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**SIXTH ELEMENT**

3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 | Comrie Croft | Perthshire | Scotland

## **FAQ's**

### **What is Clans @ The Croft?**

Clans @ The Croft is a brand new, multi-stage mountain bike Enduro for teams and solo riders. The team element was inspired by the unbelievably exciting Enduro World Series "Trophy of Nations".

**[CLICK HERE AND GET STOKED!!](#)**

Clans @ The Croft will be held at the award-winning green tourism destination Comrie Croft in Strathearn, Perthshire so you can expect an amazing variety of trails, a stunning backdrop, excellent facilities, family-friendly camping and that laid-back vibe you only get at a Muckmedden event.

### **Where is Comrie Croft?**

Comrie Croft is located just off the A85 between Crieff and Comrie, in Perthshire, Scotland. It's around an hour's drive from Glasgow and Edinburgh. The postcode is PH7 4JZ, and you can view directions here: <http://www.comriecroftbikes.co.uk/the-start/comrie-croft-bikes-location/>

### **Opening Times**

Gates to the event/camping field will be open from 2pm until 10pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and will be open again from 7am until 10pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Vehicles will not be allowed to enter the camping field outside of these hours.

Quiet time is 11pm, when we turn the tunes down and get ready for beddy-baws.

### **What tickets do I need?**

Racers need *either* a CLAN *or* a SOLO entry. Spectating is free. Anyone staying on-site overnight needs *either* a camping pass *or* accommodation at the Croft. Non-racing friends and family are encouraged to come along and camp for the weekend, stuff their faces and hang out. There's no better place to be than The Croft when the Muckmedden Crew roll into town...

### **Camping**

A camping pass entitles one person to stay in a tent/camper/caravan in the event camping field from 2pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April until 2pm on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Each additional person in your accommodation also needs a camping pass.

**Note:** Nordic Katas and camping in any other parts of Comrie Croft (other than the event field) must be booked directly with Comrie Croft. Standard Comrie Croft rates apply.

### **Parking**

Parking is free. You will be directed by a Marshal who must be obeyed at all times as they may be armed with a Claymore. Not really, but you still have to go where they tell you to or the place will end up in a right mess. If you're staying overnight, you can park by your tent/caravan.

### **Facilities**

Comrie Croft is Scotland's number one trail centre, so you've got an awesome skills park, jump park and pumptrack to play on as much as you like. The excellent facilities at the Croft will be available too (camping shop, bike shop, toilets, showers, etc)

The Comrie Croft Tea Garden, plus other food trucks will be serving up all manner of mouth-watering food and drink over the whole weekend, from early morning until late evening.

Our cosy undercover base will be two big Startent marquees in the centre of the event village. This will be our communal hang out for the weekend, so bring a folding chair and get comfy. In the evening we'll crack open a beverage, slip on our dancing shoes and chuck some shapes. Bad ones.

### **Alcohol**

There will be a licenced pop-up bar in front of the main Croft building with the food trucks. The bar will be serving up chilled, draft craft beers and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Your own alcohol may be consumed inside the confines of the main event field, but nowhere else.

### **Is there anything else other than bike racing?**

Put it this way, please don't expect water slides or circus workshops! Clans @ The Croft is an Enduro and it's all about riding great trails, camping and hanging out with your buddies. It's the simple pleasures...

### **Can I ride the course before the race?**

Yes! Practice is optional but we would encourage all riders to pre-ride the course on the Friday. If you're part of a Clan, this is a great opportunity to figure out team tactics (i.e. how closely to follow each other etc).

Official practice is from 3.30pm to 7.30pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Enduro is from 9am to 4pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT:** During practice the trails will be very busy with riders stopping periodically to look at line options. If you are stopping mid-stage, please park your bike off the trail and be aware that other riders will be coming down the trail behind you at speed.

Remember, practice is NOT your race run and we do not have a full team of medics on site! Go steady and save your race face for Saturday.

