

A Guide to Mini 500

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What is this Guide?

This guide lays out everything a person would need to know before competing in mini 500. It lays out the steps to participate on the Mini 500 in order of how you will encounter them. Starting with what it is, how you sign up, how you prepare, what the morning and then day of the race will look like.

What is Mini 500?

The Tradition

Mini 500 is an annual tricycle race around Peter's Parking Deck that has taken place the Friday before the homecoming football game since 1969.



The Team

Teams are comprised of seven members: 4 to take turns as the driver and three on the pit crew. Each team is required to rotate the front tire of their tricycle three times throughout the course of the race (more on the wheel change on Page X). All teams try to complete 8 laps without destroying their tricycle.

The Logistics

Date: 11/2/2019

Time: 5:30PM

Location: Peter's Parking Deck

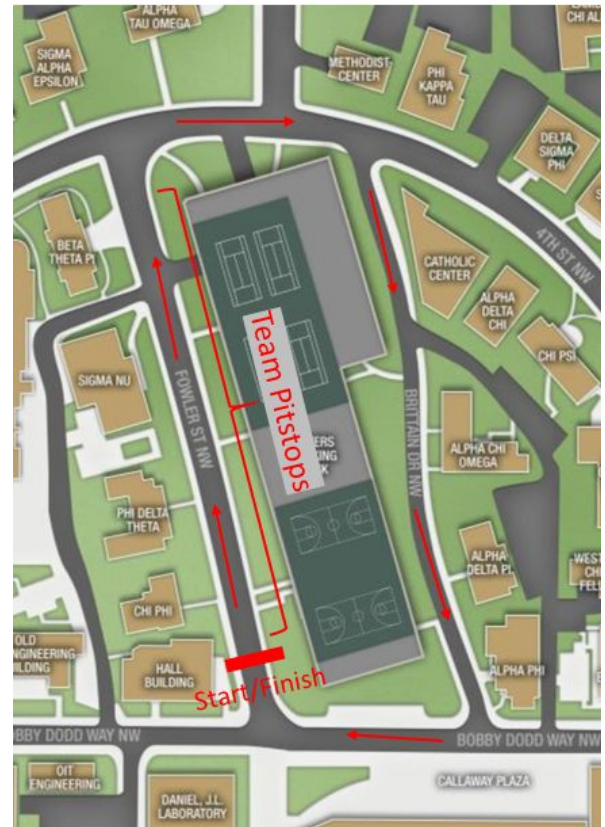
Teams are set up in pits along the side of the road. At the start of the race the first rider will line up at the start. Once the race is under way each member will ride one along the track and pass the trike off to the next racer once they reach their pit stop. After two laps have been completed by the team they are required to do a wheel rotation of the front tire. This will continue until each racer has done two laps along the track after which the team is finished.

The Course Map

The course runs around Peters Parking Deck

Start/Finish: The corner of Fowler & Bobby Dodd Way

The Pits: The pits will be numbered immediately following the starting line and moving down fowler street



Signing Up for Mini 500

Where/When/How do I sign up

Mini 500 sign ups are contained within the general Homecoming 2020 application. Your team will sign up through the online homecoming application which is open **September 23rd - 27th**. A group will sign up as a team under one of the following sections, greek life, housing, club/organization, or enthusiast. A homecoming team can be of any size but in order to participate in mini 500 the team must have at least 7 members. The team must pay the general homecoming fee and then is able to choose what events they would like to participate in and will be charged for each event chosen on top of the general fee. In order to participate in Mini 500, the team must go through the homecoming app and fill out the mini 500 form. Participation in Mini 500 costs an additional \$100 dollars.

What is the Commitment

Each team will be required to pick up their tricycle on the designated pick up date, spray paint their tricycle so it is no longer red, and show up to the race on November 2nd, 2019 at Peters

Parking Deck at 5:15PM to check-in and then participate in the race until they have finished which takes around one hour.

Preparing for Mini 500

Getting your Trike

Each team will be required to pick up their tricycle from the Spring room on the second floor of the Student Center either on October 10th from 4pm-7pm or October 12th from 9am-12pm. Failure to pick the tricycle up on those dates will result in not being allowed to participate in Mini 500. If you are absolutely unable to make either of those time block, contact the Mini 500 chairs with an alternate pick-up plan ASAP. There will also be an additional email sent entailing more information after homecoming sign ups are over.

What makes a proper trike

The trike needs to be spray painted. As long as the trike is no longer red then no other modifications HAVE to be made, but the tricycle is almost guaranteed to not make it through the race if no other modifications are made.

How do I make my trike functional

As stated above the only thing a team HAS to do to race is ensure their tricycle is no longer red. Other than that the modifications made are up to the team, but further modifications are HIGHLY encouraged!

