

2026 UEC GRANFONDO European Championships

Varese (Italy)
3-4 October 2026

TECHNICAL GUIDE

as of .9.2026

WELCOME TO VARESE

Varese is a special destination where culture, nature and sport meet. Riders and visitors can enjoy a lively provincial capital with a rich cultural offer, while the surrounding hills and lakes provide immediate access to nature.

The Giardini Estensi, in the centre of Varese, form the main meeting point for participants and guests. Nearby, the Campo dei Fiori Regional Park includes the Sacro Monte di Varese, one of the nine Sacred Mountains of Piedmont and Lombardy recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

ORGANISATION CONTACTS

Subject	Contact
General event information	granfondo@trevallivaresine.com
Registration enquiries	gftrevallivaresine@evodata.it
Team information and registrations	team.granfondo@trevallivaresine.com
Qualification invitation enquiries	info@ucigranfondoworldseries.com

Website: https://trevallivaresine.info/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/DEM_Gran-FondoEuropeo.pdf

ESSENTIAL EVENT INFORMATION

Item	Details
Event	UEC Granfondo European Championships / Gran Fondo Tre Valli Varesine
Dates	Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 October 2026
Host city	Varese, Italy
Race Village	Giardini Estensi, Via Sacco 5, 21100 Varese
Time trial start	Ippodromo, Largo Martiri della Libertà, Varese
Road-race start and finish	Via Luigi Sacco, in front of Varese Town Hall / Palazzo Estense
Time trial	22 km, approximately 220 m elevation gain
Medio Fondo	101 km, approximately 1,610 m elevation gain
Gran Fondo	126 km, approximately 2,120 m elevation gain

TRAVEL INFORMATION

By car

Varese is accessible via the A8 and A9 motorways. Follow signs for Varese from the nearest motorway exit. Several public car parks are available around the event area.

By train

Varese railway station has connections with major Italian cities. From the station, riders can continue to the event area by bicycle or taxi.

By air

The nearest airports are Milan Malpensa (MXP) and Milan Linate (LIN). Rail and car-hire connections are available from both airports.

EVENT LOCATIONS

Venue	Location / use
Race Village	Giardini Estensi, Via Sacco 5
Road-race start and finish	Via Luigi Sacco, Varese
Time trial	Ippodromo, Largo Martiri della Libertà
First-aid point	Piazza Monte Grappa
Showers	Municipal swimming pool, Via Copelli
Bicycle storage	Giardini Estensi



PARKING AND EVENT LOGISTICS

Public parking is available at various locations around central Varese. Riders should allow sufficient time to park and reach the Race Village or start area. Follow local signage and traffic instructions.

Parking location	Notes
Autosilo Piazza Repubblica	Central public car park
Parcheggio Municipio Varese, Via Verdi	Near Town Hall / start area
Parcheggio Via Lonati	Central parking
Parcheggio Via Luini	Central parking
Autosilo Sempione	Multi-storey parking
Parcheggio Villa Recalcati	Public parking
Multipiano Casbeno	Multi-storey parking
Parcheggio Viale Europa	Public parking
Parcheggio Viale Europa / Via Berni	Public parking
Parcheggio Cimitero di Casbeno	Public parking
Camper area	Use the organiser's camper-area information

Parking availability, access routes and restrictions may change during the event.

Follow the organiser's final parking information.

COURSES AND ROUTE INFORMATION

The 2026 Granfondo European Championships technical guide includes all qualification, eligibility, clothing, start, bicycle and competition rules. Riders should also follow final official communiqués and instructions issued by the commissaires.

INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL 22 km	MEDIO FONDO 101 km	GRAN FONDO 126 km
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CHAMPIONSHIP DISTANCES

Women aged 19–49 and men aged 19–59 compete on the Gran Fondo course.

