

TAUT 2027 Regulations

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1. PRESENTATION OF TAUT 2027

The Manifesto: The Indomitable Spirit

"Welcome to the Endurance Mountain Trail World Championship. From the ancestral landscapes of Sicó to the Fragas de São Simão, each trail leads to discovery and each athlete is a celebration of human resilience. TAUT is not just an event, it is the global stage where the indomitable spirit meets the stone and history of Portugal."

The Concept: The Alliance of Stone

TAUT – Terras do Ancião Ultra Trail, organized by Ansibikers, has established itself as the official qualifying stage in Portugal for the Endurance World Championship. In 2027, the event expands its horizon to an epic dimension, uniting art, culture, and landscape through the natural element that defines us, the Stone.

Over a week of overcoming, the competition crosses breathtaking scenarios in 22 Municipalities and 70 Parishes, uniting the coast to the deep interior.

World Championship & Qualifications

In 2027, TAUT remains the exclusive host of the world circuit on national soil, offering crucial points for the global ranking and qualifications for:

- TORX eXperience and UTMB Index.
- ITRA, ATRP, ADAL and Ansião Municipal Circuit.

The Ancient Quest: The New Frontier (500K)

The great novelty of this edition is the introduction of the Special Edition 500 KM (The Ancient Quest). A survival and navigation race that challenges the limits of what is possible, designed exclusively for athletes seeking the most extreme endurance experience on the planet.

1.1. Race Location

- **Race location:** Ansião;
- **GPS Coordinates:** (39.91812, -8.39937);
- **Address:** Parque Empresarial do Camporês.

1.2. Definitions

Abbreviation	Full Name
TAUTE XL	Terras do Anciao Ultra Trail Endurance XL

TAUTE	Terras do Anciao Ultra Trail Endurance
TAUT	Terras do Anciao Ultra Trail
TATL	Terras do Anciao Trail Longo
TATS	Terras do Anciao Trail Sprint
TATJ	Terras do Anciao Trail Jovem
NW	Nordic Walking
DNF	Did Not Finish
PAC	Postos de Apoio e Controlo (Support and Control Posts)
BV	Bases de Vida (Life Bases)
CMA	Câmara Municipal de Ansião (Ansião Municipal Council)
BVA	Bombeiros Voluntários de Ansião (Ansião Volunteer Firefighters)
ATRP	Associação Trail Running Portugal (Trail Running Portugal Association)
ITRA	International Trail Running Association
UTMB	Ultra Trail Mont-Blanc
DNS	Did Not Start
CN	Campeonato Nacional (National Championship)

2. Conditions of Participation

The minimum age to participate in the competitive races of TAUT is 18 years, without prejudice to the provisions of point (5.2.), where athletes aged 16 or over may participate in the TATJ (Mini Trail), completed by September 30, 2027.

Minor athletes must provide proof of authorization from their legal guardian in a signed declaration delivered to the organization before collecting the athlete's kit.

The document can be downloaded from the registration platform or at the end of the regulations.

2.1. Regularized Registration

Registration in the Special Edition 500 KM (The Ancient Quest); Ultra Trail Endurance XL+; Ultra Trail Endurance XL; Ultra Trail Endurance and Ultra Trail implies understanding and accepting the rules and regulations of the race. The athlete must fill out the Liability Waiver, and submit it in paper format at Check-In, at the event secretariat. The document can be downloaded from the registration platform or at the end of the regulations.

2.2. Semi-Autonomy and External Help

The principle of individual running in semi-autonomy is the rule that applies to TAUT. Semi-autonomy is defined as the ability to be autonomous between two aid stations, from the point of view of food as well as clothing and safety, which allows one to adapt and overcome all difficulties that may arise.

The following rules, among others, apply to this principle:

- Each participant must carry all the mandatory equipment described in point (3.4.) for the entire duration of the race.
- The equipment must be transported in an appropriate bag/sack/backpack and must be presented for inspection to the judges or the organization, whenever requested, under penalty of penalization/disqualification if they do not have it or do not consent to the inspection.