Listed below are a few methods teams use in order to improve their tricycle

- Change out the wheels
 - With this remember that wheels may not be filled with fiberglass material, and wheels cannot have a diameter that exceeds the original wheel diameter by more than 1 inch
 - No more than 13 inches for the front wheel
 - No more than 8 inches for the back wheels
 - Popular wheel replacements:
 -
 - Reinforce the front wheel and add modifications that make it easy to do the wheel change
- Take the pedals off the front tire
- Add attachments to the handlebars as a place to rest your arms
- Add a foot stopper to the bottom step of the tricycle
- Adding a cushion to the seat/replacing the seat entirely

- Remember the seat is not allowed to be higher than the original seat
- Adding a single support bar to the seat

We are hosting a **Tricycle Modification Info Session** on **October 26th from 2pm-4pm**. The location is TBD. Look out for emails with more information on this info session. We will be discussing the following and have the following resources.

- Have previous racers and pit members
- How to complete the wheel rotation
- How to modify the wheels on the tricycle
- Gold Spray Paint

Afternoon of Mini 500

Where do I check in?

Your team will receive an email before the day of Mini 500 telling you what pit you will be in. The email will contain a detailed map as well as more information about check-in. Report **to this pit** the morning of Mini 500 and check in with your pit boss. Everything you will need for the race will already be at your assigned pit. The pits are lined along the side of Fowler that is closest to Peters. The first pit is closest to the starting line and the intersection off bobby dodd way and fowler and pits precede in numeric order along fowler to the intersection of fowler and 4th street.

What does the Track look like?

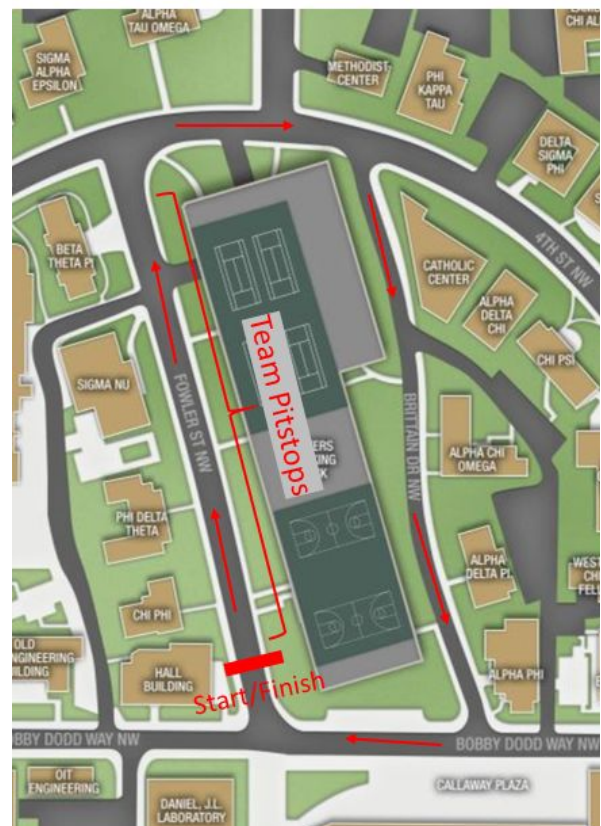
Racers will line up at the corner of Bobby Dodd Way and Fowler Street

They will then proceed down fowler street where the pits are lined up which is a slight downhill

They will make the turn at 4th street and go down a larger decline

They will then turn onto Brittan Drive for a straight away

Until turning onto Bobby Dodd for a segment up freshman hill



During Mini 500

What do the racers do?

Racers will go one at a time. At the beginning of the race, teams will select their first racer who will proceed to the start line with their tricycle. Once the race begins, the racer will go along the track completing one full lap. For every racer except the last one, a full lap ends at the team's pit stop. Once the racer has reached their pit stop they will dismount the trike and enter the pit area. The next racer will then sit on the trike and complete a full lap. It is important to remember that racers must be sitting on the tricycle any time it is in motion. Failure to have your butt on the tricycle will result in warnings and eventually disqualification. If the tricycle breaks to a point beyond use, the racer may pick up the tricycle and walk backwards along the track to return to their pit area. Racers not currently riding should remain in the pit area, however, on the final lap, racers are permitted to run alongside their final racer to cheer them on. The race ends once the final racer has crossed the finish line.

What do the pit members do?

Pit members will remain in their pit area for the entirety of the race, but are permitted to run with their final racer on the last lap. Pit members are responsible for making any on the spot or last minute adjustments to their tricycle should it begin to break. They are also responsible for conducting wheel reversals following the second, fourth, and sixth lap. Remember that there are no spare tricycle parts, welding equipment, or power tools allowed in the pit area.

What do I wear?

We recommend wearing long pants and shoes that you don't care about because you will be dragging your feet on the ground and your legs may have some contact with the ground or parts of your trike.

How will the wheel rotation go?

Probably not well, but that will make it fun! Stay tuned for more on this section really soon.