### **Are the trails open while the Enduro is on?**

The Skills Park will be open all weekend, but most of the other trails will be used for the Enduro and closed to the public from 3pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April until 5pm on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

### **Are there any bike races for under 12's?**

'Fraid not, but if you leave the sprogs in the Skills Course with a piece and jam and a bottle of water, they should be fine for about 12 hours. **DO NOT DO THAT. IT WAS A JOKE. CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED AT ALL TIMES!**

### **Enduro Race Rules**

- You can enter as a SOLO rider or as part of a team of three. Teams are called CLANS and can either be Female, Male or Mixed.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT:** If you are racing as part of a CLAN the *combined* stage times of your team riders count towards your CLAN result.

Your *individual* stage times count towards your SOLO age category.

As a CLAN member you get the buzz of riding in close formation with your buddies, working out team tactics and flying the flag for a bike shop, club or whatever *and* you still get a SOLO time! It's basically a win-win. And it's cheaper to enter as a CLAN!

- If you are racing as a CLAN, all members of your team must leave the start line of each stage within one minute. You can have up to twenty seconds gap between each team mate if required, but around six seconds seemed to be the ideal gap at the Trophy of Nations, as riders were close enough to follow their faster team mates and copy their lines, but had enough time to react if it all went pair-shaped.
- **THIS IS IMPORTANT:** All CLAN members must complete each stage. If a CLAN rider is forced to retire early due to mechanical or injury, your CLAN (and that individual rider) will get a DNF. The remaining members of the CLAN can continue to race and will get their results in the SOLO category.
- A gap of one minute will be left between the last rider of a CLAN starting a stage and the first rider of the next CLAN starting that stage.

SOLO riders start each stage at 20 second intervals.

### **E Bikes**

If you are riding an E Bike you must enter the SOLO E bike category. **E Bikes are not allowed in CLANS (teams).**

### **Age Limits**

All riders must be aged 12+ or over. Parents/Guardians of advanced riders under the age of 12 must contact: [info@muckmedden.co.uk](mailto:info@muckmedden.co.uk) if they want them to be considered for an entry.

### Overtaking on Stages

- If you're coming up behind a slower rider on a timed stage and want to get past, politely shout "Rider on your right/left!" and wait for them to pull over.
- If a faster rider is looking to pass you, look for a safe place to pull in and let them past as soon as it's safe to do so. Don't get angry or downhearted if you're overtaken, we're all here to have fun at our own pace.
- If you're riding in a CLAN, it's up to you to decide between you how and when to pass your team mate(s) so you can take advantage of individual rider's climbing/descending skills.

### The Course

- 6 timed downhill stages which must be ridden in numerical order (i.e. 1,2,3,4,5,6).
- Distance - 15 miles approx. Climb/descent- 2600ft approx. (Maybe subject to change).
- You'll ride Comrie Croft as you never have before. Six downhill stages will have you tackling everything from super-gnarly Blacks to super-flowy Blues with jumps, berms, drop-offs, chutes and even a Dual Slalom where you'll race ride-by-side against another Clans. Twice!
- All non-rollable features will be signposted and we'll offer an easier route wherever possible.
- Please ensure you reach the last Stage by 3.30pm to allow for queuing - **the cut-off is 3.45pm**

### Chip Timing

- The Marshal at the start of each stage will hold riders until it's time to go. We are using Air+ contactless chip-timing, so there is no need to "dib" in and out of stages. Just wait for the Marshal's countdown and ride!
- After all stages have been completed you must return your timing chip to race registration and collect your race times. Race results cannot be compiled until every chip has been handed in, so please make sure that's the first thing you do when you finish your race. The charge for a missing chip is £50.

### Starting Waves

Starting waves can be pre-booked to avoid too much hanging around on race day. Clan Leaders and Solo riders will receive an email a couple of weeks prior to the event advising on how to do this.

Clans will leave the event village in waves of five teams every five minutes from 9am.

Solo riders will leave the event village in waves of 15 riders every five minutes once all Clans are out on the course.

### Race Registration

Clan Leaders and Solo riders can pre-register and collect number boards from race registration between 2pm and 8pm on Friday, or from 7am on Saturday. Number boards must be attached to handlebars and visible throughout the race.

**Note:** Please write your name, any relevant medical conditions/allergies on the back of your number board along with an emergency contact number.