2.3. Bib / Athlete Number

The bib is the identifying element of the athlete in the race and it contains the athlete's number, which is personal and non-transferable.

The bib must be permanently visible throughout the race, that is, it must be positioned over the clothing, on the chest, abdomen, or leg and cannot, for any reason, be fixed on the back. Only participants with a visible bib will have access to the aid stations.

In case of withdrawal, it is mandatory to communicate the abandonment to the organization.

Failure to observe these rules will result in the penalty provided for in point (3.5.).

2.4. Minors

For athletes who have not completed 18 years of age by the date of the event, the athlete's legal guardian must fill out the Liability Waiver and submit it in paper format at Check-In, at the event secretariat. The document can be downloaded from the registration platform or at the end of the regulations.

3. The Race

Endurance Trail One Hundred® World Championship

TORX® eXperience competition circuit

Certification by ITRA - International Trail Running Association, as well as by UTMB Index.

3.1. TORX® eXperience, ITRA and UTMB Index Categorization

Ancient Quest	TAUTE XL+	TAUTE XL	TAUTE	TAUT	TATL	TATS	TATJ
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(*) All courses count towards the ITRA National League

3.2. Categorization of ATRP; ADAL; Ansião Municipal Circuit

TAUT is a candidate event for the Trail Running circuit of Portugal, and is part of the Leiria District circuit (ADAL) and the Ansião Municipal Circuit.

	Ancient Quest	TAUTE XL+	TAUTE XL	TAUTE	TAUT	TATL	TATS	TATJ
Distance	500K	150M	100M	110Km	62 Km	35 Km	20 Km	13Km
TAUT Distance Categorization								
Accumulated Elevation Gain (+)	23,000	9639	7726	3872	2236	1500	690	370
Time Limit	160 Hours	60 Hours	40 Hours	26 Hours	14 Hours	6 Hours	4 Hours	3 Hours
ADAL District Circuit								

Ansião Municipal Circuit								
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3.3. Checkpoints

There will be Checkpoints (CP) along the races. Failure of the athletes to pass through all the checkpoints will result in their disqualification, as provided for in point (3.5.).

3.4. Support and Control Posts / Life Bases

There will be Support and Control Posts (PAC) and Life Bases, where there is a rest area with toilets. (Consult the Athlete's Guide)

Liquid and solid supply points will be available throughout the race, and liquid dispensers must always be used for this purpose (where a volunteer will handle the dispensers so that athletes can refuel).

3.5. Mandatory and Recommended Equipment and Verifications

The mandatory equipment must be carried by the athlete for the entire duration of the race. The organization will carry out checks at Check-in, at the exit of the Life Bases and at surprise points on the trail.

MANDATORY MATERIAL	Ancient Quest 500K	TAUTE XL+ 150M	TAUTE XL 110M	TAUTE 100K	TAUT 62K
A. SECURITY AND NAVIGATION SYSTEMS					
Main GPS: Device with the official track with autonomy (or batteries) for the duration of the race.	X	X	X	X	

Reserve GPS: Can be a second device or smartphone with a navigation application and downloaded offline maps.	X	X			
Smartphone: Charged, roaming active and the organization's emergency numbers saved.	X	X	X	X	X
GPS Tracker: Provided by the organization at Check-in. It must be fixed to the top of the backpack.	X	X	X	X	
Powerbank: Minimum recommended capacity of 10,000 mAh for recharging GPS and mobile phone.	X				

B. SURVIVAL EQUIPMENT					
Technical Backpack: Capacity between 15L and 20L. It must contain all the material loosely.	X				
Bivouac Bag (Emergency Bivy): Note: The simple aluminum blanket does not replace the bivouac bag.	X				
Food Reserve: Minimum of 1000 kcal in bars, gels or dry food, sealed for exclusive use in an emergency.	X				
Water Reserve: 2L capacity at the exit of each post.	X	X			
Water Reserve: 1L			X	X	X

