

RULES

1. Each racer is responsible for understanding and following course. Marks and the maps are just an aid but not necessarily reliable.
2. Watch out for Traffic and be aware of other vehicles and animals and obstacles at all times.
3. **For all medical emergencies dial 911.**
4. Rider in the front has right of way and rider from behind must yield at all times.
5. All riders should take tools and repair gear as flats are common as well as other stress related breakdowns such as broken chains, twisted chain rings and busted derailleurs. Take all necessary emergency equipment and cell phone/GPS and anything else a responsible an independent woods rider would have along.
6. The Tour De Picayune is hosted by The Picayune Nature Club, a not-for profit Florida Corporation and any inquiries as to the specifics and mission of the organization is encouraged. The name speaks for itself as does the race and does need your participation to be successful. After out of pocket expenses, all money collected to be used for the benefit of Picayune State Forest only.
7. Aid stations, snacks and drinks and post-race lunch is provided by the PNC. All participants should always come to the woods stand alone. But all participants and supporters are welcome to stay and partake in any of our food and drinks as provided. There is free camping available for anyone at Snake Pit Camp or the Edge campsite. FFS also has excellent camp sites available for all.
8. Final note: First and foremost: this is a Florida State Forest and it is our privilege to use. Respect all other visitors and remember that; All plants and animals are protected and we must yield to their benefit at all times.

START/ PROCEDURES

Event begins at 7:00am and registration is at the starting ;ine. **East side**, at Miller Blvd and 50th se just south of the I-75 . **At the west end of 52nd se**. The Race/tour starts officially at 7:30AM. See maps and course descriptions for more specific details.

The Ranger station campground has some facilities available nearby at the Forestry office 1/2 mile west of the intersection at 52nd/Everglades on your right

about ¼ from the start line parking at the Forestry camp ground or at Snake Pit and then ride over to the start. Toilet is available at Snake Pit and The Edge too. Showers are also available at Snake Pit camp and the Edge. Bike wash is available at both locations and bike repair and tune-ups are also available at the Edge. A bike repair and tune up location/shop available.

Rules, disclaimers and map print outs will be available for review at each registration station including maps. Each participating rider is required to sign an assumption of risk form. Maps are available for downloads at TdP website for each course.

Each rider can review the course map and some larger scale maps focused for each of the 6 race/tour courses at each of the aid station and starting locations. n locations. GPS course routes for electronic devices are available. Also coordinates of the various check points and maps of each stage, and the 3 water stations shown on the overall course map. Snake Pit camp serves as station #3. The main courses will have no flags or signs but the maps correspond well and there are location numbers along the course as shown in the overall access map. Zoom in for each region and signs and number and forestry signs exist at main points will be there along the course.

Keep track of where you are at all times and don't just follow and depend on other riders. If you get dropped, you may find yourself finding another route back or calling for a pick up and that can take some time as Picayune is a big place.

A roster number (and all contact cell phone numbers for TdP staff on the course will be made available. **For any and all medical emergencies: Call 911.**

We will also have race/tour personnel available at start location for at least 1 ½ hours after race begins. Snake Pit is the finish location for all stages, except for the Stage 1 pre-burn 25.

There are 3 aid stations along the course. Each station will have water coolers with ice. There will also be fruit, energy bars and extra water in bottles and volunteers manning the station. And shade.

STAGES/COURSES

START . Stage 1 Starter figure 8 and Pre – tour burn 25 mile race the start- easy to moderately easy. A basic bike with about 2" wide tires will suffice. Beginning from Start line #1, then south to 64 then turn rt. West to Snake Pit camp finding the bridge to Snake Pit and Goshen street then west out Sticky Tram and the horse trails via the road to snake pit. This course is to be considered a tour and a very fine one indeed for most everyone. Respect the birds and animals and yield

and ease on by when you see any. From there it's a northeast push on maybe soft sand or wet puddles through the horse trail easterly to 54th se. East to the end at Miller then left back across the start line to 50th ne turn rt. To the east to N-S trail turning Rt. (S) to 52nd se then left to the bridge then go right south just across then ride along the canal until Pump Station #3. Then it's left up onto the Levee going eastward on a big counter clockwise loop following the levee almost to pump station #1 then it's left again to a back road two track going west then north then west back to another bridge then north to 48th se then turn east on that challenging piece of rough road to the Oak Room single track course southwesterly back to the first bridge then right across campground the left at 50th se going east about 100 yards to stage 1 finish line. Winner of the start sprint race will then be determined, and the long riders will continue on what is now stage 2. Maybe some will be done and/or enter the 12 the Mile Rocky Log sprint at 9am start line on Miller Blvd.

