



Campeonato Panamericano *MTB 2026*

**Cross Country Marathon XCM
November 15th, 2026**

**Mar del Plata
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**

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1.- Introduction

Welcome

The Unión Ciclista de la República Argentina (UCRA) and the Federación Argentina de Ciclismo de Montaña (FACIMO), alongside Veloclub Argentina, has the honor of extending a warm welcome to all delegations, athletes, officials, and cycling enthusiasts from across the continent gathering for this new edition of the Pan-American Cross Country Marathon (XCM) Championship.

We are proud to host the top exponents of American mountain biking in an international event of this caliber. We are confident that the challenging landscapes, the technical demands of the course, and the spirit of sportsmanship will make this championship an unforgettable experience.

Our deepest gratitude goes to the local authorities, sponsors, and volunteers who make this event possible. We wish all participants the best of luck in every kilometer of the race.

Welcome to Argentina!

2.- Organization

The XCM Pan-American Championships are organized by Veloclub Argentina, FACIMO, and the Cycling Union of the Argentine Republic (UCRA) - contact phone: +54 9 2612 44-7672, email: eventosfacimo@gmail.com, under Union Cycliste International (UCI) MTB regulations. The event will take place on November 15th 2026, in Laguna de los Padres, Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

3.- Argentina

Argentina is a country located at the southern tip of South America. It is the eighth-largest country in the world and the second-largest in the region; it shares borders with Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Brazil, and Uruguay, and has an extensive coastline along the Atlantic Ocean. Its capital is the Autonomous City



of Buenos Aires, one of the continent's most prominent, influential, cosmopolitan urban and cultural centers. The official language is Spanish. The country is renowned for its immense geographic and scenic diversity: from the plains of the Pampas and the vast rivers and wetlands of the Río de la Plata basin (notably the Paraná River) to the plateaus of Patagonia and the imposing Andes mountain range, home to the highest peaks in the Americas. The climate is highly varied; although temperate conditions predominate, it ranges from a subtropical climate in the north to polar cold in the far south. The country's economy is one of the region's leading economies and is based on robust agricultural production, livestock farming, manufacturing, energy and mining extraction, and a constantly evolving services and technology sector. Argentina is recognized worldwide for its rich cultural identity, its passion for sports, its cuisine, and an impressive natural diversity that attracts visitors from all over the world.

4.- Buenos Aires

The Province of Buenos Aires is located in the central-eastern region of Argentina. Its capital is La Plata, although for this event, the epicenter shifts toward the southeast, in the Municipality of General Pueyrredón and the areas surrounding Laguna de los Padres. Covering 307,571 km², it is the largest province in the country, divided into 135 municipalities. Population and Society: With over 17 million inhabitants, it concentrates the largest share of the country's population. It features an active demographic structure with a diverse cultural background, granting it a cosmopolitan identity reflected in its architecture and customs. Climate and Environment: The province encompasses the Pampean region, featuring a temperate climate. In the southeastern coastal and hilly belt, average annual temperatures hover around 15°C—with cool winters and temperate summers—making it ideal for mountain biking. Well-distributed rainfall throughout the year maintains its fertile lands. Economy and Tourism: The southeastern region combines large commercial urban centers with extensive agricultural and livestock areas. The coastal and

hilly zone merges nature, history, and modernity, making it a top tourist destination. Its natural landscapes, lagoons, ancient mountain ridges, and Atlantic coastline favor outdoor activities, ecotourism, and adventure sports. Laguna de los Padres stands out for its infrastructure, connectivity, and active sporting life.

5.- Mar del Plata

Mar del Plata, popularly known as "La Feliz," is the leading coastal city in Argentina, located on the Atlantic coast of the Buenos Aires Province. As the administrative head of the General Pueyrredón Municipality, it stands out as a strategic urban, commercial, and sporting hub. Geography and Climate: The city features a unique landscape where the Atlantic oceanfront merges with the ancient hills of the Tandilian system. Its climate is temperate oceanic, with cool winters and moderate summers. This environment provides well-distributed rainfall throughout the year, keeping surrounding fields fertile and creating perfect terrain conditions for outdoor and adventure sports like mountain biking. Economy and Infrastructure: Mar del Plata is a powerhouse driven by tourism, fishing (hosting the country's main fishing port), textile industries, and digital technology. Its world-class urban infrastructure includes premium hospitality, a diverse culinary scene, and excellent connectivity via a major highway network, railway, and an international airport. This makes the city an ideal host for massive national and international conventions and sporting events. Tourism and Culture: Blending historical charm with modernity, the city offers miles of beaches, cliffs, and iconic landmarks like Playa Grande, the Central Casino, and nearby natural reserves like Laguna de los Padres. It boasts a vibrant cultural life, museums, and a rich architectural heritage reflecting its aristocratic and maritime legacy.

