

PRESENTED BY



CHALLENGE
SAMORIN-SLOVAKIA

PRESENTED BY



JUNIOR ATHLETE GUIDE



May 23, 2026



Olympic Training
Center Slovakia



 x-bionic® sphere

WELCOME

Dear Juniors and Parents,

Welcome to Challenge Junior, a triathlon event created especially for young athletes to discover the joy of multisport in a safe, fun environment. Whether this is your first triathlon or you're already experienced, everyone is welcome. It doesn't matter if you ride a brand-new road bike or an older mountain bike, or whether you're wearing a trisuit or just a regular swimsuit – **Challenge Junior is for all of you**. Our entire team is here to support you.

The race takes place at the world-class **x-bionic® sphere** resort in Šamorín (Dubová 33/A, 931 01), Slovakia. We believe the combination of great courses and this unique venue creates a special atmosphere. Your race will **start in an Olympic-standard outdoor pool**, which means you'll swim in clean, clear water with professional lifeguards and safety staff on hand. Because safety is our top priority, athletes will start **one by one** using a short rolling start. Our medical team will watch over the water and the entire course to keep everyone safe.

The transition area for juniors will be set up **right next to the main race's transition zone**, so you can **feel the excitement of a major triathlon event firsthand**. The bike and run courses wind through the scenic x-bionic sphere resort. All roads will be **fully closed to traffic** for maximum safety. At the finish line, a well-deserved medal and the cheers of your friends and family will be waiting for you in a dedicated finish zone.

We wish you an unforgettable experience and look forward to seeing you cross the finish line!

Erik Baláž

Race Director, Challenge Šamorín

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INTRODUCTION

This Athlete Guidebook contains very important information regarding the preparation for your race.

The most important sections are:

- The program
- Registration process (Please do NOT forget your legal identification)
- Rules and regulations

In addition to reading this guidebook, you are strongly advised to attend the Race Briefings. Junior Race Briefings will be held approximately 15 minutes before the start at the start area of each race/distance.

EMERGENCY



Emergency contact number in case of an emergency on race day: **+421 911 011 697**

EVENT TIMETABLE

For full event timetable please visit the website

<https://thechampionship.de/race-information/time-schedule/>

LOST & FOUND

All lost and found items will be collected at the hotel reception.

After the conclusion of the event, please email

thechampionship@challenge-family.com

to locate any missing items and schedule returns. Shipping fees will apply.

USE OF DRONES PROHIBITED

It is not allowed to use Drones for taking pictures and videos in the whole event and course area. Unauthorized use of Drones will be reported to the police.

EVENT VENUE MAP



Venue map:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=en&ll=48.016515791730214%2C17.301474791700148&z=18&mid=1ZTscWAppPuOB1Mi6uWEatYbmzDCVewI>

Race course map:

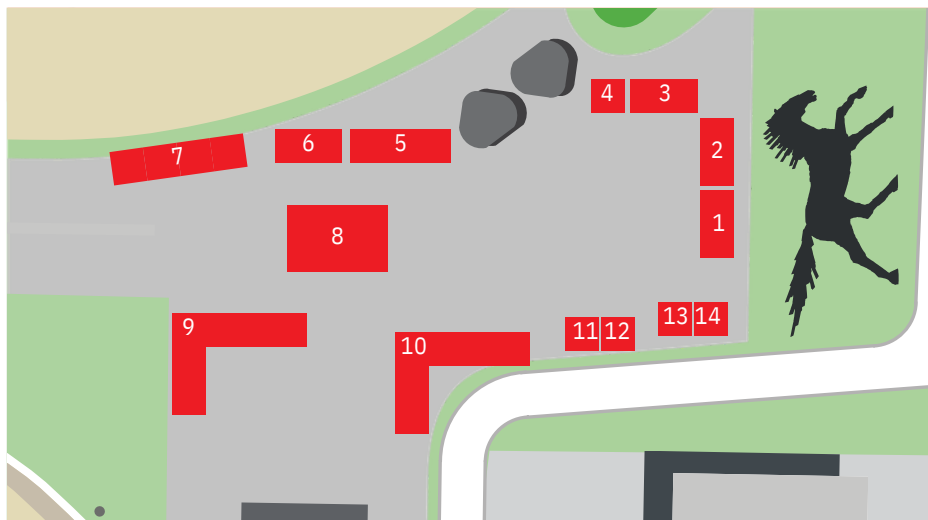
<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=en&ll=48.01849099540064%2C17.298115278697882&z=16&mid=15EgwoGO3L872GMFug34AOYrweN9nl2w>

