

FEES DUE:

PAID:

## 2026 Membership

PLEASE ATTACH 2025 MEMBERSHIP FEES to this application!

*Adults \$85 (includes jersey)*

*Juniors 18 and under \$60 (includes jersey)*

*CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FIELD INSTITUTE OF TAOS P.O. Box 486 Arroyo Seco, NM 87514*

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Name (First and Last)

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Mailing Address

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Phone	Email (main form of communication)	Age
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Name of Parent of Minor	Phone	Email
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### ***Statement of Purpose***

Team FITaos, a local cycling team, is a program of Field Institute of Taos, a 501(c)3 organization. Through education, training, and competition, Team FITaos provides a fun, supportive environment focused on mentoring youth, families, and individuals. Team FITaos offers opportunities for personal growth, social development, improving physical and mental health, and developing skills for participation in a lifelong activity contributing to a healthy lifestyle. Team FITaos promotes a positive image for Field Institute of Taos and all Team FITaos sponsors. Team FITaos supports Taos Composite High School Mountain Bike Team and Taos Composite Middle School Team.

### **Club Program**

***Adults \$85; Juniors (under 18) \$60 (includes jersey)***

An inclusive space for those who are seeking group rides, women's mountain bike rides, grassroots local fun races, support and encouragement from teammates, opportunities to support juniors and get more kids on bikes, access to cool Team swag!

### **Goals**

#### **Team FITaos:**

- is an inclusive program. All ages, abilities, and cycling disciplines.
- encourages participation and recognizes that successes come at every level.
- is designed to promote the enjoyment of cycling in a fun, supportive group atmosphere.
- aims to introduce cycling and racing to all ages through education and development of essential skills, which promote road and trail safety and encourage enjoyment of the sport.
- supports and encourages youth, family, and individual participation in cycling for the promotion of physical fitness and teamwork as well as mentorship opportunities.
- encourages those who ride at any level to achieve their personal best through training and participation as part of a team.

# Rider Rules and Regulations

- All Team FITaos members will be required to read and sign the attached application and liability waiver, and agree to abide by all Rider Rules and Regulations.
- All riders must behave in a manner appropriate to Team FITaos and the sponsors they represent. This means proper sportsmanship at all times (before, during, and after an event or training ride).
- ALL RIDERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO WEAR HELMETS WHICH COMPLY WITH USAC POLICIES AT ALL TIMES WHEN RACING, TRAINING, or RIDING.
- ALL RIDERS RIDE AT THEIR OWN RISK. NEITHER TEAM FITAOIS OR FIELD INSTITUTE OF TAOS, ITS MEMBERS, DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND ATTORNEYS ASSUME ANY LIABILITY TO ANY RIDERS RIDING AS MEMBERS OF TEAM FITAOIS. CYCLING IS AN INHERENTLY DANGEROUS SPORT WHERE SERIOUS INJURY AND DEATH CAN AND DO OCCUR. THUS, ALL TEAM MEMBERS ASSUME THEIR OWN RISK WHEN RIDING FOR TEAM FITAOIS. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ALL RIDERS HAVE SOME FORM OF MEDICAL INSURANCE BEFORE RACING ON THE TEAM. THE TEAM DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY MEDICAL OR ACCIDENT INSURANCE TO ITS MEMBERS.
- Any equipment, including but not limited to bicycles, wheels, and racks provided by Team FITaos to any rider without cost, will remain the sole property of the Team. At the end of the racing season or when a rider ceases to be a member of the Team for any reason (or on the request of the Team Manager), the rider will be responsible for returning the equipment to the Team in excellent working order (subject to reasonable and expected wear and tear). Riders are responsible for loss, theft, or damage caused by the rider's negligence.
- All riders on the Junior "*Hooked on Riding Program*" must wear Team FITaos jerseys while in any race or competition. No Team FITaos rider (in "*Hooked on Riding Program*") will be allowed to wear another club or team jersey in competition during the year (with the exception of riders competing for a high school or collegiate team during high school or collegiate races). Team FITaos members are strongly encouraged to wear Team FITaos jerseys to promote participation and team visibility.
- All riders must obey all rules and regulations as published in the USA Cycling Rulebook. Copies of the Rulebook are available at the USAC website. [www.usacycling.org](http://www.usacycling.org)
- Riders shall not discriminate against or harass any team member, sponsor representative, suppliers, rider, official, or spectator based upon race, sex, religion, disability, sexual preference, or gender identity.
- Team members grant Team FITaos, Field Institute of Taos, its agents, representatives and assigns, the absolute right and permission to use, sell, and publish photographs of them.

**THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT. READ IT CAREFULLY. BY SIGNING THIS FORM, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THESE RIDER RULES AND REGULATIONS. YOU WILL ALSO BE GIVING UP ANY LEGAL RIGHT YOU MAY HAVE TO BRING A LAWSUIT AGAINST FIELD INSTITUTE OF TAOS AND TEAM FITAOS, ITS SPONSORS, MEMBERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ATTORNEYS, EMPLOYEES AND MANAGERS.**

YOUR SIGNATURE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THAT YOU ARE SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT VOLUNTARILY AND OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL AND NOT UNDER COERCION OR DURESS. YOUR SIGNATURE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THESE RIDER RULES AND REGULATIONS.