6.- Laguna de los Padres

The Laguna de los Padres MTB Circuit is a high-level track in the General Pueyrredón Municipality, Buenos Aires. Developed within the Laguna de los

Padres Natural Reserve—a protected area of forests, rolling hills, and a central lagoon just 20 minutes from downtown Mar del Plata—this fast and demanding track meets strict UCI international standards to host the 2026 XCM Pan-American Championship.

Location and Environment: Specially designed for Cross-Country Marathon (XCM), the circuit features an extended distance per lap, combining fast sectors, rural roads, and technical climbs that capitalize on the local ridge formations. It leverages a rich regional cycling history with a curated layout ensuring a technical, fast, and safe race environment.

The track profile is primarily composed of:

Forested Trails: Tight sections, between trees over hard-pack dirt, leaves, and exposed roots that require maximum concentration.

Gravel Roads: Wide zones ideal for high-speed riding, tactical overtaking, and peloton pacing strategies.

Low Hill Sectors: Short, punchy climbs with loose rocks and fast descents that demand excellent bike control.

7.- Event´s Authorities

- **Presidente Copaci:** José Pelaez (CUB)
- **Presidente UCRA:** Jorge Chica (ARG)
- **Delegado Técnico COPACI:** Ricardo Florez (COL)
- **Director del Evento:** Leandro Carpinelli (ARG)
- **President of the Commissaires Panel – Commissaires UCI:** Erica Marin Marin (COL)
- **Comisario UCI adjunto:** Elite National Commissarie Gisel Aguero (ARG)

8.- Accreditations

Friday, November 13

- 14:00 – 18:00 | Venue / Competition Site

Saturday, November 14

- 09:00 – 12:30 | Venue / Competition Site
- 14:00 – 18:00 | Venue / Competition Site

Competition: Start Times

Date	Start Time	Category
15/11/2026	08:30	Men Elite
	08:35	Men Master A
	08:37	Men Master B1
	08:39	Men Master B2
	08:40	Men Master C1
	08:42	Men Master C2
	08:44	Men Master D1
	08:44 *	Men Master D2
	08:44 *	Men Master E
	09:00	Women Elite
	09:02	Women Master A
	09:02 *	Women Master B1
	09:02 *	Women Master B2
	09:02 *	Women Master C1
	09:02 *	Women Master C2
	09:02 *	Women Master D1
	09:02 *	Women Master D2

9.- Participation and Eligibility

The event is open to all competitors aged 19 and older. The championship competitions will be held under the current regulations of the UCI and COPACI, according to the categories.

All National Federations affiliated with the Pan-American Cycling Confederation (COPACI) are eligible to participate.

UCI CATEGORIES

Category	Age	Year of Birth
Elite Men / Women	19 – 34 years old	1992 / 2007

*** Athletes who do not meet the age requirement but have decided to compete in the ELITE category and hold a valid sports license for that purpose may also participate.**

COPACI CATEGORIES

Category	Age	Year of Birth
Master A Men / Women	35 – 39 years old	1987 / 1991
Master B1 Men / Women	40 – 44 years old	1982 / 1986
Master B2 Men / Women	45 – 49 years old	1977 / 1981
Master C1 Men / Women	50 – 54 years old	1972 / 1976
Master C2 Men / Women	55 – 59 years old	1967 / 1971
Master D1 Men / Women	60 – 64 years old	1962 / 1966
Master D2 Men / Women	65 – 69 years old	1957 / 1961
Master E Men	70 and over	1956 and earlier

10.- Participants

All registered participants, without exception, must present their mandatory UCI license for 2026. Participants in UCI categories must be authorized to compete by their respective National Federation (NF) via a letter addressed to the ARG NF. All foreign participants must have international travel insurance. If the license does not include a photograph of the athlete, a valid passport or national ID card must be attached or presented. The race officials will require these documents when validating registration and distributing race numbers and bike plates for the competition.