EXPO ZONE MAP

The Expo zone is located near the transition area. The Food Court is located near the finish area.

FRIDAY: 10:00 – 18:00
SATURDAY: 08:00 – 18:00
SUNDAY: 08:00 – 18:00

1. Profiswim
2. X-BIONIC
3. Adeli
4. NAHA
5. OTSO SPORT
6. PILLAR
7. OAKLEY
8. CHALLENGE FAMILY
9. NAJŠPORT
10. ORLEN
11. GO CREATE
12. INFINIT EUROPE
13. PWC
14. TRISHOP



MEDICAL



During the event, our Medical Team will take the best care of our athletes. If you have special medical needs, please inform our Medical Director before you start the race.

Name: Peter Lakomý
Phone: +421 910 976 134
Email: peter.lakomy@aprescue.sk

In case you need medical assistance in the days before or after the race, please contact the reception of x-bionic® sphere.

In urgent and life threatening cases call European Emergency Number 112.

INFORMATION DESK

Our info desk is ready to assist you. Visit us at the EXPO and REGISTRATION office.

PARKING

Sufficient Parking space is available at x-bionic® sphere.

JUNIOR CHALLENGE GENERAL INFO

When & Where

Saturday, 23 May 2026 at the x-bionic® sphere (Dubová 33/A, Šamorín).
Check the venue map or Google Maps for directions to Dubová 33/A.

Race Pack Pickup

22 May 10:00–19:00 & 23 May 7:30–13:30 at Tuli Cinema Foyer, X-bionic Hotel from 7:30 to 14:00 – Tuli Cinema Foyer

Bring your confirmation email and an ID card showing your date of birth to the Race Office at the venue. You will collect your race bib, and any race pack items (including your swim cap). A parent or guardian must accompany you.

Junior category is excluded from paying a day license (no fee required).

Bike Check-in – 23 May 14:00–14:45 at Junior Transition Area

Your bike must be safe, with working brakes, two wheels, and in good mechanical condition. At bike check-in, officials will inspect your helmet and bike, confirm everything meets the rules.

Start Times

The Junior Challenge foresees age groups.

- **Athletes aged 13–15 (red caps) at 15:00**
- **Athletes aged 7–12 (yellow caps) at 15:20**

Finish

The awards ceremony for juniors starts at 16:00 at the Junior finish area.

