



Regulations & Information

2026 National Penny Farthing Championships

Eligibility: The races are open to all penny farthing bicycle enthusiasts. Rider registration closes on Friday the 6th February 2026 at midnight. Racing is the theme, with the emphasis on participation and enjoyment. We try to cater for all levels of riding ability. Riders must wear an Australian standard approved 'Bicycle' helmet as per Tasmanian and Australian road rules. Skateboard type helmets are not permitted. Helmets must be fitted correctly.

Bicycles: Only direct drive "penny farthing" bicycles are eligible. We will accept either original "ordinary" bicycles, or reproduction machines, providing they comply with the following standards:

- Modern materials are permitted, but bicycles should be typical in appearance of the penny farthings of the 19th century
- Foot restraining devices are not permitted for safety reasons, even though they may be authentic
- Solid rubber tyres only - these must be securely fitted
- Handlebars must not drop below the level of the front rim and must have no forward angle
- Minimum weight of machine 12 kg
- A minimum of 60 spokes in the front wheel. Lower spoke count is accepted provided fitted with heavier gauge spoke material
- A minimum front wheel diameter of 44 inches (112cm)
- Any back brakes in place must be disabled or removed
- Bicycles ridden by children under the age of 16 years are exempted from these provisions
- All riders must be able to mount and dismount their machine independently
- All bicycles must pass scrutineer's inspection

We rely on your appreciation of cycling history to keep your bike within the spirit of the event. The rider carries responsibility for ensuring the suitability and safety of the machine being ridden, and we reserve the right to reject any bike which we consider unsuitable.

Insurance: The Evandale Village Fair Association Incorporated **accepts no liability** for your bicycle, either in transit or while in Evandale. **Personal accident insurance is also your concern.** We carry public liability insurance, but as event participants you are not covered. For our protection, a disclaimer form must be signed before you participate in any races.

Travel Arrangements: You are to make your own travel, bike freight and accommodation arrangements, but feel free to contact Leah McClintock on 0420 355 005 for assistance with accommodation. If coming by air, fly in and out of **Launceston Airport**, which is only 5km north of Evandale. Direct flights to Launceston are available from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane (and sometimes also Adelaide and Perth).

Travel to Tasmania by ferry is also an option, with a daily overnight service and occasional day sailings between Geelong and Devonport on the Spirit of Tasmania. Bookings at www.spiritoftasmania.com.au. Your bicycle can travel with you at a minimal cost. Devonport to Evandale is 105 km – if not traveling with a car, there is a bus service to Launceston, and we can organise collection from there.

Bicycle Freight: Dan Bolwell (Penny Farthing Dan) can bring up to 25 bikes from Victoria to Evandale. Dan can also help organise for your bike to be freighted to Melbourne from wherever you are. Dan





requires bikes to be with him by the Monday prior to the races (Monday 16th February) and interstate riders will need to allow at least an extra week for freighting of bikes to Dan. Please contact Dan ASAP to talk about your requirements: 0417 565 091 or dan1870pf@gmail.com

If sending your bike direct to Evandale via airfreight, bikes should be sent at least one week before the event, and consigned to the **Evandale Village Fair Association, Launceston Airport**, as standby freight. We will transport bikes from the airport to Evandale. Please make sure the bike is clearly labeled - we recommend that you remove pedals and (if possible) handlebars. You will find it can be handled better if it can be wheeled. **Qantas Freight** is our preferred carrier. It may also be possible to consign your bike as passenger baggage with the airlines, providing it is suitably boxed.

Bicycle Freight Support for 2026: We know that bringing a Penny Farthing to Tasmania isn't always easy, or cheap. To help make this year's National Penny Farthing Championships accessible for as many riders as possible, we're offering limited travel support to assist with bike transport costs.

Finances have been allocated to help riders who need it most. As part of your registration, you can apply for a subsidy of \$150, \$200, or \$250 to offset the cost of freighting your Penny Farthing.

Subsidies are available and will be allocated based on transport costs and need. Simply complete the short subsidy section in your registration form, outlining your freight costs and a brief reason for your application.

This initiative reflects one of our key values, hospitality, ensuring that everyone who wants to take part in this unique event has the best chance to do so.

Entry Fee: Fees for this year are as follows: **\$50 adults. Juniors 13-16 \$20. Sub-junior 0-12 \$10.**

All Rider Registration Tickets are purchased on the website: evandalevillagefair.com

Please note rider registrations close Friday the 6th February 2026 at midnight.

Costume: Racing costume should be in keeping with the style of the 1880's – plain trousers, preferably knee length, and a plain top. Modern lycra gear is to be avoided - we are trying to recreate the aura of an era past. ***Australian law requires an Australia-standard hard-shell helmet to be worn whenever a bicycle is ridden.***

You are encouraged to bring **full dress costume** for the parade. An award will be presented to the best dressed rider.

The Races: You may enter as many or as few races as you like. Changes to the program may be made according to the number of entries received – especially in the veterans, juniors and ladies categories. There are now two junior races, Under 16's (Juniors) and Under 12's (Sub-juniors), with girls and boys all in together.

Medallions will be awarded to the first three place-getters in each event – additional sashes will no longer be provided. In some events, perpetual trophies will also be awarded. These are the property of the recipient for one year only. If trophies are taken by winners, engraving is their responsibility.

Photography: By entering our event, you must understand that professional film crews and photographers will be present, and any images taken may be used for promotional or commercial purposes. If you do not wish for photos of you to be published, please inform one of the committee members.

ASSOCIATED EVENT - The Clarendon Road Race

EVANDALE VILLAGE FAIR INC. | PO BOX 3, EVANDALE, TAS 7212 | admin@evandalevillagefair.com





Sunday 22nd February

A race of 20 miles (32kms), starting in Evandale and finishing at Clarendon House. Cost included in entry fee. A 10km casual ride from Evandale straight to the finish at Clarendon House is also available.

If you have any further queries related to racing, please contact: admin@evandalevillagefair.com or Jeff: Mob 0490 352 588

For more information and details of past events visit www.evandalevillagefair.com or find us on Facebook and Instragram at Evandale Village Fair.

We look forward to seeing you in Evandale in February!





DATE	RACE	DESCRIPTION
Sat 21 Feb	Slow Race	20m, heats of 4, last over line wins
	Slalom	Timed run, around 10 cones. 8 fastest to finals
	Novice Race	Evandale First Timers, 2 laps
	Penny Biathlon	Run 1 lap, ride 2 laps, run 1 lap
	Relay	Teams of 4, representing state or family
	London Relay	Teams of four riders take turns riding the same bike
	Sprints	200m, straight line. 6 heats, winners only to final
	Mary's Sprint	Ladies sprint of 200m
	Obstacle Race	Run, carry, wheel, ride – each over 80m
	Unicycle Race	Down and back – 200m
	Mens National Championship	4 laps (1 mile). 3 heats, first 3 to final
	Ladies National Championship	2 laps
	Juniors Championship	1 lap, age under 16
	Sub-junior Championship	1 lap, age under 12
	Sub-junior London Relay	Teams of four riders take turns riding the same bike
	Veterans, Category 1	2 laps, age over 50
	Veterans Category 2	2 laps, age over 60
	Veterans category 3	2 laps, age over 70
	Miss 'n Out, A Grade	Riders eliminated until 3 remain
	Miss 'n Out, B Grade	Riders eliminated until 3 remain
	Handicap	4 groups, 4 laps, reverse direction
	Consolation	2 laps open to all who have not won a medal
Sun 16 Feb	Road Race	20 miles (32 kms) Evandale /Nile/ Clarendon