11.- Awards

All categories will be awarded as follows:

- **1st Place:** Gold Medal and Pan-American Champion Jersey
- **2nd Place:** Silver Medal
- **3rd Place:** Bronze Medal

12.- Clothing and Equipment

Rider's must strictly comply with Articles 1.3.026 through 1.3.034 of the UCI regulations.

- All riders must report to the starting line wearing the appropriate official uniform.
- The uniform must conform to the official colors and designs representing their respective national team.

Use of Safety Equipment and Prohibitions:

- The use of a hard-shell safety helmet and a bicycle number plate is mandatory during both official training sessions and competitions.
- The use of headphones and/or hands-free devices is strictly prohibited during all sporting activities, as is the use of audiovisual recording devices.

- Race numbers and license plates must not be cut, trimmed, or altered.

Podium Protocol

- According to official regulations, riders are required to attend the ceremony wearing national team jersey and bib shorts. It is strictly forbidden to step onto the podium wearing sunglasses on the face, towels over the shoulders, open-toe footwear (sandals), or carrying personal bicycles and flags, unless expressly authorized.
- The announcer will call the athletes in ascending order: third place, second place, and finally, the winner.
- The presentation of medals and champion jerseys will be carried out exclusively by the designated authorities.
- During the playing of the winner's national anthem, athletes must maintain a posture of absolute respect and remove any caps or visors.

Important: Non-compliance with these clothing and conduct guidelines, or failure to attend the podium without immediate medical justification, will be penalized by the commissaries panel.

13.- Regulations

The 2026 MTB XCM Pan-American Championships will be governed by the UCI regulations and scale of penalties for the Mountain Bike discipline, published on the official website www.uci.org.

The Race Commissaries reserve the right to apply or waive the 80% rule or time cut-off, under which athletes will be withdrawn from the competition and classified according to their position at that point in the race.

14.- Doping Control

Doping control will be conducted by the respective anti-doping organizations under WADA regulations and may be applied to all participating categories in the event. The medical authorities appointed for this purpose will determine the specific location of the doping control station.

15.- Race Office

- The Race Office will be located in a dedicated area at the finish line of the course. This space will serve as the headquarters for the organization staff, where race numbers will be distributed, rider licenses for the UCI categories will be verified, and general information will be provided.
- Any changes to this location will be notified in advance through the official social media channels of FACIMO, UCRA, COPACI and VeloClub.

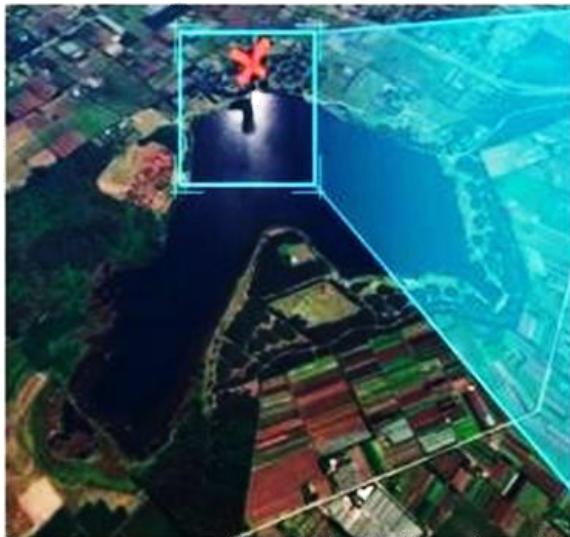
16.- Course Distance

- The course distance will be 90 km. (3 laps).
- The start and finish area will feature a designated zone for the installation of team tents (team pits), food stalls, mechanical support, etc.

Important: to secure a location for team tents, a request must be submitted via email to eventosfacimo@gmail.com.