Women aged 50+ and men aged 60+ compete on the Medio Fondo course in their European Championships' categories

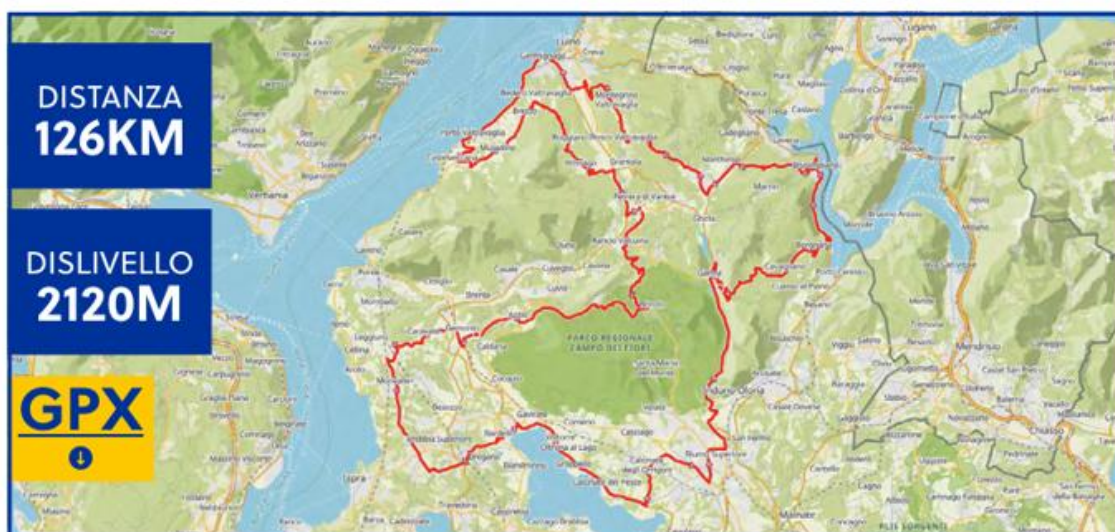
Gran Fondo: 126 km / approximately 2,120 m

The Gran Fondo starts in Via Sacco in front of Varese Town Hall and heads towards Induno Olona and Valganna. The first major climb is Alpe Tedesco, followed by the descent through Cuasso al Monte to Porto Ceresio. From Brusimpiano, the route climbs Ardena to the Sanctuary of the Madonna di Ardena, then continues towards Marchirolo and Cugliate Fabiasco.

At Montegrino Valtravaglia the routes separate. The Gran Fondo continues towards Luino, Germignaga, Brezzo di Bedero, Porto Valtravaglia and Castelveccana, before returning through Brissago Valtravaglia and Mesenzana. The courses rejoin and pass Cassano Valcuvia, Ferrera di Varese, Masciago Primo, Rancio Valcuvia and Brinzio. The final section runs through Castello Cabiaglio, Orino, Azzio, Gemonio, Caravate, Sangiano, Monvalle, Besozzo, Brebbia, Malgesso, Bardello and Gavirate, alongside Lake Varese to Schiranna, before the final climb back to the finish in Via Sacco.

GPX : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14jGAdmaS4lEX30OP2vX9Um-zStlVWyNI/view>

