

General Information and Participation Conditions for the Mátra Ring Cycling Challenge

2026

PURPOSE OF THE EVENT

The Mátra Ring – as the second stage of the Ring series, organized with the support of the **Active Hungary Program** – is a cycling challenge aimed at promoting cycling and an active lifestyle.

We welcome participants who have never taken part in a cycling event before or who do not yet have extensive cycling experience, as the event is primarily **not intended for professional cyclists**.

ORGANIZER

The event is organized by **Mátra Biker SC** on behalf of the **Hungarian Cycling Tourism Association (MAKETUSZ)**.

EVENT LOCATION AND DATE

Start/Finish center: Mátrafüred

Date: April 25, 2026

Opening of the start/finish center: **April 25, 2026 – 8:30 AM**

End of the event: **April 25, 2026 – 5:00 PM**

Start times

- **Long distances:** April 25, 2026 – 10:00 AM (*SLOW START during the first 4 km!!!*)
- **Short distance:** April 25, 2026 – 10:10 AM (*SLOW START during the first 4 km!!!*)

Race packages and bib numbers can be collected **from 8:30 AM on April 25, 2026**, after the opening of the start/finish center.

DISTANCE OPTIONS

Long distance + Kékes

104 km / 1400 m elevation gain

Route:

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/54200242>

Long distance

98 km / 1116 m elevation gain

Route:

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/49801560>

After the start, the field departs from **Mátrafüred**, beginning with an enjoyable **4 km descent on a wide, high-quality road toward Pálosvörösmart**.

⚠️ **IMPORTANT:** During the first 4 km there will be a **SLOW START**, and all participants must ride cautiously and at an even pace.

Upon reaching **Abasár**, turn left at **Abasári Terasz Restaurant and Pizzeria** toward **Markaz–Domoszló**. From here to **Kisnána** the route follows a newly renovated, gently rolling panoramic road that is ideal for finding a comfortable rhythm.

After the **Kisnána castle**, the **long distance route continues straight toward Verpelét**, while the **short distance route turns right toward Vécs**.

Before Verpelét, at **25.3 km**, after climbing another hill, you turn left toward **Sirok**, passing the ruins of **Verpelét Castle**. Between **Verpelét and Sirok** there is an excellent cycling path – a fast and safe section.

After **Tarnaszentmária**, the route passes through **Kőkútpuszta**, then turns right toward **Sirok**. In the center of Sirok, the route turns left toward **Pétervására**.

👉 **First refreshment point: Terpes** – a good opportunity to drink, refill, and settle your heart rate.

After **Pétervására**, the route continues toward **Bátonyterenye**, and at **57 km** you turn left toward **Mátraballa–Recsk**. In **Recsk**, you reach the main road **24**, where you turn right toward **Parád**.

Passing the **Carriage Museum in Parádfürdő**, you reach the **Parádsasvár parking area (80 km)** where the **second refreshment point** awaits in front of **Hegyipatak Guesthouse and Restaurant**.

From here begins the toughest part of the day:

🔥 the **major climb to Mátraháza**, followed by a long steady ascent and finally a careful, controlled descent back to the finish in **Mátrafüred**.

Participants wishing to conquer **Kékes** will turn left at **Mátraháza** and ride up to **Kékestető**, the pilgrimage site of Hungarian road cyclists. After reaching the summit, the same road leads back to **Mátraháza**, followed by a careful descent back to the finish in **Mátrafüred**.

Refreshment points

Two refreshment stations (*isotonic drink, water, fruit, salty and sweet snacks*):

- **42 km – Terpes, Mayor’s Office** (*toilet available*)
- **80 km – Parádsasvár parking area, Hegyipatak Guesthouse and Restaurant** (*toilet available*)

At the finish, **one portion of warm food** will be provided.

Short distance

56 km / 604 m elevation gain

Route:

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/54200241>

Route description

From **Mátrafüred**, the route starts toward **Pálosvörösmart** with an enjoyable **4 km descent on a good-quality road**.

⚠ SLOW START during the first 4 km

After passing **Abasári Terasz Restaurant and Pizzeria**, turn left toward **Markaz–Domoszló**, beginning a warm-up section with gentle rolling terrain.

Before Markaz, at the chapel, the route turns right toward the lake where a scenic southern panoramic section above the lake awaits. At the end of the long straight, descend left to the water level and then circle **Lake Markaz** on a dirt road starting from the dam. This is an easy, fast gravel road that is not technically difficult.

After circling the lake, turn right at the gas station toward **Kisnána** along a newly renovated, pleasantly rolling panoramic road.

After **Kisnána Castle**, the short route turns right off the main road (*long-distance riders continue straight toward Verpelét*).

Leaving Kisnána, the route continues toward **Vécs**, where a refreshment station awaits in the village center.