17.- Accreditation Location

Exact Location on the Grounds



General View: North Access

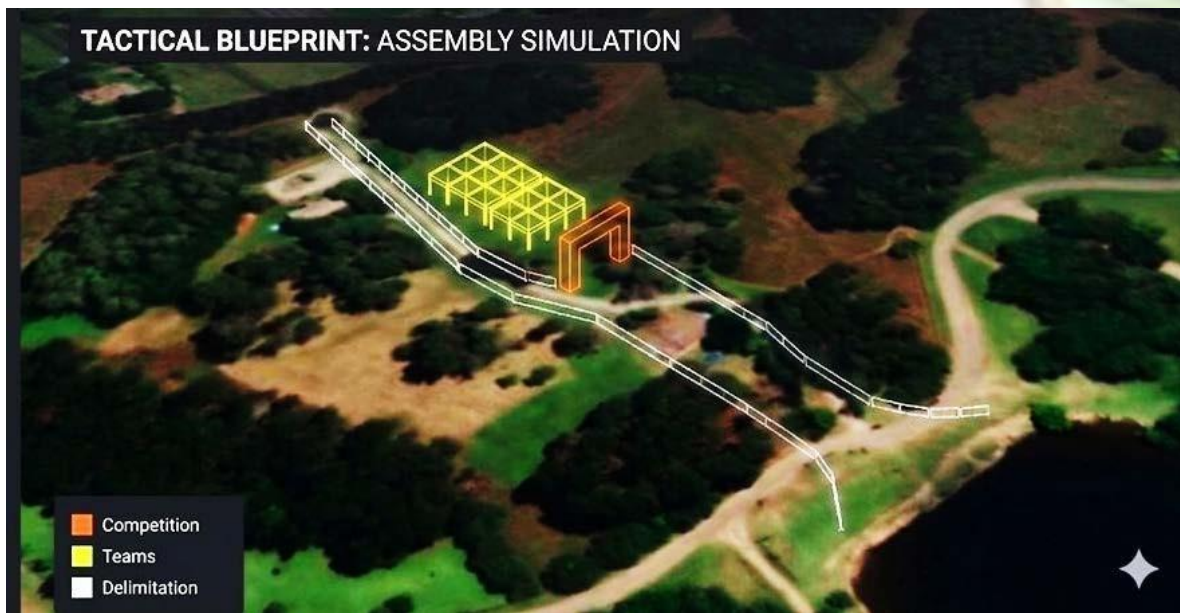


Detail View: Registration Area

Upon entering through the northern sector of the lagoon, the main road will guide you directly towards the building complex designated for the championship.

18.- Start and Finish Area Location





19.- Awards Area Location



20.- Technical Area and feed zones

In accordance with the current regulations of the International Cycling Union (UCI), the circuit features three (3) official technical assistance and feed zones,

which are duly authorized, signposted, and controlled by the Commissaries Panel.

Assistance outside of these designated zones is strictly prohibited and will result in disqualification. Each point has been strategically distributed based on the total mileage of the course:

Course main points:

- Km 30.0 – First Feed / Technical Assistance Zone 1: Located upon completion of the first sector of the track. It features exclusive vehicular access for teams and accredited support staff.
- Km 60.0 – Second Feed / Technical Assistance Zone 2: Positioned at the mid-section of the race, designed for critical replenishment and mechanical support in a highly physically demanding area.
- Km 90.0 – Third Feed / Technical Assistance Zone 3: Located in the final section of the circuit, prior to entering the finish area (Laguna de los Padres). It provides the last technical support before the finish of the race.

21.- General Technical Provisions (UCI Regulations):

- **Identification:** The beginning and the end of each zone will be clearly defined with official sign panels ("Start Green Zone" / "End Green Zone").
- **Technical Support:** Technical assistance within these permitted zones includes the adjustment or replacement of any part of the bicycle (except for the frame). Changing bicycles is strictly prohibited. Tools and spare parts must be provided solely within the limits of the zone.
- **Feeding / Refreshments:** Water bottles (bidons), gels, and food must be handed over by accredited team staff, positioned exclusively on the right side of the circuit within the assigned zone. Throwing waste outside

the designated waste collection perimeter (Litter Zone) is strictly prohibited.

22.- Registration

The registration link will become available starting August 1st via the website www.veloclub.com.ar.

For the validation of the event registration, the National Federation of each athlete's country of origin must submit an official list of participating athletes, specifying the discipline and race in which they will compete, to the email: eventosfacimo@gmail.com.

Without the submission of this documentation, the athlete will not be permitted to complete their registration for the event.

The registration fee will be eighty US dollars (USD 80). Participants must complete the registration form with all requested data, as well as their valid 2026 UCI ID code.

