



Top 5 Course Marshal Duties

1) Biker Safety

The most important job of every course marshal is to protect the safety of every bike racer. Depending on your location, you may be halting car traffic or warning racers of danger, but the key to every job is to make sure that a clear roadway is available for passing racers. If a car parks in such a way as to push oncoming traffic into the way of racers- ask them nicely to move. If a car stops in the roadway and blocks a pack of racers- ask them loudly and urgently to move. If a moose decides to sit down in the middle of RT 2, well . . . that is your call.

2) Traffic Control

As much as we want the racers to have a safe roadway, there are also lots of bigger, heavier, faster things to deal with on the course- namely cars. Cars often do not know how to react to all of these people in spandex riding around on two wheels. Many times in an innocent act of panic as racers approach a car, the motorist will stop, causing a safety hazard. This is where the course marshal must make a judgment call on how to best move the traffic through while maintaining racer safety. Course marshals will let cars know how to react to the situation, usually this involves either stopping briefly or moving through slowly- each marshal will be told what to do in each intersection. And remember- each heavy, fast, big car has a person in it, and we want this person to like or at least tolerate local bike races.

3) Public Relations

While you are standing out on the course, you are the race ambassador. People may ask you what is happening, when they can see it again, or how they can help; and you will know the answer to all of these questions. When you see a local spectator, thank them for their support. When you see a local motorist, thank them for their patience.

4) Use Your Voice

We will not be supplying any course marshals with pom-poms, but that doesn't mean you can't act like cheerleaders. These racers will be suffering and they love to hear support. Let them know how glad you are that it is them and not you pedaling their way over App-Gap.

5) Wear the Orange Vest Proudly

Your official race t-shirt and shiny orange vest mean that you are in charge. You are one of the many people who have selflessly volunteered to make the Green Mountain Stage Race happen. Don't be surprised if a racer huffing and puffing up App-Gap takes the time to say thanks, because every racer understands and appreciates the importance of having a safe race course- made possible by having awesome course marshals.