



Welcome to the Norte Race Team - 2024 Rider Commitment

The Norte Race Team is a supportive and inclusive community for northern Michigan youth riders in grades 4-12. Our goal at Norte is that all participants will experience the joys and challenges of practicing and competing as a team. Together, we will help riders in 4th - 12th grades set personal goals, gain confidence, and make friends. All skill levels are welcome, and previous race experience is not required.

As an added bonus, the Norte Race Team is free to athletes enrolled in at least one after-school program (Spring or Fall) during the specified calendar year. From generous and thoughtful support by Norte sponsors, coaches, and staff, this team is designed to cultivate camaraderie, motivate riders, and empower our athletes to become the best version of themselves as riders and teammates - it's not about the race - it's about the rider! Norte's mission is "to champion bikes and community." Within all of our work, we strive to build confidence, independence, connections, and leadership qualities in our participants. We are rolling out a new leadership opportunity for Norte Race Team members to become one of our five Team Captains. This role will provide those who wish to apply and are chosen with additional opportunities to gain leadership skills and provide input and inspiration to Norte and our community. Application information to follow.

Norte's commitment to all team members - Norte will:

- Be dependable, welcoming, supportive, and inclusive to all team members
- Schedule and provide race team practices 1-3 times per month May - October
- Bring the Norte tent, supplies, extra cowbells, and support to selected 2024 races
- Supply a 2024 Norte Race Team jersey at no cost to you
- Provide transportation in the Norte van to practices away from Traverse City, when possible - as room allows
- Provide coaching at team practices to riders of all levels
- Manage the opportunity to apply to become a Team Captain
- Provide preferred application status to assistant coach at Summer Camp once 14 or older
- Negotiate discounted or free race registration fees at most races



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Your commitment to your team - I will:

- Positively represent my community, my sport, and my team with good sportsmanship and respectful actions and words toward others
- Wear my Norte jersey/jacket/bibs/shorts/etc at team practices and races
- Attend at least 50% of practices (I understand practices are about more than just me)
- Volunteer with Norte at least 1-2 times per year
- Respect my coaches, volunteers, competitors, and Norte staff at all times; this includes but is not limited to interaction in person, at events, and on social media
- Practice safe and proper rider etiquette at all times
- Act as a role model to newer and younger team members
- Arrive to practices, races, and volunteer opportunities on time and prepared
- Celebrate the success of my accomplishments and those of my teammates during practices and at races by cheering for others and staying through award ceremonies

I also understand that:

- Race Team is an additional offering to regular Norte programs and does not affect my group placement in Mountain Bike Club, Adventure Bike Club, Summer Camp, or Shredventure
- Race Team is a place for EVERYONE. We offer no-drop practices, and we cheer for all team members regardless of speed or ability
- Being part of a team means being engaged, supporting my teammates, talking positively about my team, and contributing to my team when I can
- Membership on the Race Team is a privilege. If I do not follow team guidelines or represent myself or Norte positively, I will be placed on a behavior contract plan or asked to leave the team.

I, _____, have read, understand, and agree to what is stated above and will strive to meet or exceed these expectations through the 2024 season (January 1 - December 31, 2024).

Name (print clearly): _____ Date: _____