Cup: No cups are provided at the PACs	X	X	X	X	X
Whistle	X	X	X	X	X
Poles	X				
Main Headlamp: Minimum 400 Lumens	X	X	X	X	X
Reserve Headlamp: Minimum 200 Lumens.	X	X	X		
REAR LIGHT	X	X	X	X	X
Waterproof Jacket: With hood.	X	X	X	X	X
Thermal Layer (Second Skin): Long-sleeved piece with a minimum weight of 200g (insulation for extreme cold).	X	X			
Waterproof Trousers	X	X			
Gloves and Hat: Waterproof or thermal, suitable for negative temperatures.	X	X			

E. FIRST AID KIT					
Emergency Thermal Blanket: Min. 1.40m x 2.10m	X	X	X	X	X
Elastic Bandage: For compression	X	X	X	X	X
Disinfectant/Antiseptic: Small bottle of povidone-iodine (Betadine) or disinfectant wipes.	X	X			
Adhesive Bandages and Sterile Compresses: For treating blisters and abrasions.	X	X			
Adhesive Tape (Tape): For fixing dressings or joint reinforcement.	X	X			
F. RECOMMENDED MATERIAL					

Poles					
Cap/Hat/Bandana					
Long Trousers					
Sunscreen					
Gloves					
Cash (to deal with any unforeseen events)					
Annex 3.6. Penalties/Disqualifications					

Participants who do not comply with the regulations will be prevented from participating if the infraction relates to procedures prior to the start (DNS) and disqualified if the infraction relates to acts that occur during the event (DNF).

In order to safeguard the right of competitors to complain, they may be allowed to continue in the race. Any athlete who:

INFRACTION	SANCTION TO BE APPLIED
Not assisting another participant in difficulty	Disqualification
Not complying with these regulations	Disqualification
Sharing the bib with another person, during part or all of the course	Disqualification
Using paths other than those marked for the race, intentionally cutting the course	Disqualification
Using unauthorized transport (hitchhiking)	Disqualification
Removing course markings	Disqualification

Disobeying the safety measures indicated by the organization and associated entities	Disqualification
Refusal to present the mandatory material, if requested by the organization	Prevented from participating
Exceeding the time limit at checkpoints with a time barrier	Disqualification
Missing one or more checkpoints	Disqualification
Losing the Chip	Disqualification
Throwing garbage on the ground and/or damaging the environment	Disqualification
Receiving external help outside the areas defined by the organization	1 Hour Penalty
Being accompanied by people not accredited by the organization, except in the areas defined by the organization	1 Hour Penalty
Bib not visible or affixed in a non-visible place	20 Minute Penalty
Not having mandatory material (1 penalty for each missing item)	20 Minute Penalty

The athlete who abandons the race and does not communicate this fact to the organization may be prevented from participating in future editions of events organized by ANSIBIKERS.

The race director, based on his own judgment, has the right to disqualify or not allow participants to remain in the race who, at any time, are in one of the following situations:

- Physical or mental health problems.
- Abuse or intentional violation of these regulations.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Excessive alcohol consumption.
- Participation in the race under the influence of hallucinogenic drugs.

3.7. Course Signage/GPS for the 100 Miles, 150 Miles and 500K

It runs mostly, but not exclusively, through the Serra de Sicó, a route that is not marked on the ground. Notwithstanding this fact, all Endurance XL and Endurance XL+ courses must be exclusively guided using a GPS device/watch.

The GPS device/watch, in addition to ensuring that you are on the stipulated course for the race, will allow you to confirm that you have completed the full and correct course. If requested, failure to deliver the equipment at the end of the race to download the registration file will result in the athlete's disqualification. The GPS device/watch is mandatory equipment and must have as main requirements its autonomy and the possibility of recording at least 10,000 points. The equipment must have the possibility of changing/charging the batteries at any time during the race, to ensure its normal and correct operation uninterruptedly throughout the race. The files with the race course will be provided in advance.

3.8. Course Marking

Mandatory use of a GPS device/watch on the 500K, 150M, 100M, 100K and 62K courses.

The courses (100K, 62K, 35K, 20K and 13K) will be marked with personalized white reflective tape and with yellow reflective material strips, arrows and markings.

