



We're excited to include legal electric bikes* (eBikes) in the 2019 Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge! Please review the information below to help ensure that your electric bike(s) are suitable for this event.

Only legal Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 electric bikes will be permitted. Not sure if your bike is legal? Please consult the link below and/or speak with your local bike shop to understand if your bike meets the State of CA definition.

People For Bikes - Summary of State of CA legal electric bikes:

https://peopleforbikes.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/PFB-0529-E-Bike-Law-Handouts_CA_Edit_02132018v2.pdf

Legal eBikes with throttles and/or hub motors. We recommend that people with hub motor bikes and/or legal Class 2 bikes with throttles be particularly thoughtful in choosing to ride this event.

- Many hub driven eBikes are capable of less total range.
- In the event of flat, bikes with rear hub motors are more difficult to repair (the support vehicle volunteers may or may not be equipped to complete that repair).

Conserve your battery - enjoy the whole course! At about 45 miles in length and over 3,000 feet of elevation gain, this course may exceed the range that some eBike batteries can travel. Tips to give yourself the best chance of completing the course with battery / motor assistance.

1. Start with a 100% fully charged battery
2. Ride as often as you can with lower levels of assistance. Turn your assistance down (or off) on the level and downhill portions of the course.
3. Consider running some tests. If time permits, if you've not tested the outer limits of distance and elevation gain on your electric bike, consider doing so before the event. The climb from sea level to UCSC is in the range of 700+ feet. Perhaps run a few laps on such a course and see what sort of range your bike has.

3. Turn back at about 60% of remaining battery charge. Once you see your battery state of charge approach 60% remaining, we recommend that you turn around and head for the finish. Please know that the last few miles of the course are a long climb from sea level to the upper portion of the UCSC campus and you'll want battery assistance to enjoy the finish.

For those who are prepared, we think you'll enjoy this amazing Santa Cruz bicycling tradition!