





## 2024 SMALL TOWN GRAVEL SERIES PRESENTED BY *SPECIALIZED*<sup>®</sup>

### WHO WE ARE ....

Chainbuster Racing started producing gravel races in the southeast in 2014 with the Assault on Currahee Mountain. The series expanded to multiple races in 2015, highlighting some of the most beautiful and challenging gravel in the southeastern United States!

For 2024, most of your favorite races are back! Gravel racing is a slice of Americana. It's as much about the local communities as it is the resplendent but rugged terrain we ride. So, to honor the communities that host us, welcome to the Small Town Gravel Series.

## **WHAT SHOULD I EXPECT?**

The story of gravel racing, or bike racing in general for that matter, isn't always fast racers at the top of the boxes. It's the story of riders like you, me, AND the riders on the top of podium who all found out that they are capable of more than they thought they were! FAR MORE!

It's also about the journey along the way. Gravel racing is just different! It's taking a minute to enjoy the view from the top of that brutal climb that you thought would never end! Gravel racing is about perseverance and self-challenge! It's about enjoying your passion with others who understand you better than most others do. It's about smiling faces at aid stations and indulging in gummy snacks when you typically wouldn't. It's about exploring the wilderness on marked courses! Everyone who lines up at a gravel race, from the most elite to the most beginner, all have the same goal...to do the best they possibly can!

If you want intense competition, you can obviously find it at our gravel races. But if you want a more relaxed approach...to just have a great day on bike, we've got that too! One of our favorite quotes from 2021 came from our new friend and first-time gravel racer, Phyllis Hines (a legendary road racer with multiple national championships to her name) who said it best as she was leaving from The Kissing Bridge Classic.

"I was out here to have fun with my friend and take great pictures. Our goal was to be the last ones in. If we had known there was one more person behind us, we would've slowed down!"

## HOW DO I REGISTER?

The quickest way to register is by signing up online. Visit our event calendar on BikeReg and select one of our gravel events (or all of them!). Decide your distance (Long or Short)! Then select a category that you qualify for. We do offer race day registration at most events, but to avoid a higher entry fee, potential timing issues with your chip, and not miss out on a sweet T-shirt...it's best to register at least ten days before a race! If a race sells out, no race day registration will be offered. We call this Increase/Decrease Day and it will be Sunday, TEN DAYS BEFORE the race.

Your registration fee includes awesome swag, aid stations stocked with water, Hammer Nutrition products, assorted snacks, and smiling faces, and a post-race meal!

Registration for all of our events is on [BikeReg](#).



## WHAT IF IT RAINS OR I GET SICK?

Most of our races are on either forest service roads or county-maintained gravel roads. If it rains, we still race. However, IF there is a high likelihood of severe weather, we will do everything in our power to reschedule the event. If that isn't possible, we will automatically roll your registration into another Chainbuster gravel or endurance event of your choosing. We encourage you take the opportunity to add registration insurance to your cart when you check-out at BikeReg. This is a low-cost peace of mind option that provides a refund to you if an injury or sickness happens to you prior to the event.

[BikeReg Insurance](#)

## **ARE THE COURSES MARKED?**

We spend lots of time and resources on course markings. We try to be very redundant. Frankly, we're a little obsessed. All of our courses are marked before race day and verified early the morning of the race. The LONG courses are marked with pink signs and the SHORT courses are marked with green signs. Yet, on more than one occasion in the last several years, our course markings were stolen and/or tampered with. Based on this, we **STRONGLY** recommend that you use GPS navigation. We have GPX and RideWithGPS files available for download on the event pages on our website. Please download the racecourse **BEFORE** race day and add it to your preferred navigation device!

## **WHAT BIKE SHOULD I RIDE?**

This one is pretty easy! Ride whichever bike you are most comfortable on! At every Chainbuster gravel race, there will be lots of mountain bikes. Mountain bikes are extremely versatile, and if you are only going to have one bike, it should be a mountain bike especially since both trails **AND** gravel are pretty crappy on a road race rocket! However, it really depends on what your goal is. Are you looking to be a top performer in your category? If so, a gravel bike is your best bet for most of the races on the schedule. We have found that 38mm or wider are best for most courses. The wider the better in sandy courses and for Assault on Currahee Mountain...you'll see an even split between racers on gravel bikes and racers on mountain bikes.

## **RACE LOGISTICS**

All races will begin at 9:00 AM local time. For most races that is EST, but Shake N Brake is CST.

There are two distance options for our race series, Long and Short. For most of our races, the Long Course is approximately 60 miles, and the Short Course is typically half the distance of the long course. A race with a shorter distance will feature significantly more elevation change per mile. Each course has its own unique challenges, and the length may be shortened due to other more difficult features (i.e. the climb up Currahee Mountain!) Regardless of course, the top finishers of the Long Course usually roll (blast!) through the finish line in about 2.5 hours.

All racers will be given a number plate at the first race they attend. RFID timing chips will be safely secured to the back of your plate. Each racer is responsible for keeping up with this plate the entire series. **Lost plates can be replaced for \$10.**

Each racer must have a number plate mounted and visible on the front of the bike. When attaching the plate to your bike, please do not bend the plate as that may cause the chip to malfunction.

All racers are responsible for staying on course. It is recommended that all racers carry a copy of the course map during the race as well as a cell phone with the course downloaded. All course routes can be found on the individual event page with a link to Ride With GPS, Strava and a download GPX.

Aid stations will be located on the course. They will be stocked with water, Hammer Nutrition products and other goodies. You are welcome to send a drop bag ahead if you would prefer to use your own favorite race fuel. Please label a 1QT freezer bag with your name (Last, First) and plate number.

## **COURSE DOWNLOADS**

Please refer to the event page on our [website](#) for course downloads. Download routes before you arrive onsite and know how to operate your app/computer/program.

## **SERIES AWARDS**

To compete with series awards, participants must compete in five out of six of the Small Town Gravel Series races in the same category. Awards will be given to the top three participants in each category and a champion jersey will be awarded as well.

Included in our series for 2024 is the Standard Deluxe! We are not the race promoters, but we will be there helping out and timing the event. If you choose to race the Standard Deluxe, you can apply points from that race to your series standings this year.

## **E-BIKE CATEGORY**

Where allowed by land management, we do have e-bike categories for both distances. E-bikes should be non-modified (stock) bikes that are pedal assist rather than throttle operated. Additionally, e-bike riders are not permitted to “pull” or provide assistance to participants in other categories.

## **ASSAULT ON CURRAHEE MOUNTAIN**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024**

**LAKE RUSSELL RECREATION AREA, MT AIRY GA**

DETAILS HERE: <https://www.chainbusterracing.com/assault-on-currahee>

### **PARKING**

**\$5 PARKING FEE REQUIRED BY USFS**

MAP to PARKING: <https://www.google.com/maps/dir//34.4930473,-83.4952097/@34.4927474,-83.5776464,12z?entry=ttu>

The best address is Lake Russell Recreation Area 3059 Lake Russell Road Mt Airy, GA 30563. Look for signs on Saturday when you arrive.

PAY FOR PARKING ONLINE: <https://www.recreation.gov/activitypass/AP21152>

**Please arrive early as we will be checking in over 150 racers.**

The logo for Specialized, featuring the word "SPECIALIZED" in a bold, italicized, black sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol (®) at the bottom right.



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