3.9. Time Control Methodology

The athlete's time control will be carried out by electronic means "chip". Athletes may be asked, at a given time, to receive and carry with them a geolocation device for the purpose of tracking the race by the security teams.

3.10. Medical Assistance

When medical assistance is required, the athlete must proceed as follows:

- Request support at one of the Supply and Control Posts (PAC);
- Call the telephone numbers written on the bib;

There will be medical emergency teams strategically distributed along the course. In case of need, these teams may enter the course in motor vehicles, signaling their progress.

4. Registrations

Pre-registration or registration for the races of the 13th edition of TAUT implies full acceptance of all the rules established in these regulations.

Registrations close at 23:59 on February 13, 2027 or earlier, if the maximum limits for the various competitive distances are reached.

The veracity of the data provided is the sole responsibility of the participant, including for the purposes of the insurance indicated in point (4.5.).

No changes to the data provided will be accepted after the end of registrations.

Registrations with team names with acronyms or party names will be changed to Team1, Team2 and so on.

4.1. Registration Process

Registration, whether for pre-registration or registration, must be done through the specific form available on the website: <https://stopandgo.net/events/taut-terras-do-anciao-ultra-trail-2027>

Pre-registrations by e-mail or telephone will not be accepted.

After registration, notified athletes will have 3 days to make the payment and complete the registration. Payment can be made by multibanco reference, credit card, MB WAY or PayPal. The registration will be automatically canceled if the payment is not made within the stipulated period.

4.2. Number of Available Registrations

The number of participants in the competitive races of TAUT will be approximately 1100, in the total of the 9 races and walk, distributed as follows:

Registration Limit	Ancient Quest 500K	TAUTE XL+ 150M	TAUTE XL 100M	TAUTE 100K	TAUT 62K	TATL 35K
	25+45	30	50	50	100	250

If the number of available places for each race is exceeded, a pre-registration for a draw will be opened for another 400 places to be distributed among the 9 races.

The organizing entity also reserves the right to reduce the number of places for security reasons or for any other reason that may affect the proper functioning of the race.

4.3. Registration Fees and Periods

PHASE	PERIOD	Ancient Quest 500K	TAUTE XL+ 150M	TAUTE XL 100M	TAUTE 100K	TAUT 62K
		SOLO	RELAY(3)			
1st Phase	07MAR26 to 08MAR26	400€ (3)*	480€ (6)*	200€ (3)*	70€ (5)*	60€ (5)*
2nd Phase	09MAR26 to	500€ (4)*	600€ (6)*	250€ (4)*	90€ (10)*	70€ (10)*

	15MAR26					
3rd Phase	16MAR26 to 31JUL26	600€ (3)*	660€ (9)*	280€ (3)*	120€ (10)*	90€ (10)*
4th Phase	01AUG26 to 30NOV26	650€ (5)*	750€ (9)*	350€ (5)*	135€ (10)*	110€ (10)*
5th Phase	01DEC26 to 13FEV27	750€ (10)*	900€ (15)*	500€ (15)*	150€ (15)*	130€ (15)*

() * Number of slots per phase

Note: The number of available slots for each phase is limited. When the number of slots in a phase is exhausted, the registration automatically moves to the next phase, even if the deadline for the previous phase has not been reached.

4.4. Participant's Commitment

By registering for TAUT – Terras do Ancião Ultra Trail, I agree to the following:

- I declare that I have read, understood and will respect these regulations;
- I understand and approve the conditions of participation that appear in the regulations;
- I agree to scrupulously respect and promote ethics;
- I declare that I am aware of the medical contraindications that this race may trigger, and consequently I release the organization from any responsibility for any medical problem that may arise during the event due to my negligence;
- I have read and understood that, in the case of a false declaration of the requirements required in the TAUT races, the organization reserves the right to cancel my registration without the right to any refund;
- Once registered, I will not contest the regulations at any time.

4.5. Sports Insurance

The organization contracts the mandatory insurance for this type of race, and its premium is included in the registration fee. The payment of the insurance deductible, in case of an accident, is the sole responsibility of the athletes.