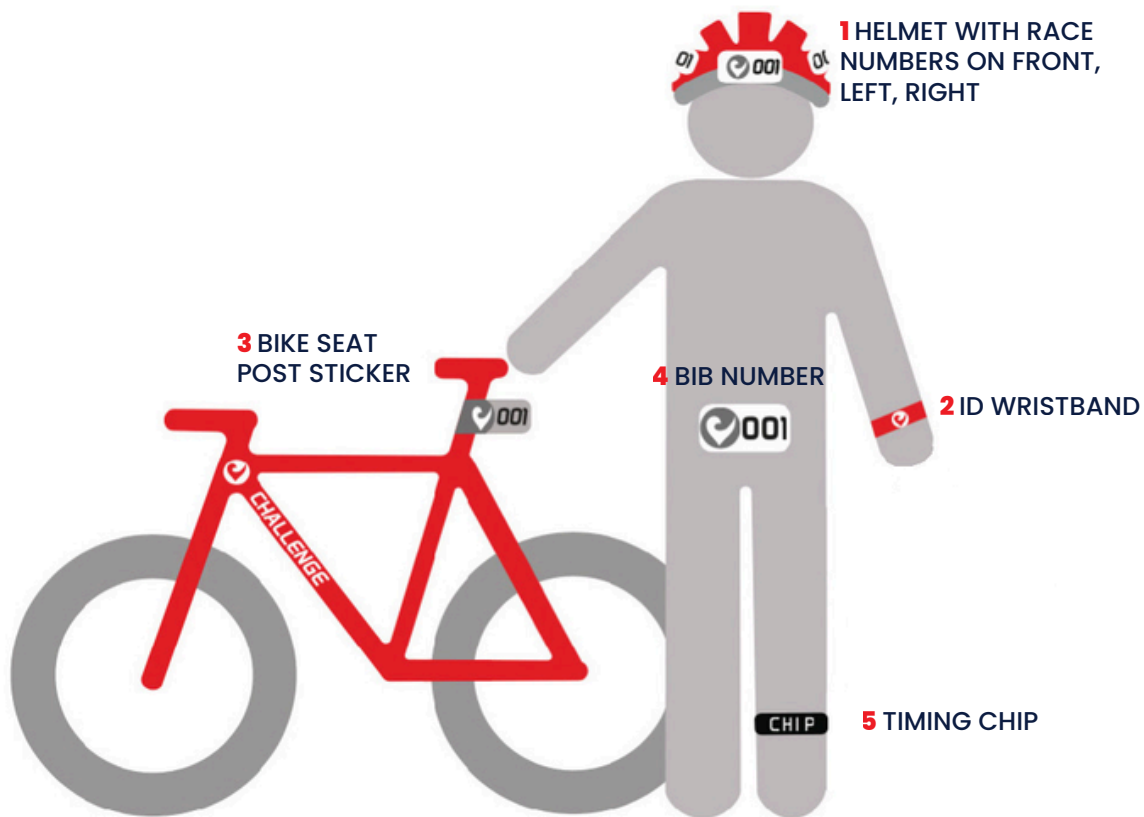
TOP 3 boys and girls in both categories (7–12 y.o. and 13–15 y.o.) will be awarded.

RACE PACK

The progress of your race is registered by a transponder attached to a soft rubber band with velcro.

This transponder needs to be placed on your left ankle during all three parts of the race. As the chip is linked to your race number, please make sure the number the organization has matches the number on the chip. Otherwise your time cannot be registered correctly during the race.

You will receive your chip at the transition area during bike check-in.



WITHDRAWAL & TIMING CHIP

If you drop-out of the race, **please inform one of the staff members on the course, at transition area, or at the finish line as soon as possible**, and definitely before you go home, so we know that you are safe. Return your Timing Chip when checking out your bike. After the race you have to bring the timing chip to the bike check out to receive your bike.

RESULTS

The results of the race will be available in the Challenge Family official app and on our website: www.thechampionship.de

RACE PHOTOS

Photos of THE CHAMPIONSHIP are made by FinisherPix. These will be made available to you by e-mail in the days after the race. After that you can decide to buy them and download a package or to order special items.

RULES

GENERAL RULES

- Challenge Junior follows World Triathlon Competition Rules.
- The race is draft-legal and therefore time trial bikes and any aero bars are not allowed.
- Our Technical Officials team will oversee the event safety and athletes' behaviour in the transition area and alongside the courses.
- Dangerous behaviour or behaviour against fair-play might lead to the disqualification of an athlete.
- Our Technical Team will primarily guide (educate) athletes and help them to understand the rules of triathlon with emphasis on safety.

Emergency

If you feel sick or get hurt, or see someone who needs help, stop and notify a course marshal or call for help. If you withdraw, turn in your timing chip to a race official.

Transitions

Only athletes are allowed in transition areas: it means that you may not receive help from your parents or coaches. Gear must stay in your numbered spot. No loose items on the ground outside your numbered spot.

