



MOUNTAIN BIKE & ELECTRIC MOUNTAIN BIKE (eMTB) Trail Rules & Etiquette



Respecting others keeps trails fun & safe for everyone!

CONTROL YOUR SPEED: Obey **15 mph speed limit**, slow to **5 mph** when passing.

SLOW DOWN EVEN MORE: The #1 complaint of hikers and equestrians is passing speed (**the limit is 5 MPH**). Please reduce your speed to the point where you can **say "hello!" and hear a reply before you pass.**

BE PREPARED: Always wear a helmet, carry ID, and water. Pack snacks for longer rides and a light if your ride could extend into the evening. Take a trail map (or get a pic at the trailhead) and a cell phone, but be aware you may not get service.

SHARE THE TRAIL: Yield to all hikers and equestrians. Downhill cyclists yield to uphill ones, keep right unless passing. Pass safely—**slow down and say hello!**

AVOID STARTLING OTHERS: Bells help at a distance, your voice is even better.



RESPECT EQUESTRIANS: Stay visible and ask the rider if it is OK to pass. When approaching from behind your voice assures the horse you are not a predator.

RESPECT OUR TRAILS: Ride on open trails only. Stay off those closed to bikes. Keep off wet trails to avoid the damage of deep tracks. Don't block the trail. Close any gates you open after passing through.

RESPECT NATURE: Be aware of wildlife and plants. Don't litter, leave no trace.



DON'T TUNE OUT: If listening to music wear only one earbud to hear those who may be approaching you.



eMTB specific considerations:

MIND YOUR BATTERY: Be sure to reserve adequate power for the return trip.



MIND YOUR SPEED: Your uphill speed may surprise others, Follow speed limits, passing protocol, and make your presence known.

KNOW YOUR ABILITY: Don't make steep climbs that will be difficult/dangerous to descend.



CHECK AHEAD: Be aware of any park or land management rules or conditions related to eMTBs. In general only Class-1 eMTBs are allowed on Marin Trails (at parks where they are allowed).

The MCBC supports the adoption of Class 1 eMTBs because:

- » The average eMTB rider is no faster than the fastest mountain bike rider.
- » Class 1 eMTBs and traditional mountain bikes have roughly the same trail impact.
- » eMTBs are emissions-free, low impact and operate silently. More e-bikes equals fewer people in cars.
- » eMTBs remove barriers to the outdoors for riders, and help people of different skill levels ride together.
- » Class 1 eMTBs are limited to pedal assist only up to 20 miles an hour.



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