The organization will not assume expenses for claims of which it was not aware in a timely manner to activate the insurance (24 hours after the end of the race).

4.6. Cancellation of Registration

The participant may at any time request the cancellation of their registration, however, there will be no refund of the amount paid. By canceling the registration, the participant is no longer entitled to the participation kit.

Deferring the registration to future editions, unless proposed to the organization as a way to minimize the impact of a cancellation, however, you will always have to pay the administrative fee of €5.00.

There will be no right to refunds of the registration fee, or any other, unless the race is canceled for reasons attributable to the organization.

4.7. Conditions for Changing Registration/Race

The participant may transfer their registration to another person as long as they do not benefit from any promotion.

The transfer of registration has an administrative cost of €5.00. The deadline to transfer the registration is February 5, 2027.

The entire transfer process is coordinated by the organization. The registration holder initiates the process by sending an email to the organization ansibikers@gmail.com, expressing the intention to transfer their registration. Within 5 days, the organization will contact the participant to proceed with the transfer process.

If the change is for a race with a higher registration fee, the difference will have to be paid, in the amounts referenced in point (4.3.), plus the administrative fee of €5.00.

If it is for a race with a lower registration fee, there will be no refund of the difference, however, you will always have to pay the administrative fee of €5.00.

4.8. Cancellation of the Race

At any time, the event organizer may have to cancel or suspend the event, due to bad weather or unsafe conditions, landslide, fire, earthquake, natural disaster, lack of water, power outage, closure of local parks, roads or parts of the course, protests or blockades along the course, riot, strikes, outbreak or escalation of diseases, epidemics or pandemics, imposition of quarantine or travel ban, acts or threats of terrorism, blockades or disorder, other industrial action, civil commotion and any legislation, regulation, decision or omission (including failure to grant any necessary permission) of any government, court, competent national authority or Administrative Body.

If the cancellation of the race occurs, the organization will not refund any amount.

4.9. Optional Services

- Official event T-shirt - (€18.00)
- TAUT 2026 magnet - (€2.70)
- Meals (Soup + Sandwich + drink), located in the finish line arena - (€6.00)

You must select the number of meals required from February 14 to 20, including companions.

4.10. Race Secretariat / Schedules and Locations

The organization's secretariat will be located at the ANSIBIKERS headquarters, during the opening hours established in point (4.11.).

To collect the bib, participants must present the Identification document (ID or Passport) used in the registration process.

In the event that the participant cannot participate in the race and has not canceled the registration, they may authorize a third party to collect the participation kit.

4.11. Program / Schedule

The TAUT program begins on Wednesday, February 13, 2027, at 5:00 p.m. SOON

More details regarding the program will be disclosed on the official channels of the event, at: www.facebook.com/TerrasDoAnciaoUltraTrail and www.ansibikers.com

5. Categories and Prizes

The awards ceremony will take place on Saturday, February 28, starting at 6:30 p.m. for the races in the finish line arena, in the center of the town of Ansião.

5.1. Deadline for Classification Complaints

All complaints must be made in writing and sent to the race director, accompanied by a deposit of €50.00 (non-refundable if the complaint is rejected). The complaint must include the name of the complainant, ID/CC or passport number, name of the affected participant(s), bib number and alleged reasons.

Classifications may be subject to change, provided that the infractions provided for in these regulations are proven.

5.2. Definition of Age Categories

The categories will be defined automatically based on the data provided by the participants at the time of registration, and with reference to the age that the athlete will be on September 30, 2027.