PERCORSO GRAN FONDO

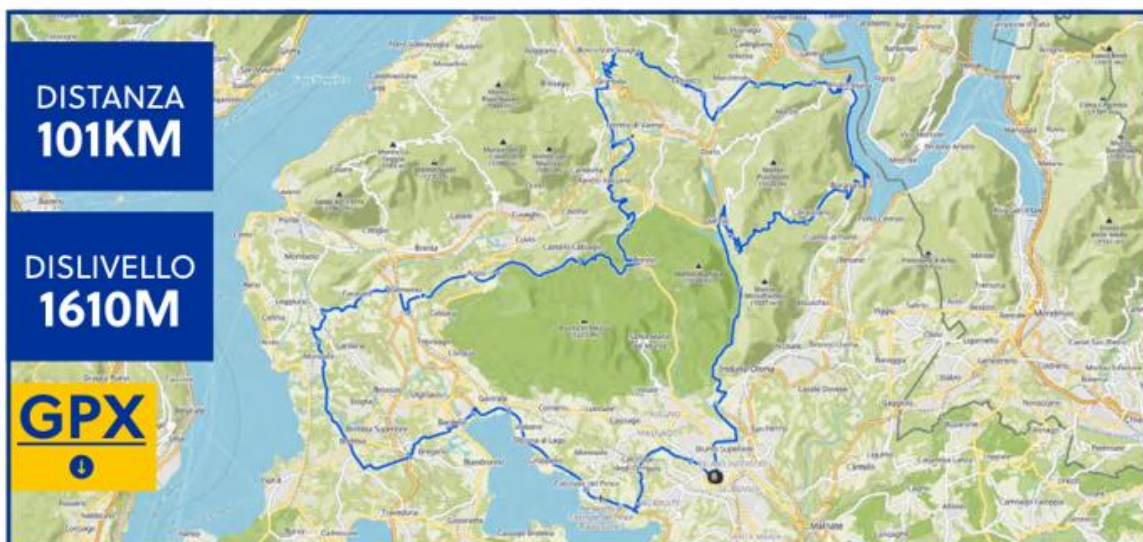


Medio Fondo: 101 km / approximately 1,610 m

The Medio Fondo follows the Gran Fondo route from Via Sacco through Induno Olona, Valganna, Alpe Tedesco, Cuasso al Monte, Porto Ceresio, Brusimpiano, Ardena, Marchirolo and Cugliate Fabiasco. At Montegrino Valtravaglia it descends through Grantola to Mesenzana, where it rejoins the Gran Fondo route. Both routes then continue together to the finish in Varese.

GPX : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/195Tu8xxreS6ni0cMoobyjKyIQsk82m7A/view>