EQUIPMENT

Swim – any kind of swimsuit or trisuit is allowed, but floating equipment is not allowed. Official swim cap is mandatory. Bring your own goggles.

Bike – helmet is mandatory at all times. Only safe bikes with functional brakes and no sharp edges will be allowed. MTB bikes are allowed but time trial bikes and aero bars not allowed (drafting legal race). Bring your own bike bottle (no aid station provided on the bike course).

Run – BIB number in front is mandatory for the run. Any running shoes, trisuit, or t-shirt are allowed, but the torso must stay covered. No aid station is provided on the run course.

ATHLETE JOURNEY

1. ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

1. Arrive at the venue at least 2 hours before the bike check-in time (the earlier, the better).
2. Pick up your race kit if you haven't done it yet (remember that parents are required to accompany you and present personal ID)
3. Get your race gear ready by 14:00 for a bike check-in

2. TRANSITION SETUP

1. Wear your bib on the front of your top or shorts and attach your race number to your bike as directed (3 stickers on helmet and 1 sticker on your bike under the seat).
2. Put your helmet on your head.
3. Go to the Junior transition area (next to the main race transition)
4. Find the spot with that matches your race number
5. Place your bike on the rack and all of your equipment inside the box. Only running shoes can be placed next to the box.

Parents are allowed to assist kids with the bike check-in and walk with them to the start area

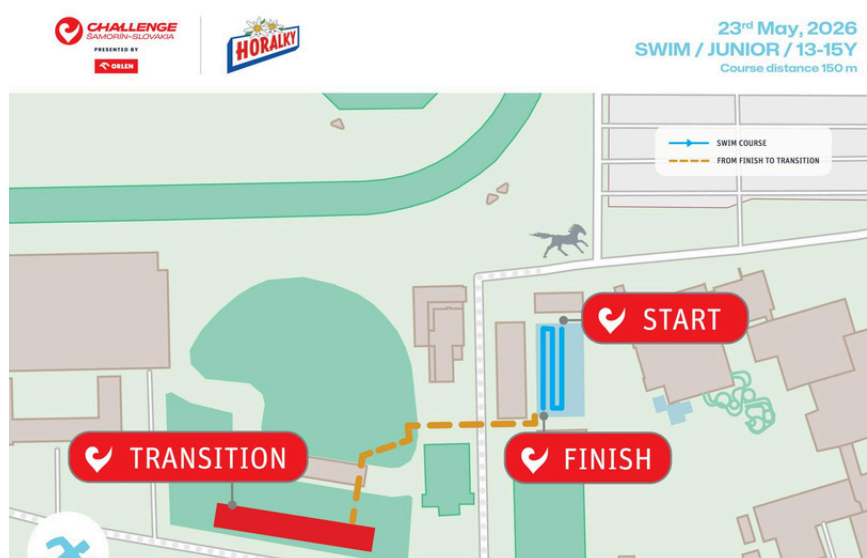
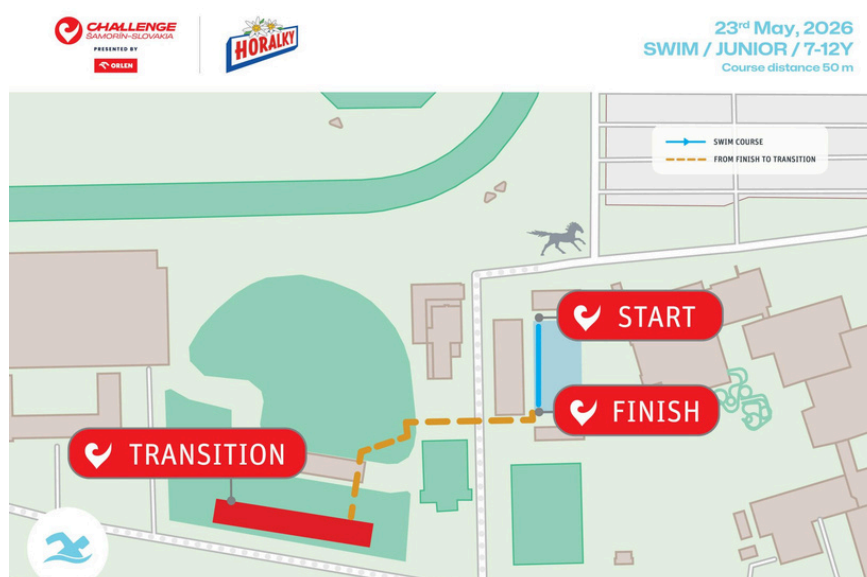
3. WARM-UP & BRIEFING