CATEGORIES	AGE	ULTRA TRAIL' S	TRAIL LONGO	TRAIL SPRINT	TRAIL JOVEM
		Male	Female		
SUB 18 M	SUB 18 F	16 TO 17 YEARS			
SUB 20 M	SUB 20 F	18 TO 19 YEARS			✓
M SUB23	F SUB23	20 TO 22 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M SEN	F SEN	23 TO 34 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M35	F35	35 TO 39 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M40	F40	40 TO 44 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M45	F45	45 TO 49 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M50	F50	50 TO 54 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M55	F55	55 TO 59 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M60	F60	60 TO 64 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M65	F65	65 TO 70 YEARS	✓	✓	✓
M70	F70	Over 70 years	✓	✓	✓

5.3. Individual and Team Classification

- The different 9 races will be won by the competitors who have the lowest time at the end of them, also considering the due penalties, if any;

- For the 9 races, only participants who are proven to have passed through all the checkpoints and crossed the finish line within the stipulated time will be classified;
- To obtain a team classification, the teams must be formed by a minimum of 3 elements. It will be based on the three best classifications of the respective athletes. For the determination of the team results, it is important that the team name is uniform among all the participants of that same team!
- The presence of the winners at the awards ceremony is mandatory, they will not be sent by mail or other carrier.
- For each race there will be an individual female and male classification for the general, by age group and team.

5.4. ANGEL CHALLENGE “Subida Do Anjo”

All athletes of the Ancient Quest 500K, TAUTE XL+, TAUTE XL, TAUTE, TAUT and TATL who complete the race without being disqualified or penalized are candidates for the Angel Prize.

The winner is the one who covers the 590mts segment of the “Subida Do Anjo” in the shortest time, Male and Female.

5.5. Classification Grid

CATEGORY	MALE	FEMALE
General Solo Ancient Quest 500K	Trophy to the top 3	Trophy to the top 3
General Relay Ancient Quest 500K	Trophy to the top 3 MIXED	Trophy to the top 3
	Trophy to the top 3	Trophy to the top 3
General 150M	Trophy to the top 3	Trophy to the top 3
All individual age groups 100M, 100K, 62K, 35K, 20K AND 13K	Medal to the top 3	Medal to the top 3
General by teams 100M, 100K, 62K, 35K, 20K AND 13K	Trophy to the first	
Angel Challenge a) All Except 13K	Trophy to the first a)	Trophy to the first a)

Nordic Walking (Individual General)	Trophy to the top 3	Trophy to the top 3
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6. Biannual Ranking and Prize Money (2026 and 2027 Editions)

The organization establishes the 2026/2027 Biannual Challenge, rewarding the performance and consistency of athletes who complete the event in two consecutive years through Prize Money and an exclusive trophy.

6.1. Classification Criteria

- The classification will be determined by the sum of the official times obtained by the athlete in the 2026 edition and the 2027 edition.
- The ordering of the winners will be done in ascending order, with the winner being the athlete who obtains the lowest total sum of time (Total Time = Time₂₀₂₆ + Time₂₀₂₇).
- This criterion applies successively up to the 8th place of the General Classification of each distance, for the Male and Female genders.

6.2. Biannual Trophy 2026/2027

In addition to the monetary prize, the 2026/2027 Biannual Trophy will be awarded to the athletes who finish on the podium (as decided by the organization, typically for the Top 8 winners of each distance in the accumulated). This trophy symbolizes the overcoming of the combined challenge of the two editions.

6.3. Eligibility and Course Change

- Completion (Finisher) of both editions is mandatory.
- Distance Flexibility: In 2027, the athlete may opt for a distance equal to or less than that carried out in 2026. The final classification will be inserted in the ranking of the distance in which the athlete crosses the finish line in 2027.
- Restriction: Athletes who move up to a longer distance in 2027 (in relation to 2026) will not be eligible for the Prize Money ranking or the Biannual Trophy.

6.4. Biannual Prize Table 2026/2027 (Values in Euros):

The values below refer to the total prize to be awarded in the 2027 edition for the General Classification of each course:

Place / Position	150Miles	100Miles	100Km	62Km	35Km	20Km	13Km
1st	1,000€	700€	400€	270€	180€	160€	100€
2nd	800€	400€	300€	180€	130€	120€	80€
3rd	520€	300€	250€	140€	100€	100€	70€
4th	400€	250€	150€	120€	80€	60€	50€
5th	300€	200€	120€	90€	70€	50€	40€
6th	250€	150€	100€	80€	60€	40€	30€
7th	200€	120€	80€	70€	50€	30€	20€
8th	150€	100€	70€	60€	40€	20€	10€
Total Male	3,620€	2,220€	1,470€	1,010€	710€	580€	400€
Total Female	3,620€	2,220€	1,470€	1,010€	710€	580€	400€

6.5. Tie-breaker

In the event of an exact tie in the sum of the times (down to the seconds), the tie-breaking criterion will be the best time achieved in the 2027 edition.