PERCORSO MEDIO FONDO

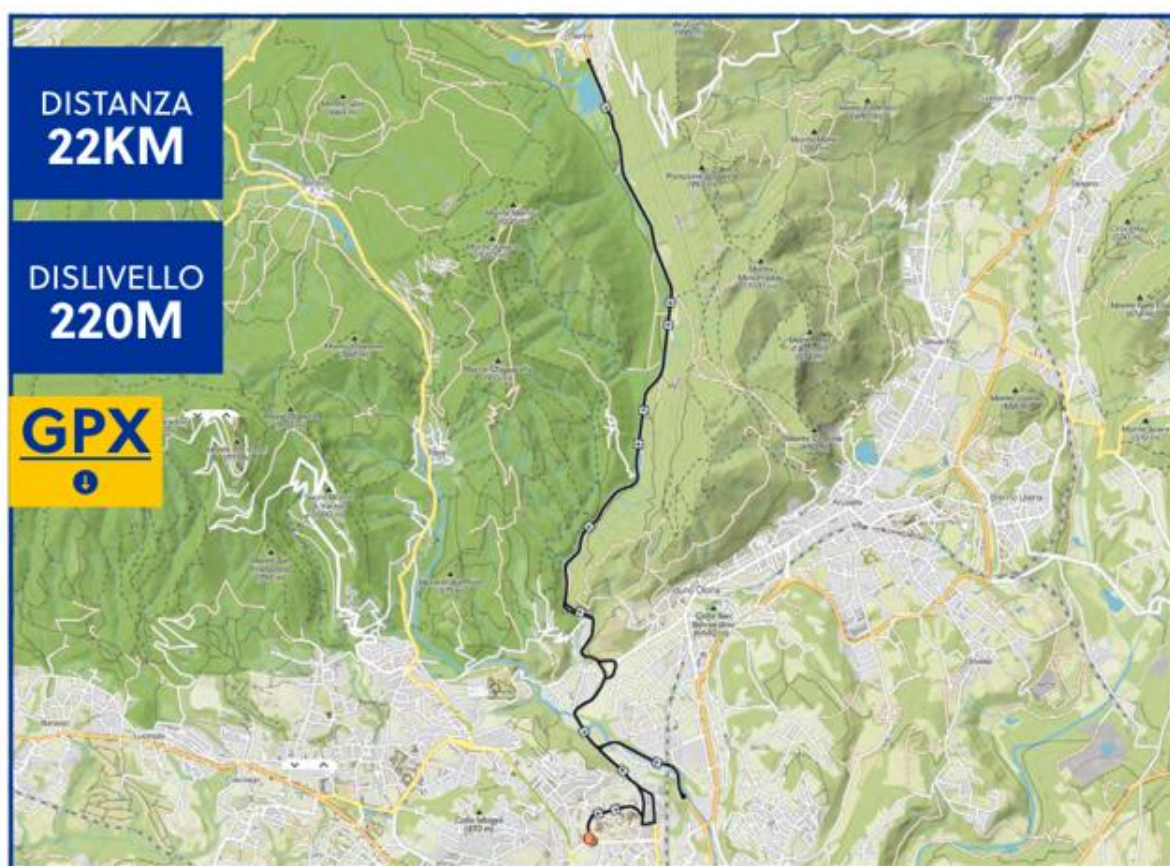


Individual time trial: 22 km / approximately 220 m

The individual time trial starts at the Ippodromo in Largo Martiri della Libertà. Riders must report in good time for the mandatory bicycle check and call-up. The official GPX, final start list and any course-specific danger notices take precedence.

GPX : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SLOdcWZ3u3KK8hpMCCmQzh7FnKUZKgUc/view>

PERCORSO CRONOMETRO



COMPETITION PROGRAMME

Saturday 3 October 2026

* Times	Activity
09:00–12:30	Individual time trial race-number collection
09:30	Gran Fondo registration opens; Race Village, food area, shops and entertainment open
09:30–12:00	Preliminary time trial bicycle check at the Ippodromo
13:00–17:30	UEC Granfondo European Championships individual time trial starts at the Ippodromo
18:00	Time trial awards ceremony; Gran Fondo registration closes
18:30	AperiBinda

Sunday 4 October 2026

* Times *	Activity
07:00	Gran Fondo and Medio Fondo registration / race-number collection opens
08:00	Starting pens open
09:00	Food area, shops and entertainment open
09:00–09:40	Gran Fondo and Medio Fondo category starts
12:00	Pasta party
13:30	Medio Fondo and Gran Fondo awards ceremony

** Times subject to changes. Please check the final start lists, official communiqués and venue announcements.*

ELIGIBILITY AND QUALIFICATION

Who may compete for the UEC Granfondo European Championships title?

A rider is eligible for a European title only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- The rider has successfully qualified through a UCI Gran Fondo World Series event.
- The rider holds a full-year licence issued by a UEC-affiliated national federation.
- The rider has a valid UCI ID (11 digits code printed on your license)
- The rider's sporting nationality is that of a European nation.
- The rider complies with the participation restrictions and all applicable UCI, UEC and event regulations.

Qualification through the UCI Gran Fondo World Series

Every UCI Gran Fondo World Series event held during the 12 months before the European Championships grants qualification rights. The first 25% of starters in each official age group qualify, provided they finish the race. The percentage is calculated from the number of starters, not the number of finishers. In addition, the first three finishers in each official age category qualify irrespective of the number of starters.

Qualification by discipline

- A qualifier event with only a road race grants qualification for both the European Championship road race and individual time trial.
- A qualifier event with both a road race and a time trial grants qualification separately for the corresponding discipline.

Other qualification routes

- The outgoing UEC Granfondo European Champions may enter the first following edition in both the time trial and road race.
- The reigning UCI Gran Fondo World Champions in the time trial and road race may enter both disciplines.
- Current-year Masters national champions in the road race and individual time trial may enter without World Series qualification, subject to confirmation by their national federation.
- The Italian Cycling Federation may award 20 host-nation wildcards, allocated to 10 women and 10 men; these riders may enter both disciplines.