1. Race assistants will tell you when it is time to warm up
2. Race officials will explain how the general rules and how rolling start works and any last-minute instructions. Listen carefully and ask questions if anything is unclear!
3. Stay hydrated!

4. START AND SWIM COURSE

1. Listen to the instructions of the race assistants/officials
2. Race officials will call to enter the pool, one at a time, every 10 seconds.
 - a. Juniors age 13–15 start at 15:00
 - b. Juniors age 7–12 start at 15:20
3. When it's your turn, you will swim your distance.
4. Swim in your assigned lane

Parents and supporters are not allowed to stay or run alongside the swimming pool in order to secure safety perimeter and good viewing angle for a water rescue team and technical officials. It is required parents to stay on the grandstands for safety reasons.



5. TRANSITION 1

Safety rules: read carefully!!!

Do not run on the pool deck.

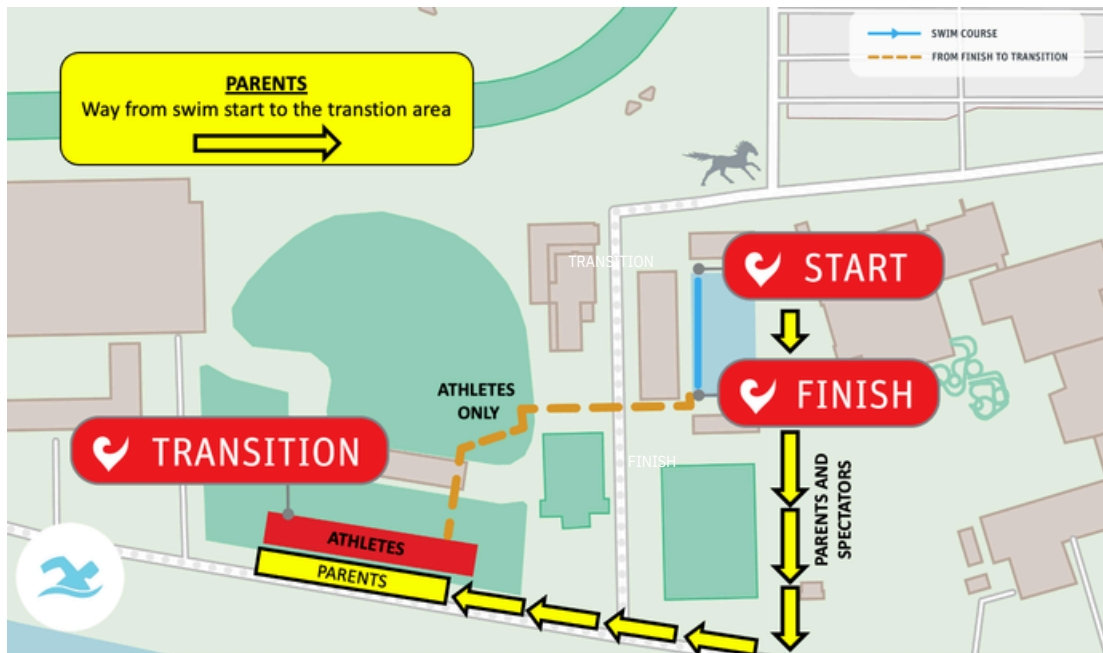
Wear your helmet before touching your bike.

Do not ride your bike until you pass the mount line.