6.6. Prize Giving

The final validation and delivery of the Prize Money will take place in the 2027 edition, after the technical verification of the passage times in both editions and doping control (if applicable).

7. Specific Nordic Walking Regulations

Nordic Walking is based on the walking technique with the use of specific poles, always maintaining contact of one of the feet with the ground (running is prohibited).

- **Use of Poles:** The use of two Nordic Walking poles is mandatory throughout the entire course.

- **Movement Cycle:** The movement of the arms and legs must be alternated (left arm with right leg and vice versa).
- **Propulsion:** The poles must be planted obliquely and serve to propel the body forward, and not just as passive support.
- **Prohibition of Running:** It is strictly forbidden to run or perform the flight phase (both feet off the ground).
- **Time Penalty:** The first infraction (running or incorrect technique) will result in a warning or a 10-minute penalty.
- **Disqualification:** Recurrence or the absence of poles at the finish line implies immediate disqualification.

The classification will be based on the order of arrival (gross time), divided by gender, regardless of the age group (General).

Course Judges: There will be elements of the organization (fixed or mobile) to verify that the athletes are complying with the walking technique and the correct use of the poles.

- **Finish Line:** The classification will only be validated after confirming that the athlete has not been penalized during the course.

8. Specific Ancient Quest 500K Regulations

Welcome to The Ancient Quest 500K, the newest and most ambitious addition to the ultra-trail running calendar in Portugal. This epic race, to be held between February 14 and 20, 2027, challenges the limits of human endurance and the ability to overcome, on a course of approximately 500 kilometers through the heart of Portugal.

The course of The Ancient Quest 500K is a circular journey of approximately 500 km that crosses diverse landscapes of central Portugal, including mountains, valleys, rivers and historic villages. The route was designed in an innovative “butterfly loop” format, composed of three distinct circuits that depart from and return to Ansião, ensuring that the course never repeats itself in each loop. This design allows the logistic center (Ansião) to function as the heart of the race, where the athletes return three times, optimizing logistical support, facilitating the management of relay teams and offering regular contact points with the organization, maximizing the safety and experience of the athlete.

The three circuits are:

- **Circuit 1 (approximately 250 km):** The furthest point reached is Pampilhosa da Serra.
- **Circuit 2 (approximately 100 km):** The furthest point reached is Soure.
- **Circuit 3 (approximately 160 km):** The furthest point reached is Porto de Mós.

The course is challenging, with a high accumulated elevation gain (~23,000m D+) and technical sections, but also to provide a visually rich and immersive experience in nature.

8.1. General Race Information

- **Date:** February 14 to 20, 2027
- **Start/Finish Location:** Ansião, Portugal
- **Distance:** Approximately 500 km
- **Accumulated Positive Elevation (D+):** Estimated at ~23,000 meters
- **Time Limit:** 160 hours (6 days and 16 hours)
- **Modalities:** Solo and Relay

8.2. Official Training Camp (Included in Registration)

All athletes registered for the 500K have direct access to The Ancient Quest Preparation Stage, which will take place from February 12 to 14. This weekend is vital for the recognition of technical sections and integration with the team.

- **Accommodation:** Accommodation included for the two nights of the stage.
- **Food:** Full board included (breakfasts, lunches and dinners).
- **Technical Support:** Detailed briefing on GPS navigation and sleep management for the 500km.

8.3. Relay Modality

Requirements and Team Composition The relay modality in The Ancient Quest 500K allows teams of 2 to 3 elements to share the journey, dividing the course into strategic sections.

