valley Grand Prix.

Organizers are not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, or otherwise undeliverable mail, or entries that cannot be processed due to phone, network, electronic or computer hardware or software failure, or technical failures of any kind.

Regional Qualifier Cancellation Policy

If any of the regional qualifiers are cancelled for any reason, no invitations will be issued for that race.

Coach's Selection

The Nature Valley Cycling Team reserves two roster slots each for the men's and women's teams, which it may fill at its sole discretion. Any unclaimed invitations (see above) may also be filled by the Nature Valley Cycling Team at its sole discretion.

Nature Valley Cycling Team Participation

The Nature Valley Cycling Teams that participate in the Nature Valley Grand Prix will be considered composite teams. All riders must obtain release letters from their clubs of record and must provide them to the Nature Valley Cycling Team management so that they may be presented at registration. Riders failing to provide valid release letters will not be allowed to participate in the Nature Valley Grand Prix and will not be eligible for any of the benefits listed below (including, but not limited to, not receiving entry fee reimbursement).

Members of the Nature Valley Cycling Team must wear team-issued jerseys and shorts or other team-issued clothing on any Nature Valley Grand Prix race venue, during any stage of the Nature Valley Grand Prix or during any public appearance.

Members of the Nature Valley Cycling Team are subject to all rules and regulations in the Nature Valley Grand Prix technical guide and the USA Cycling rulebook.

Nature Valley Cycling Team Benefits

Riders who qualify for the Nature Valley Grand Prix at one of the Nature Valley Pro Ride selector races and who attend the Nature Valley Grand Prix as part of the Nature Valley Cycling Team will receive the following benefits:

- Reimbursement of their Nature Valley Grand Prix entry fee
- Nature Valley Cycling Team clothing, which the riders may keep
- Travel subsidy: Reimbursement of travel expenses or \$350, whichever is less. Travel expenses are defined as the cost of airfare for riders who fly into MSP airport OR 35 cents per mile for riders who drive to and from the Twin Cities metro area. Driving during the Nature Valley Grand Prix **does not qualify** for reimbursement.
- Housing
- Ground transportation while participating in the Nature Valley Grand Prix
- Team staff

Publicity and Promotion

The Organizer may arrange for (i) promotion of the Nature Valley Pro Ride (Program), for radio and television broadcasting, print, online and other exhibition and publication of the Program or excerpts thereof in various media, including so-called "new media" and (ii) the design and manufacture of advertising and packaging which commemorates, promotes or memorializes the Program throughout the universe in perpetuity. By this application, the rider consents to the use by the Organizer of his name, likeness, voice and references to him/her and photographs and other images of him/her and his/her racing connected with his/her appearance in the Nature Valley Grand Prix, or any portion(s) thereof, in connection with such media promotion, broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the regional qualifiers for the Nature Valley Pro Ride and the Nature Valley Grand Prix and design and manufacture of advertising, promotion and packaging which commemorates, promotes or memorializes the Nature Valley Grand Prix. The Organizer may utilize the rights granted it hereunder in connection with the promotion and/or commemoration of the Nature Valley Grand Prix as well as future Nature Valley Pro Ride events.