Stage 2 : the West Side Sand Traps in the flatwoods and farm fields. This big one way loop out to the far west then way down to the se is pretty much all sand the whole way. A half loop trail that could be considered moderate for the first 10 miles but after that most likely very tough and strenuous for the last 17. Long sand grind aside, it's all open to the sun and the surface is consistently very sandy mostly and harder as the grass/ weeds along the edges and in between, gives solace from the resistance of the loose sugar sand. Except for a few short sprints where it may be a little packed, or a well compressed tire rut will track a rider very well if any available. Yes, a dream for those that like a consistent brutal crank. It's around 27 miles and goes out there and can be very remote but a nice ride for those looking for a longer experience beyond the eco-tour rides and more solitude and single track.

Stage 3 : Gravel Grinders challenge- far south end loop . This is an easier ride most likely unless soft and muddy low spots that can pose a real challenge under wet times but much shorter distance than the first two stages and a welcome part for many. Or perhaps more like a death march depending on wind and sun and of course the gravel. Or more like a bottom sand shell rock replication of an old seabed and a marl and can be easy, but tracks and treads and ruts and heat could make this very hard after those first 50 grueling miles getting out there, and likely a relief though at least mentally after experiencing stage 2. Under most all circumstances, the Champions course is still be very tough regardless of current conditions. With about 18 or so total miles left to go, the miles must be completed to get back to the finish line. It has very rough terrane, some sandy and grassy areas and many hard pushes through the weeds and grass and dips and rocks turns and obstacles and a lot of resistance in several spots popping up

along the way. A fat tire bike or Fat bike can be ideal. A 29er with 2.3" tires is probably the most preferred set up among the top competitors, but a fat bike is like cruising in your truck and a very nice off road riding experience. A 26" mtb bike with 2" tires and 50 psi can be an excruciating way to go but there are riders that do this ride with that configuration. But never twice. Lower/adjustable tire pressure is recommended.

Stage 4- "The Homestretch" - to the FINISH LINE and Snake Pit Camp: It is very rough and wild. It combines all the loops plus it has some outlying gnarly locations. A total package of all that's fantastic about riding in the Picayune. The overall winner will be awarded the Durrwalker Cup for 1 year and a prize awarded to the TdP champion for 2024. The winner's name and hometown will be memorialized permanently and honorably displayed forever along with the names of other great riders who have endured and won in the past.

The other last Stage 5 is for those up for a serious cross country sprint.

STAGE 5. Rocky Log 12 mile single track sprint: is a fantastic course and the winner will be a true master of "gnarl", 3- One big lap with some trail riding and single track not so easy and tight and rough and challenging the entire distance. Basically all single track and mostly grassy packed sand and some rough dirt trails and thick organic matter. A generally very tough surface to ride with many areas grassy and bushy and very rocky. And logs too. Piles of logs. All there to be thrashed.

Starts at the Stage 1 starting line on Miller going south to 62nd se then turn left (E) along the retention pond on your right (South side 62) and enter on your left (about 200 feet) into the single track course going counter clockwise around keeping left going north crossing gravel roads 60,58, to the northeast corner eventually through Bears' den over near 56th se but turn left parallel staying on the single track trail and eventually turning left again heading south around and southwesterly to the eastside parallel with Miller then turn right at the bike intersection (3- way) and cross Miller Blvd. to the Picayune Rockies course westerly on twisting turns left and right bending (counter clockwise) around becoming southerly toward 62nd se then another quick turn left just before 62nd and hit the rocks and bends and moguls and rocky knobs and scrapes easterly back toward Miller but then right back to 62 more to the east and cross to the south side of the road 62nd se and across the bridge onto the boulder/baby head moguls again turning right and parallel to the road going west and eventually tying back around going south (left) onto the old renegade pathway, ("Green" Trails) east and southerly from the future meeting the past. A very nice, fun and fast ride where most any bike with tires over 1-3/4" wide will be fine. 2"+ tires

better perhaps, but again that depends. Next follow the old pathways past 64 and 66 and 68 and then eventually west on the old log world before after all the logs burned and rotted away through the four way intersection straight west all the way around to the right past number 15 back north on sticky tram and after about a mile look right for the road to snake Pit and the finish line and then go rest through the thick swamp for a couple of twisting up and down miles to the finish line in the Pit. And done! It was and is the greatest of work outs and all through such an extreme Florida place that takes an extreme effort to compete and complete. An excellent complement and challenge to your day and riding career for that matter and time well spent riding through this extreme southern gem known to some, but not many as Florida's Picayune Strand State Forest.

Snake Pit- Finish line.

Trophies, CASH and accolades will be awarded at Snake Pit Camp. Photos taken.

Refreshments will be served.