Riders who register on the Friday must return to race registration an hour before their start time on Saturday morning to collect timing chip(s) which must be worn on the right wrist.

**Note:** Garmin type devices should be switched off as these can affect the performance of the timing chip.

### **Are there any shops nearby?**

There is a fantastic farm shop on site which sells a variety of local produce. The Croft also boasts a well-stocked camping shop selling essential supplies, camping spares, juice, sweets, toys etc. The nearest largish supermarket is in Crieff and there are many lovely grocery stores, delis and bakeries just along the road in Comrie.

### **What about a bike shop?**

Do we even have to answer that?!

Comrie Croft Bikes is the fantastic onsite bike shop and it's packed to the rafters with bling parts and shiny accessories, gloves, pads, helmets and if you're not happy with your current ride, they'll even sell you a new bike! They can do all the stuff you'd expect from a local bike shop (and more) and will carry out any emergency repairs possible to get you back on the trails if you are stuck.

### **Can I bring my dog/cat/budgie?**

Dogs are welcome provided they are well behaved, but if your rabid hound of hell is causing problems you will be asked to take it away. There are sheep and chickens around so keep dogs under control and on a leash. And please bring poo bags to clean up your dog's mess. Definitely don't hang poo bags on trees. If you do, we'll hang you up next to your dog poo bag.

### **Can we have a campfire?**

No personal fires are allowed in the main camping field but we will be setting up a bunch of cosy Swedish Candles around the outside of the main tent so we can all get our ging-gang-goolies out under the stars. Watch you don't burn them.

### **Will there be toilets and showers?**

Damn right! I have to go every 20 mins these days....for a shower that is.

There will be temporary event toilets in the camping field and there are a number of toilets in and around the Croft itself. There are also showers and toilets behind the main Croft building and composting toilets in the High Meadow if you're heading up the hill.

### **Can I bring my own food & drink?**

You are welcome to bring along food and drink for consumption at your camp but why would you bother with the Tea Garden just metres away? If you do wish to cook anything it must be on a proper camping stove – no barbeques or open fires for safety reasons.

### **What a load of rubbish**

Please be a responsible camper and put all your rubbish in a bin bag, take it home and put it in your own bin. That will save us a lot of time, effort and cost. If you can't take it with you at least use the bins on site please.

### **Where is the cash point?**

You can pay by card at The Tea Garden (minimum spend may apply) and you can also use cards in the bike shop. Cash is always handy though and there are several bank machines in Crieff (5 miles from the site) and one in Comrie (2 miles).

### **What about First Aid?**

We will have full first aid cover during the Enduro with medics in the event village and dotted around the course. There will be no official medical cover outside of the race but the Muckmedden team will be on hand to co-ordinate any emergencies.

### **Will there be prizes and stuff?**

Have we got prizes? HAVE WE GOT PRIZES??!! Yes we do.

We will have a massive prize pot courtesy of our fabby sponsors. There will of course be prizes, trophies and medals awarded to all podium finishers, but we will also be holding our (now famous) Random Raffle after the podium ceremony and giving away £1000s worth of swag like there's no tomorrow.

All entrants and all Muckmarshals are automagically entered into the draw, but you must be there to claim your prize, or we will draw another name.

You missed out on a £1000 set of carbon wheels because you didn't hang around for another 20 minutes? Aw, shame.

### **I'm worried about the weather. Will I be too hot?**

Almost certainly.... unless you're cold and wet. It's April, it's Scotland and we're Muckmedden Events. Bring thermals, a woolly hat, waterproofs, sunscreen and a brolly. And your dancing shoes. And wellies. And you're race face. And flip flops. And a snorkel. And bring a cosy jacket and a sleeping bag. And a cuddly toy.

And don't forget to pack a sense of humour.....you'll be needing that.

### **Can I volunteer?**

Absolutely, we're always looking for Muckmarshals! We'll need help with all sorts of stuff so if you can spare some time to help make this event a roaring success, please get in touch. We'll lavish you and your immediate family with adoration, camping passes, food vouchers, merchandise and maybe even some race entries in return! Email: [info@muckmedden.co.uk](mailto:info@muckmedden.co.uk)