Recreational participation

Amateur riders who have not qualified or do not hold a full-year licence may participate with a one-day licence, subject to the organiser's entry requirements. They are not eligible for European titles. A sports medical certificate is required for ALL riders. These riders start in the second part of their relevant start pen.

RACE NUMBER COLLECTION AND TIMING CHIP

Race Number Collection

Race numbers and race packs are collected at the Race Village in the Giardini Estensi, Via Sacco 5. Collection is personal. Riders must present their original identity document. Licensed riders must also present their federation / UCI licence. Photocopies and collection by third parties are not accepted.

Day	Opening hours
Saturday 3 October	09:30–18:00
Sunday 4 October	From 07:00

OneChip timing

Timing is provided by EvoData using chip technology. To be detected and classified, each rider must use an activated OneChip. The chip must be mounted under the bicycle saddle in accordance with the supplied instructions and must not be modified.

Riders without a chip may purchase one for €30 or hire one for €5, with a €10 deposit. Hired chips must be returned to the EvoData stand at the Race Village entrance.

REGISTRATION

Register online registration via https://www.endu.net/events/granfondo_tre_valli_varesine/book

		Entry fee		
From	to	Individual Time Trial 3 Oct 2026	Gran Fondo 4 Oct 2026	Combined
15 december 2025	1 february 2026	€30	€45	€65
2 february 2026	2 august 2026	€30	€50	€70
3 august 2026	1 october 2026	€30	€60	€80
3 october 2026	4 october 2026	€30	€80	€110

Host country wildcards

The National Federation of the host country may request 10 wildcards . The request shall be addressed to info@ucigranfondoworldseries.com

MEDICAL, SAFETY AND MERGENCY INFORMATION

Medical certificate and insurance

ALL riders (licensed and unlicensed) must provide a sports medical certificate. All participants must have adequate accident and civil-liability insurance valid in Italy. Riders should carry any documentation required by the organiser or their licensing federation.

Download the medical certificate form in English via <https://egs-eventi.endu.net/00000000/00090000/00094400/00094427/95ca720f2b4098af7b6743baec62d2b73c91e2270d08fe80be976935bed53225.pdf>

Race-number medical information

For effective emergency treatment, riders should complete the medical information requested on the reverse of the race number, including:

- First name and family name
- Blood group
- Relevant medical conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, allergies or epilepsy
- Current medication
- Emergency contact's full name and telephone number, including international dialling code

Hospitals and first aid

Facility	Location
First-aid point	Piazza Monte Grappa, Varese
Main hospital	Ospedale di Circolo e Fondazione Macchi di Varese
Additional hospitals	ASST Cittiglio and ASST Luino

On-course safety

- Follow all instructions given by commissaires, police, marshals, medical staff and the organiser.
- Ride with particular care on technical descents, narrow sections, junctions, tunnels and other marked hazards.
- When roads have reopened, normal Italian traffic regulations apply in full.
- In an emergency, use the official emergency contact information published by the organiser and alert the nearest marshal.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS CATEGORIES

Age categories are determined by the rider's age on 31 December 2026.

Men's and women's titles & medals are awarded in five-year age groups as soon as at least one rider is registered in the relevant category.

Men	Women
M19–34	W19–34
M35–39	W35–39
M40–44	W40–44
M45–49	W45–49
M50–54	W50–54
M55–59	W55–59
M60–64	W60–64
M65–69	W65–69
M70–74	W70–74
M75–79	W75–79

Men	Women
M80–84	W80–84
M85–89	W85–89
Further five-year groups as applicable	Further five-year groups as applicable

Although some age groups may start together, results and European Championship awards are separated by the official five-year categories.

COURSE RECONNAISSANCE AND SIGNAGE

Official course signage is installed in advance of the event. Riders remain responsible for riding safely during reconnaissance and must respect normal traffic regulations whenever roads are open. The guided Gran Fondo reconnaissance is scheduled for 10:30 on Saturday from the Race Village.