Registration will open on Saturday, August 1, 2026

23.- Services Available to Competitors

- Restrooms / Toilets
- Mechanical support and bicycle product sales
- Sales of gels, multivitamins, isotonic drinks, etc.
- Food stalls / Food sales
- Controlled parking zone
- Post-race bike wash service
- Medical assistance service

The installation of any team tent must be authorized by the Race Director, who may subcontract the service to ensure the correct layout and disposition of the team pits.

24.- Accommodations and Car Rentals

Casa Pradera: located on the Padre Luis Varetto access road, providing a very fast exit toward Route 226 and Laguna de los Padres.

Apart Sierra de Los Padres: services Included: Rates typically include breakfast and parking, simplifying team logistical costs; premium Amenities: Features a spa area and a swimming pool, excellent for muscle recovery after course reconnaissance or competition days.

Aves Del Paraíso: offers a residential setting of cabins and apartments with an excellent rating of 4.8, highly valued for its warm atmosphere; natural environment: Located in an area surrounded by groves, guaranteeing complete tranquility for team delegation focus.

Chacras de Sierra Hotel & Spa: is one of the most established traditional hospitality options in the mountain ridge area; infrastructure: Features outdoor swimming pools, a very bright in-house restaurant, and spa services; gastronomic logistics: Having an on-site restaurant greatly facilitates the coordination of sporting meal regimens or dinners without requiring additional travel.

Car Rental Agencies (Airport and Downtown Offices)

HERTZ ARGENTINA

- **Central Phone:** 0810-222-4378
- **Downtown Branch:** Córdoba 2149
- **Airport Branch:** Passenger Terminal, Mar del Plata Airport

AVIS / BUDGET (SHARED OFFICES AND FLEET)

- **Phone / WhatsApp:** +54 9 223 426-0787 (Direct branch contact)
- **Downtown Branch:** Belgrano 2900
- **Airport Branch:** Passenger Terminal, Ruta 2 Km 398.5

LOCALIZA

- **Reservations Center:** 0800-999-2999
- **WhatsApp Support:** +54 9 11 3299-8183
- **Location:** Service offices available at both the Airport and the downtown area.

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR

- **Direct Phone:** +54 223 495-2935
- **Downtown Branch:** Córdoba 2270
- **Location:** Service offices available at both the Airport and the downtown area.

MULTI-BRAND CENTERS / LOCAL HOSPITALS

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE UNIT (UNIDAD SANITARIA)

- **Location:** Route 226, Km 17 (Near the entrance to Sierra de los Padres).
- **Phone:** 0223 463-1008
- **Emergency Room:** Open 24 hours. Features a permanent SAME high-complexity ambulance base specifically assigned to cover emergencies and transfers on Route 226 and adjacent areas.

BATÁN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CENTER

Is a continuous primary care alternative in the neighboring town, accessible via rural roads or the collector road connecting to Route 88.

- **Location:** Calle 145 and 132, Batán
- **Phone:** 0223 464-2111 / 0223 464-3872
- **Emergency Room:** Open 24 hours for general emergencies.

HOSPITAL INTERZONAL GENERAL DE AGUDOS "DR. OSCAR E. ALENDE" (HIGA)

- **Location:** Av. Juan B. Justo 6701 (Corner of Calle 164). Access from Route 226 entering via Avenida Luro and connecting to Juan B. Justo is a direct route for ambulances.
- **Phone:** 0223 477-0262 to 65 / Emergency Room: 0223 449-5624
- **Emergency Room:** 24-hour medical emergencies and trauma care.

25.- Final Provisions

For any queries, interpretations, and/or matters that are not expressly specified in these particular regulations of the 2026 XCM Pan-American Championships, the regulations of the International Cycling Union (UCI) shall apply as a supplementary authority and reference.

Furthermore, the organization reserves the right to introduce modifications to this document and to the event conditions in the face of force majeure situations or circumstances beyond its strict control, which will be communicated in due time to all participants.

26.- Contact Information

For logistical inquiries, technical and administrative assistance, or emergencies during the event, the organization has made the following official communication channels available:

- Organization contact number: +54 9 261 244-7672
- Official email: eventosfacimo@gmail.com
- Registration platform: www.veloclub.com

Note to teams: All requests for accreditation for support staff at aid stations, technical complaints, or the submission of official documentation must be submitted exclusively through the channels listed above or directly at the Race Office (Information Desk) during the hours established by the Panel of Commissaries.