After finishing the swim course:

1. Exit the pool and run with your goggles to the transition area.
2. Remove your swim cap/goggles
3. Put on your helmet (buckled tight) and shoes, if necessary.
4. Enter the bike zone.
5. **WALK** your bike out of transition
6. Start your race **AFTER THE MOUNT LINE**
7. All of your equipment must be placed inside the box.

Parents and supporters are not allowed to enter the transition area during the race.



6. BIKE COURSE

Safety rules: read carefully!

Keep the right and safe distance from others.

You must remain behind the cyclist in front of you by about 10–15 meters.

If you get too tired or can't keep going safely, slow down right away and tell a race official. It's okay, safety comes first!

Parents and supporters are not allowed to step in or cross the bike course.

It is strictly prohibited to pace or assist the athlete on the bike or any other vehicle due to the safety reasons.



7. TRANSITION 2

Safety rules: read carefully!

After finishing the bike course:

1. Dismount your bike at the far end of the bike course.
2. **WALK** your bike back into transition area and rack it
3. Quickly swap to your running shoes and take any water/bottle if you like.
4. **Take your helmet off only after you rack your bike.**

Parents and supporters are not allowed to enter the transition area during the race.

8. RUN COURSE

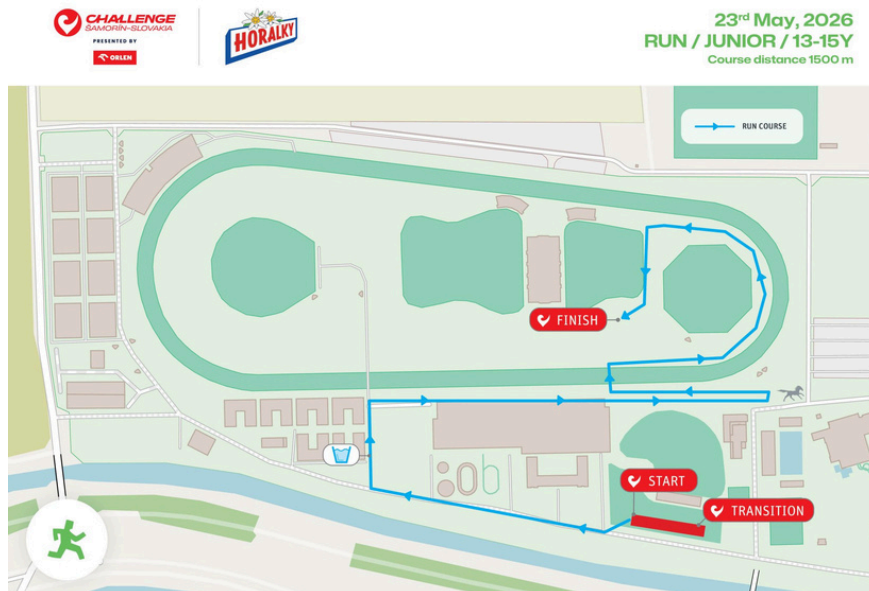
Safety rules: read carefully!

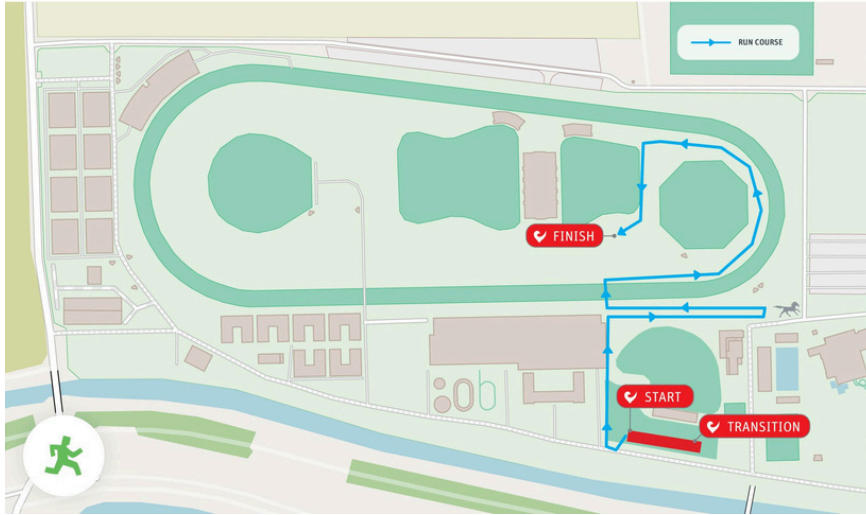
Start running out the transition area.