**Rider:**

Parent or Guardian's name  signature  date  
(if rider is under age 18)

## **TEAM FITAOS COMPLETE RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

### **READ BEFORE SIGNING!**

In exchange for being allowed to participate in any way in Team FITaos program, its related events and activities,

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, acknowledge, and hereby contract and agree that:

The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular skills, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist. I realize that injuries are a common and ordinary occurrence of this sport. I EXPRESSLY AGREE that I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of Team FITaos immediately. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY PROMISE TO RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS Field Institute of Taos and Team FITaos, their officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used for the activity ("Releasees"), FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY for personal injury, death or property damage which results IN ANY WAY associated with my presence or participation in the sport, including any caused by NEGLIGENCE or otherwise, conditions on trails or roads or any other activities related to bicycle racing and training and ACCEPT MYSELF THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY AND ALL such damages or injury of any kind which may result to ME OR MY CHILD(REN).

In addition, the parent/guardian signing below represents to FIT and TFT that they have the authority to enter into this agreement on behalf of said CHILD(REN) and on behalf of any other parents or guardian of said CHILD(REN) and AGREES TO DEFEND AND COMPLETELY INDEMNIFY and hold harmless FIT and TFT from any and all claims arising from the child(ren)'s participation in bicycle racing and/or training and this agreement is entered into on behalf of said CHILD(REN) or any other parent/guardian thereof, even after the CHILD(REN) has attained majority or from third parties injured by the CHILD(REN), and hold FIT and TFT its representatives, agents, affiliates, officers, directors, servants, and employees harmless from any such claim, legal action, harm, injury, damages, or loss of persons and/or property.

I grant FIT **PERMISSION** to use and publish photographs of myself and/or my Child for FIT promotional purposes.

I have carefully read the foregoing COMPLETE RELEASE OF LIABILITY and INDEMNITY AGREEMENT and understand its contents, including the jurisdictional agreement. I ACKNOWLEDGE and understand this is a COMPLETE RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, that it includes any and all claims by my children(ren) or by me or anyone on my child(ren)'s behalf for any reason, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, and that I am contractually agreeing to these terms FREELY, FULLY AND WITHOUT RESERVATION in exchange for the right to have myself and/or my child(ren) participate in bicycle racing and/or training with Team FITaos.

*I AM AWARE THAT THIS CONTRACT IS LEGALLY BINDING AND THAT I AM RELEASING LEGAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT.*

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**PARTICIPANT'S SIGNATURE**

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**AGE**

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Date Signed

**FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS OF MINOR AGE**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my child and our heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

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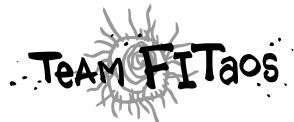
**PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE**

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Date Signed

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**(print name)**



**PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE!**

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**Additional Information for ALL Team FITaos Members:**

- You are encouraged to **“give back” to Team FITaos** in some way...by assisting with fundraising events or helping acquire new sponsors, participating in local trail maintenance, mentoring or leading a junior ride (or other ride), hosting a social event, volunteering at a Team event, or helping plan for future events. Events include Ride the Rift, bike swaps, community bike rodeos, and more.
- Let’s **build a strong sense of team spirit** by encouraging each other & supporting team members at all times. It’s amazing how much a few people yelling on the side of a course or an encouraging word on a technical section during a training ride can help! Please participate in team activities as much as possible (rides, clinics, informal brainstorm/training discussions, social events, & races).
- **When registering for races, please put “Team FITaos” under your team/sponsor name.** Let’s get the team name out there and build recognition and a positive image!
- **Support our sponsors!** Know the shops & products, shop there, introduce yourself to the owners & thank them for supporting us. Part of the deal is that we, as a sponsored team, show our appreciation by sending people into their shops & being positive representatives for their business. No sponsorship “deals” are available until membership requirements are met. A written “thank you” at the end of the season goes a long way. Remember to say “Thank You.”
- **Scholarships** - All Juniors receive discounted membership (including jerseys). Other funds may be available to juniors for equipment, travel, etc. Some loaner **Team bikes** may also be available. Contact Team Manager for information on scholarship & Team equipment availability.
- **Additional Team items available for purchase** may include t-shirts, shorts, vests, socks, water bottles, & additional jerseys.
- Our jerseys are awesome and have sponsor logos for all sponsors who contributed \$500 or more.

**2026 Junior Hooked on Riding Spring Program - \$TBD**

(includes Team FITaos membership, jersey, training, and travel)

This program is for Taos Composite riders (entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up in fall 2026) who love riding and racing and want to train together and race (2-3) in May/June/July. **Prior approval from coach is required.** Designed to be done in conjunction with and to complement FITaos April/May afterschool bike programs.

**Training Rides** (10) Led by experienced FITaos coaches. Tuesdays/Thursdays dates TBA.

**Races** (3) The team will travel and camp together; coaching, travel, camping, and food included.

**May 1-2: Alien Run (XC), Aztec, NM** <https://www.alienrun.com/>

**May 23-24: Ironhorse (XC) Durango, CO** <https://www.ironhorsebicycleclassic.com/index.php?nav=mtb>  
(will need a USA Cycling license- one day available)

**This program is heavily discounted because of sponsor support. We are looking for about \$2000 in sponsorship to cover the actual costs of coaches, travel, food, etc. Please let us know if you have any donor or sponsor ideas!**