From here, a short but noticeable climb follows. After passing open-pit mines, the road turns right toward **Domoszló**. In Domoszló, turn left back to the main route and continue through **Markaz, Abasár, and Pálosvörösmart** toward the finish.

From **Abasár**, the final section begins: the road gradually climbs again all the way to the finish in **Mátrafüred**. This is where you can push the last segment with your remaining energy.

Refreshment

- **25 km – Vécs, in front of the Mayor's Office** (*toilet available*)
- **At the finish:** one portion of warm food

⚠ During refreshment stops **participants must use their own bottles; plastic cups will not be provided**.

The route will be secured by the organizers with **traffic control where necessary, but roads will not be closed**.

REGISTRATION AND TIMING

Participation requires **registration and payment of the entry fee**.

Registration is available **only online** at: https://sportnaptar.hu/matra-ring_CDC305658D398860

This also applies to **on-site registration**.

Entry fees can be refunded **until April 17, 2026** if the registration is cancelled. After this date, the entry fee **will not be refunded**.

⚠ Cash payments are not accepted on-site.

Registration is open **until the last hour before the start**, but **only online**.

ENTRY FEES

Individual registration

Long distance with medal (max. 100 participants)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17, 2026: **6000 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23, 2026: **7000 HUF**
- Apr 24–25, 2026: **8000 HUF**

Long distance + Kékes with medal (max. 100 participants)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17, 2026: **6000 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23, 2026: **7000 HUF**
- Apr 24–25, 2026: **8000 HUF**

Short distance with medal (max. 140 participants)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17, 2026: **5500 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23, 2026: **6500 HUF**
- Apr 24–25, 2026: **7500 HUF**

Long distance without medal

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **4500 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23: **5500 HUF**
- Apr 24–25: **6500 HUF**

Short distance without medal

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **4000 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23: **5000 HUF**
- Apr 24–25: **6000 HUF**

Team registration

(entry fee per participant)

Long distance with medal (max. 3 teams)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **6000 HUF**

Long distance + Kékes with medal (max. 3 teams)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **6000 HUF**

Short distance with medal (max. 3 teams)

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **5500 HUF**

Long distance without medal

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **4500 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23: **5500 HUF**
- Apr 24: **6500 HUF**

Short distance without medal

- Mar 13 – Apr 17: **4000 HUF**
- Apr 18 – Apr 23: **5000 HUF**
- Apr 24: **6000 HUF**

TIMING

Chip timing will be provided for all participants. The chips will be attached to the **back of the race numbers**.

Results will be continuously updated after finishing on: www.fairtiming.hu

THE ENTRY FEE INCLUDES


- Finisher package
- Unique finisher medal for the medal categories
- Timing services
- Race number
- Medical insurance
- Refreshment points (*2 on long distance, 1 on short distance*)
- One portion of food at the finish
- Service point at the start/finish area
- Route marking and safety control where necessary (*no road closures*)
- Professional photo coverage

MEDICAL SUPERVISION

Medical assistance will be available **throughout the entire duration of the event.**

PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

Participation is **at the participant's own risk.**

 **Helmet use is mandatory.**

If someone participates without a helmet, the organizers assume **no liability for accidents, damages, or injuries** resulting from the absence of a helmet.

All participants must follow:

- **Hungarian traffic regulations (KRESZ)**
- instructions from the **organizers and route marshals**

Participants must maintain a **condition suitable for cycling throughout the event** and start the event **healthy and physically prepared.**

Participants under **14 years old may only participate with adult supervision.** Participants between **14 and 18 years old** may participate **without an accompanying adult but with a signed parental consent form.**

The consent form is available on the registration page under **Documents.**

Each participant is responsible for the **technical condition of their bicycle.**

The organizer assumes **no responsibility for accidents, damages, or injuries** resulting from:

- violation of participation conditions
- violation of traffic regulations
- failure to follow organizer instructions
- medical conditions

During registration, participants confirm that they have read and accepted the **Ring Series data protection policy** available at ringsorozat.hu and on the event registration page.

By submitting the registration, participants (or legal guardians of minors) **explicitly consent to photo, audio, and video recordings** being made during the event.

The organizers **reserve the right to modify the route.**

All participants must start with the **official race number provided by the organizers**, placed **clearly visible on the front of the bicycle.** Incorrectly attached or poorly visible numbers may result in **inaccurate timing**, and complaints will not be accepted.

Participants may ride **any type of bicycle** (*road bike, mountain bike, trekking, cross, e-bike, etc.*).

MORE INFORMATION

Further details are available at:

- www.ringsorozat.hu/matra-ring
- the event's Facebook page
- the registration page:
https://sportnaptar.hu/matra-ring_CDC305658D398860