You will experience a variety of surfaces like grass, sand, tarmac.. etc.

- Stay on the marked path
- Pace yourself so you can enjoy the finish.

Parents and supporters are not allowed to step in or cross the run course.





9. FINISH

- Cross the timing mats to stop your clock.

Parents and supporters are required to stay at the designated area – behind the barriers.

10. POST RACE

- Your family and friends will be waiting right at the finish line.
- Collect your belongings from the Transition Area at 15:50–16:30.
- Return your chip at the bike check-out area.
- Celebrate with water and snacks provided at the Finish Area.

SAFETY & PARENTS' INFORMATION

- **We kindly ask all parents and supporters to respect the following instructions in order to make sure that the race will be conducted safely and fairly:**
 - Do not step in the transition area and course while the race is active.
 - Do not run or stay around the edge of the swimming pool
 - Do not take pictures in dangerous positions
 - Do not block other athletes
- Make sure that the emergency phone number in the registration system is correct.
- Write a full name and contact details on the backside of the BIB number.
- Make sure that your child has valid health or travel insurance.
- Don't hesitate to contact our organising team or call our Event Emergency Line +421 911 011 697, in case of a lost child or any other emergencies.
- Please note that there are no aid stations (water stations) alongside the course. Make sure that your child is well-hydrated before the race and carries a bike bottle. You can also leave a water bottle in the transition box.
- Consider withdrawing from the race if your child feels unwell or has any symptoms of illness. Health is the priority.

Communication: Organizers will post any last-minute updates on the information board at the Race Office and on social media. If a child needs help or stops racing, they will be brought to the First Aid station by a volunteer. We will page the parent if immediate attention is needed.

SAFETY & PARENTS' INFORMATION

Lost & Found: If a child gets separated, there will be an Information Desk near the finish. All juniors have name tags on their equipment – use these for identification. If you lose something, check the Lost & Found after the race at the Expo area.

Weather & Conditions: The event runs, rain or shine. Check the forecast and prepare (rain jacket, extra dry clothes, etc.). In hot weather, organizers will add extra water stations and may adjust start times. Please encourage your child to drink fluids throughout the day.

SUSTAINABILITY & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

At Challenge Junior we care about more than just racing fast. We also want to protect the environment and be good citizens. We encourage everyone – athletes, families, and staff – to do their part.

- **Waste:** Use trash and recycling bins. Don't drop cups or bottles on the course. If you or your child does, kindly pick it up and dispose it properly. Our races participate in the #racegreen initiative, focusing on minimizing waste.
- **Hydration:** Bring refillable bottles or use the free water at aid stations. We will have water taps at transition and the finish. Avoid single-use plastics when possible.
- **Travel:** Try to carpool, use public transport, or bike to the venue if you can. It reduces congestion and emissions. (The x-bionic sphere is accessible by bus or train from Bratislava.)
- **Venue Respect:** Stay on designated paths and roads. Do not litter grass areas or disturb wildlife. The resort is private property – please respect it.
- **Give & Donate:** Challenge Family works with partners like Soles4Souls to recycle old gear. After the race, you can drop off unwanted sports shoes or apparel in our collection bins. Your donation will help people in need rather than ending up in a landfill.
- **Respect:** Above all, show respect to volunteers, other athletes, and all staff. Cheer on your fellow juniors and thank the marshals. Remember fair play and a positive attitude – that's the true Challenge Family spirit.