START PROCEDURES AND STARTING GROUPS

Road race

- Riders enter their designated starting box from the rear / side and must follow the race-number and category allocation.
- Qualified, fully licensed riders occupy the first part of each age-group startbox. Non-qualified or day-licence riders occupy the second part. The two sections will be merged shortly before the group moves to the start line.
- The interval between start groups is five minutes.
- Riders must not start ahead of the timing detection point, skip their allocated startbox or enter another startbox. Such conduct will result in exclusion or disqualification.
- At least five boxes are used for call-up. Riders must follow marshals' and commissaires' instructions.

Indicative category start sequence from the organiser's guide

Time	Group / categories
09:00	Friends / non-championship group, if retained
09:05	M19–34
09:10	M35–39
09:15	M40–44
09:20	M45–49
09:25	M50–54

Time	Group / categories
09:30	M55–59
09:35	Women's categories
09:40	M60+

CHECK THE FINAL START LIST

The organiser and UEC may amend startbox composition and start times. The published final start list and official communiqués take precedence over this indicative sequence.

Individual time trial

Riders start individually. The standard interval is thirty seconds.. The start order is issued by the UEC. Women's categories start before men's categories, and categories proceed from oldest to youngest.

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

Mandatory helmet

An approved helmet must be worn throughout all competitions. A rider may be refused the start or have the race number withdrawn if found without a helmet during the competition.

Drafting

Drafting is permitted in the road race. Drafting is prohibited in the individual time trial.

Assistance and outside support

All riders must compete independently. Private following cars and motorbikes are strictly prohibited. Feeding from a personal helper/team is allowed everywhere on course, except for downhill sections. Littering (throwing away gels and bars) is forbidden, apart from the designated waste zones in the official feed zones.

Different start groups

Age groups start at different times. Riders in merged age groups may ride together. A rider must not deliberately wait for or assist a rider from a later start group. Especially men waiting for a woman in the starts behind to help her push and pull will be removed from the race.

Classification

A rider receives a result if the rider completes the course within any announced time limit and passes all required timing controls. Missing a timing detection point may lead to exclusion from the classification.

UCI Gran Fondo World Championships qualification

The UEC Granfondo European Championships remain a qualifying event for the UCI Gran Fondo World Championships in Haute Savoie (FRA) on 22-24 August 2027.

Qualification is determined through the event's official results and the applicable UCI Gran Fondo World Series rules. For qualification, both licensed/qualified riders and unlicensed/unqualified riders are taken into account per category/gender.

Technology fraud

The event will apply the 2026 rules for the national cycling and amateur national activity.

Referencing to the UCI, paragraph 12.4.003 technological fraud, the race jury, with the technical support of the organiser, is authorised to carry out random or systematic checks. The non-compliance or the refusal to undergo the required technical checks will determine the instant disqualification and the warning to the authority in charge. Moreover, referring to the UCI Regulations (Executives Rules point 1.1.9.) it is made known that the use of any transceiver is strictly forbidden.

Disqualifications

The organiser calls all competitors to behave in a sporting manner; any unsporting behaviour will be sanctioned.

Participation with another rider's bib, transferring the bib to others or using two chips or other serious fact that will be detected by the Organiser will be punished by disqualification from the event for 1 to 3 years in addition to being assessed.

In any case, the Organiser declines all responsibility in the event of the participation of a person who is different than the one duly registered.

Award ceremonies

The 3 best riders of each category must attend the official awards ceremony and shall appear at official ceremonies wearing competition clothing.

Every European Championship will be awarded with:

- **the 1st place: Champion(s) jersey and Gold medal**
- **the 2nd place: Silver medal**
- **the 3rd place: Bronze medal**

Complaints

Any complaints must be addressed to the race jury on site.

BICYCLE REGULATIONS AND CHECKS

Road race

A road bicycle is compulsory. Time trial bicycles are prohibited in the road race.

Individual time trial

All bicycles are checked for compliance with applicable UCI regulations before the start. A preliminary check is offered on the day before the time trial, but the check immediately before the rider's start is mandatory.

