



DIRTY KITTEN GRAVEL GRINDER

July 25, 2020

Over the last few months, we have watched events cancel one after another but maintained hope that we would be able to move ahead with our race this summer. Sadly, that is not the case and we believe that cancelling our originally scheduled event is the most responsible and fair decision at this time. However, we are planning a noncompetitive “socially distanced” gravel grinder (DKGG) in place of our race on **Saturday, July 25, 2020**. The maximum number of participants for this event is 200. We need at least 100 registered to make it happen.

WHAT: The purpose of the DKGG is to be a fun and recreational experience for folks in the MidAtlantic area (maximum 3-hour drive) who wish to ride the DKGR course either solo or with friends and/or teammates. Although “noncompetitive” in nature, there may be a few Strava segment challenges for those who wish to sprinkle in a little action along the way <wink wink>. Please keep in mind that this is NOT a race and folks will be expected to treat the event as such (i.e. follow proper group riding protocol, keep an appropriate distance from other riders, signal when passing, engage in safe riding activity, and be considerate of others on course).

We believe that this style of event will allow us to take the precautions we feel necessary to protect riders, staff, and volunteers, as well as provide participants with a comfortable, safe environment to ride the beautiful, private gravel roads of Locust Hill Farm & Preserve. We anticipate that participants can spread out enough on the 20-mile course to ensure proper distancing, but we recognize that this is a choice folks will make for themselves based on their personal situation and comfort level.

HOW: Our plan is to have staggered start times (15 minutes) between 7:00am-11:00am and allow folks to sign-up for specific time slots either individually or in small groups (5-10 riders) with other riders of their choosing. Participants will be asked to carry whatever they need with them for the entire lap (approx 20 miles): water, nutrition, flat pack, cell phone, etc. Participants may ride as many laps as they wish as long as they are finished by the designated cut-off time (3pm).

Water and minimal snacks (provided by Wegman’s and Hammer Nutrition) will be available at the start/finish area, as well as at one staffed aid-station along the course. Port-o-pots and wash stations will be available along with Emergency First-Aid if needed. In order to ensure the safety of participants, staff, and volunteers, there will be **very little** person-to-person contact on-site (no post-ride food and beverages, no team tents, no awards, and no after party). Folks may bring their own food and beverages to consume on-site before, during, and after their ride.

RULES: Participants will be asked to arrive within 30 minutes of their designated start time, check-in with a staff member at a marked location, prepare and warm-up at their car or in a designated area, maintain appropriate social distancing (at least 6-feet), be prepared when called to the “staging area” at the start/finish, sign-out when finished, and leave within 30 minutes of completion. The course will be marked but minimally staffed at turns and intersections so participants are expected to download the GPS course map (if possible) prior to arrival and pay close attention to signage. Helmets required!

***REMINDER:** Locust Hill Farm & Preserve is a private, working farm. No participants will be permitted on-site prior to the event. The property will open at 6:30am on Saturday, July 25, 2020.

In order to make this event safe and successful, we ask that folks practice social distancing and follow proper personal hygiene guidelines while on-site (hand washing with soap and water; use of hand sanitizer). Staff and volunteers will wear PPE (gloves & masks) and participants will be required to wear face coverings upon arrival and in the start/finish area but not while riding on the course (unless preferred). There will be hand sanitizer available at the start/finish area and aid-station along the course, but we encourage folks to bring their own for personal use as well.

REGISTRATION: Registration will open **July 5, 2020 at 12pm** on BikeReg on a first-come-first-served basis. DKGR 2020 participants and waitlisters will have first-dibs on registration and may use their BikeReg credits at check-out. The cost of this event is at a reduced fee (\$35). We will NOT be offering any event swag or merchandise, but those who purchased DKGR gloves may pick them up at the event (email the Event Directors for further info). Further information will be posted in our “Event Notes” on the registration page as well as on our website: www.dirtykittengravel.com. *There will be NO refunds for this event (unless we have to cancel); however, participants may transfer their entry to someone on the waitlist.*

We cannot forget that we are still dealing with a global pandemic and are not “out of the woods” yet. It is important that we take the health and safety of all participants, staff, and volunteers, as well as landowners and members of the surrounding community into consideration when planning. Therefore, we are limiting entry to folks in the MidAtlantic region only (within 2-3 hour drive) and ask that participants plan to travel to/from the event on the same day, making minimal stops along the way. If you venture into Culpeper, Madison, Orange, or any nearby town, please respect the local residents and businesses by following ALL policies and guidelines posted even if they differ from what you are used to or may believe. Participation in this event is optional and *at your own risk*.

Once again, we thank you profusely for your patience, understanding, and love through all of this. If you make the decision not to attend DKGG, we hope to see you next year at DKGR 3.0 on the weekend of July 23-25, 2021 (more info to come!).

Take care of yourselves and each other...and Keep Riding Dirty,
- Alex & Chris Howell
DKGR Co-Directors
Dirty Kitten Productions

*NOTE: As of July 1, Virginia will enter into “Phase 3” of their reopening plan. According to the official Commonwealth of Virginia Phase Three guidelines: “*Social gatherings should be limited to 50% occupancy of the event space, if applicable, or 250 participants, whichever is less*” and “*Limit the occupancy of spaces to ensure that six feet of physical distance can be maintained between all organizers, staff, volunteers, and attendees.*” We believe that we can adequately follow these guidelines and policies at our event, as well as all others stated in the “Virginia Forward Phase Three Guidelines” posted on the Commonwealth of Virginia website (www.virginia.gov): [HERE](#)