THANK YOU FOR DOING YOUR PART.

Together we ensure a cleaner, safer event and a happier planet.

GENERAL PARTNER



MAIN PARTNERS

PORSCHE



PARTNERS

Powerbar

respect.



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MAIN MEDIA PARTNERS



STARTITUP

STVR
SLOVENSKÁ TELEVÍZIA & ROZHLAS

MEDIA PARTNERS



CHALLENGE FAMILY

RACE CALENDAR 2026

	CHALLENGE ISRAMAN ISRAEL, 30 JAN 2026	LONG MIDDLE		CHALLENGE TURKU FINLAND, 26 JUL 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE SIR BANI YAS ABU DHABI, 30 JAN – 1 FEB 2026	LONG MIDDLE OLYMPIC		CHALLENGE FORTALEZA BRAZIL, 30 AUG 2026	MIDDLE
	GALLAGHER INSURANCE CHALLENGE WĀNAKA NEW ZEALAND, 21 FEB 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE ALMERE-AMSTERDAM NETHERLANDS, 12 SEP 2026	LONG MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE MOGÁN-GRAN CANARIA SPAIN, 18 APR 2026	MIDDLE		SAIL CHALLENGE ESPRIT MONTRÉAL CANADA, 13 SEP 2026	MIDDLE OLYMPIC
	GDANSK MARATHON POLAND, 19 APR 2026	MARATHON		CHALLENGE SAMARKAND UZBEKISTAN, 13 SEP 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE FLORIANÓPOLIS BRAZIL, 19 APR 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE SANREMO ITALY, 4 OCT 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE TAIWAN TAIWAN, 23-26 APR 2026	LONG MIDDLE OLYMPIC		CHALLENGE VIEUX BOUCAU FRANCE, 10 OCT 2026	MIDDLE OLYMPIC
	CHALLENGE CESENATICO ITALY, 10 MAY 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE PEGUERA MALLORCA SPAIN, 17 OCT 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE SALOU-COSTA DAURADA SPAIN, 10 MAY 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE MALAYSIA MALAYSIA, 18 OCT 2026	MIDDLE
	THE CHAMPIONSHIP SLOVAKIA, 24 MAY 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE SHANGHAI CHINA, 24 OCT 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE ST PÖLTEN AUSTRIA, 31 MAY 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE BARCELONA SPAIN, 25 OCT 2026	MIDDLE OLYMPIC
	CHALLENGE GUNSAN-SAEMANGEUM KOREA, TBC JUNE 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE FORTE VILLAGE SARDINIA ITALY, 25 OCT 2026	MIDDLE
	LOTTO CHALLENGE GDAŃSK POLAND, 21 JUN 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE XIAMEN CHINA, 7 NOV 2026	MIDDLE OLYMPIC
	CHALLENGE KAISERWINKL-WALCHSEE AUSTRIA, 28 JUNE 2026	MIDDLE		CHALLENGE CANBERRA AUSTRALIA, 22 NOV 2026	MIDDLE OLYMPIC
	SAIL CHALLENGE CAP QUÉBEC CANADA, 28 JUNE 2026	LONG MIDDLE OLYMPIC		CHALLENGE FLORIANÓPOLIS BRAZIL, 29 NOV 2026	MIDDLE
	CHALLENGE SANDEFJORD NORWAY, 28 JUNE 2026	MIDDLE			
	DATEV CHALLENGE ROTH GERMANY, 5 JULY 2026	LONG			



ALL RACES ARE QUALIFICATION RACES FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP





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Master every terrain with
the elite selection of
HOKA and ON.

Now available at the
X-BIONIC Premium Store.

OPENING HOURS 8 AM - 7 PM

LIVE



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THE CHAMPIONSHIP LIVE
24 MAY 2026 FROM 8:15AM CEST

RACE START: 8:30AM
COMMENTARY: BELINDA GRANGER

www.challenge-family.live

 [@challengefamily](https://www.instagram.com/challengefamily)