Rider height	Maximum extension	Maximum height difference
Under 180.0 cm	800 mm	100 mm
180.0–189.9 cm	830 mm	120 mm; UCI rider-height attestation required
190.0 cm and taller	850 mm	140 mm

Measurements refer to the horizontal distance from the vertical plane through the bottom-bracket axle to the end of the fixed time trial extension, including accessories, and to the permitted vertical difference between the forearm support and the highest or lowest point of the extension. Riders are responsible for ensuring their bicycle complies with the current UCI regulations.

NATIONAL CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

Riders competing for European titles must wear a jersey representing their sporting nationality, not their country of residence or the federation through which their licence is held if these differ.

- An official national-team jersey is not compulsory, but the jersey must clearly represent the country through an appropriate national design and colours.
- Club and private-sponsor logos are permitted.
- A normal club jersey with only a national flag is not considered a national jersey.
- Rainbow stripes, or any variation of the rainbow design, are prohibited on the jersey, sleeves, collar, bicycle, helmet, shoes and overshoes.
- The same restriction applies to the European champion jersey design and colours.
- Non-qualified riders and riders without a full-year licence are not required to wear a national jersey.
- Reigning World Champions must wear their UCI rainbow jersey in the discipline in which they won the title.

CUT-OFF TIMES, ROAD OPENING AND FINISH PROCEDURE

Course split at Montegrino Valtravaglia

12:00 CUT-OFF

Any rider reaching the Gran Fondo / Medio Fondo split at Bosco, Montegrino Valtravaglia after 12:00 must take the Medio Fondo route.

End-of-race vehicle

The vehicle marked "END OF CYCLE RACE" indicates the end of the protected race convoy and the end of the traffic closure. Riders overtaken by this vehicle may continue as touring cyclists, but must obey all traffic regulations. Subject to the applicable time limits and timing controls, they may remain in the classification.

Finish services

- Gluten-free refreshment point: Piazza Monte Grappa.
- Personal-bag collection: Giardini Estensi.
- Showers: municipal swimming pool in Via Copelli.
- Bicycle storage: Giardini Estensi.
- Pasta party: from 12:00 on Sunday 4 October at Giardini Estensi, Via Sacco.

FEED ZONES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RULES

Technical assistance

Mobile technical assistance includes wheel-service vehicles. Replacement parts are charged to the assisted rider. A broom / recovery service is provided for riders and bicycles. Private following cars and motorbikes are not permitted.

Feed zones and Green Zones

A Green Zone is provided at every feed station. Bottles, wrappers, plastics and general waste may only be discarded inside the marked Green Zones. Riders who discard waste outside these areas may be disqualified.

In the UCI regulations, feeding from a private helper or team outside the official feedzones is allowed as long as it's done on a flat or uphill street, never in a downhill.

FINAL REMINDERS

BEFORE TRAVELLING

Verify your final entry status, qualification, licence, UCI ID, sporting nationality, medical certificate where required, national jersey, bicycle compliance, start time and race-number collection requirements.

Pre-start checklist

- ☐ Original identity document
- ☐ Valid full-year licence with UCI ID, or accepted one-day licence documentation
- ☐ Qualification confirmation / invitation, where applicable
- ☐ Sports medical certificate, where required
- ☐ National jersey if competing for a European title
- ☐ Approved helmet
- ☐ Compliant road or time trial bicycle for the selected discipline
- ☐ Activated OneChip and correctly attached race number
- ☐ Completed emergency and medical information
- ☐ Knowledge of the course, cut-off, start pen and official instructions

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Organiser and UEC will not, under any circumstances, be liable to any accidents or damage that occurs during training and competitions.

The Organiser and UEC decline all responsibilities towards the riders and others in case of an accident.

For all cases not covered by these specific regulations, the UCI rules will apply. Any problems will be solved between the Organiser, the Commissaires Panel and UEC officials.