

Volunteering for TCR No4.

Thank you for considering volunteering for the Transcontinental Race this year. This document aims to outline the roles for this year's event, giving you an idea of what we need and a taste for what you can expect.

Volunteering from home.

Translation.

We are seeking individuals with language skills to help us translate some of our documents from English to some of the key languages our riders speak. We have a number of documents we would like to feel confident that riders have understood thoroughly. We ask individuals who are fluent in English and another language(s) to help provide aids to understanding the original documents. We would like to have all of these available to our riders by early July. Please see the form for details of which languages we are specifically seeking.

Dot watchers.

Our army of Dot watchers help make the TCR the credible and influential race it has become. Thanks to their dedication and hours of attention each year we follow every rider's progress throughout the race and catch issues that may come up. This can also help improve rider safety and allows us to act on any rule infringements in order to present a fair race.

To try and suit as many people as possible we have created several options to choose from if you would like to get involved as a Dot Watcher:

Casual Dot watcher.

This dot watcher "Lite" volunteering requires the least commitment and allows you to check the map at your own convenience. We appreciate many people will be watching the dots as friends/family or simply fans of the sport. Volunteering for us would simply mean keeping an eye out for any significant events you might notice and reporting those using the dedicated 'report' button (next to the map). We appreciate lives are busy and it is difficult to commit time each day so we realise this level of volunteering will suit more people. We would ask that as many people as possible are available to start monitoring right from the start around 22:00 CET on 29/07/16.

Committed Dot watcher**.

This is the "pro" level of volunteering and will require a regular daily portion of your time. This can be at any time of the day but we do ask that you only consider signing up if you know you can consistently commit time on a daily basis. We would like to sign up a group of around 15 to 20 dedicated dot watchers to watch around 20 riders each and report on any rule infringements, significant events and rider status. 20 riders may seem like a lot but the level of reporting is low (and help can be provided if you need it). We will ask you to watch their distance and speed,

have they moved a reasonable distance and at a reasonable speed (i.e human powered), we will supply a list of illegal roads for you to monitor and ask you to keep an eye on rider's social media pages for any significant news and of course their status, ie are they still racing or have they scratched (quit racing). This year we will have a traffic light system to enable you to easily report any issues directly to our team who can quickly take any action necessary. We would ask that you are available to start monitoring right from the start around 22:00 CET on 29/07/16.

Dot watcher - Management**.

Last year we had 3 to 4 super-amazing dot watchers who stepped up and took on a fair amount of extra work helping us keep on top of managing a large group of reporters and condensing the information down into useable data. This year (having learnt from last year) we will have a more robust system in place, however we do still need people willing to put in the time to help us keep it running smoothly. Ideally we are looking for 3 to 4 people who have experience of dot watching and are good with managing data. The particular roles we have available are:

1. Rule Monitor. Are riders adhering to the rules? We would like you to have an in-depth knowledge of all the rules, keep an eye on problem areas*, respond to queries from volunteer dot watchers, keep a spreadsheet of incidents and coordinate with core team.
*illegal roads, the start where drafting might occur etc.
2. Volunteer coordinator. We would like you to help the other volunteer dot watchers. Respond to any queries regarding subjects other than the rules, move riders around if volunteers can't continue and coordinate with core team.
3. Traffic light monitor. Coordinate with core team.
4. Scratch list monitor. Coordinate with core team.

Volunteering on the road**.

Since the start of Transcontinental in 2013 we've held Control points along the route of the race where riders are required to stop and get their card stamped with their time. In 2015 we had 175 riders and a rough distance of 4000km between them and Istanbul. Along the route local volunteers travelled to our control points and stayed from a few days to over a week in order to provide 24 hour cover for the control desk ensuring each and every rider who arrived at the control point (while it was open) had their arrival time recorded and their brevet card stamped. This year we expect to have about 250 to 300 riders start, and though the distance is slightly shorter this year it's all about the climbing. This year's control points are as follows.

1. Puy de Dome in the The Auvergne region of France from Sunday 31st July to Monday 1st August.
2. Furka Pass in Switzerland from Monday 1st August to Thursday 4th August.
3. Passo di Giau in the Dolomites in Italy from Tuesday 2nd August to Saturday 6th August.

4. Durmitor National Park in Montenegro from Thursday 4th August to Wednesday 10th August.
5. Canakkale on the Gallipoli peninsula, Turkey from Saturday 6th August to Wednesday 17th August.

This year we are looking for a minimum of 4 volunteers per control. If you would like to volunteer with us at a control point you will be asked to cover shifts of about 6 hours each with two people working together per shift to cover breaks and help each other out. We have split the shifts into roughly a day shift, an evening shift and a night shift. During your shift you will be asked to maintain cover at the Control reception as riders can arrive without warning. You will be able to monitor the progress of the rider's dots on the TCR map and the moment they arrive and hand over their brevet card the most important job is to get an accurate recording of their arrival time.

Each control will be lead by either one of our sponsors or the core team or a combination of the two. Our core team drive between the controls in two cars. They work hard at organising, maintaining and documenting and reporting on the race. Our ideal volunteers are those who can take on the responsibility of operating the control during their shift allowing the core team to get on with their other responsibilities. Once the core team has departed volunteers may retain responsibility of the control until close.

NB: Volunteers for the positions marked ** will be eligible for a priority application in next year's race. Due to the level of entries we now receive for the race and the number of dot watchers, we are not able to offer this for the 'Casual Dot Watcher' position