8.4. Transition Zones (Baton Exchange)

The exchanges between the elements of the relay are mandatorily carried out at Life Base Zero (BV-0). The team is responsible for the transport logistics of the athlete who enters and the athlete who leaves the Life Base. The “baton” is the team’s own GPS Tracker, which must be passed from one athlete to another at the time of the exchange.

8.5. Continuity and Withdrawal Rule

To ensure that the team can complete the experience, we apply The Ancient Quest Continuity Rule:

- **Incapacity Scenario:** If a relay athlete, due to injury or exhaustion, is unable to reach the next Life Base (exchange point), the next athlete on the team may take over the race.
- **Starting Point:** The new athlete can start from the exact place where the previous one withdrew (with the authorization of the Race Direction) or directly from the previous Life Base.
- **Time Penalty:** For each kilometer that the previous athlete did not cover, a penalty of 5 minutes per kilometer will be applied to the team's total time.
- **Example:** If the athlete withdraws 10km from Life Base Zero, the next one can start, but the team suffers a 50-minute penalty on the final time.

All members of the relay team have the right to enter the finish line together in the last 500 meters to celebrate the completion of the challenge.

8.6. Team Composition

Number of Elements

Teams can be composed of 2 to 3 athletes.

Categories: The composition of the team (male, female, mixed) will determine the classification category. **Team Captain:** Each team must appoint a captain, who will be the main point of contact with the organization and responsible for the internal communication and management of the team.

8.7. Support and Transport Logistics

Relay teams are responsible for their own transport logistics between the TZs. It is mandatory that each team has a support vehicle and a designated driver to ensure the safe transport of athletes and material. External support is allowed in the BVs/TZs, as long as it does not interfere with the race of the other athletes or with the organization.

8.8. Medical Certificate

A medical certificate proving physical fitness for the practice of ultra-endurance, issued by a doctor in the last 6 months, is mandatory for all Solo participants.

8.9. Checkpoints (CPs) and Life Bases (LBs)

Throughout the 500 km of The Ancient Quest 500K, the organization will provide a robust support network, strategically located to ensure the safety, well-being and recovery of the athletes. This network is composed of Checkpoints (CPs) and Life Bases (LBs).

Checkpoints (CPs) are mandatory passage points where the athlete's time is recorded. In these places, athletes can find:

- **Water and Drinks:** Refueling points for water and isotonic drinks.
- **Light Food:** Snacks, fruit, and other easily digestible foods.
- **Basic First Aid:** Support team with material for small dressings.
- **Material Check:** The organization may carry out random checks of the mandatory material.

Life Bases (LBs) are the logistical pillars of The Ancient Quest 500K, located at intervals of approximately 50 to 80 km. Each LB is a true support center, designed to allow athletes to recover physically and mentally, managing their time and race strategy. In the LBs, athletes will find:

- **Complete Food:** Hot and cold meals, adapted to the needs of ultra-endurance (pasta, soups, rice, protein, etc.), as well as a wide range of snacks, fruits and drinks.
- **Rest and Sleep Area:** Dedicated spaces with mattresses, blankets and a quiet environment so that athletes can rest and manage their sleep effectively. This is a crucial element for the completion of a 500 km race.
- **Specialized Medical Assistance:** Medical and nursing team available for evaluation, treatment of injuries and advice.
- **Physiotherapy Service** for muscle recovery.
- **Toilets and Showers:** Facilities for personal hygiene, essential for comfort and prevention of skin problems.
- **Support Point for Teams and Crew:** The LBs (0) is the only place where relay teams can make their exchanges and in the other LBs is where the support crew (for Solo athletes) can provide assistance to their athletes, within the established rules.
- **Drop Bags:** Solo athletes may have access to drop bags in predetermined LBs, where they can have dry clothes, extra shoes, specific foods and personal material.

8.10. Cut-off Times

The total time limit to complete The Ancient Quest 500K is 160 hours. Intermediate time limits will be established at each CP and LB. Failure to comply with these times will result in the disqualification of the athlete or team. The organization reserves the right to change the time limits in case of extreme weather conditions or other force majeure situations.

8.11. What Is Included in Your Registration

Your registration guarantees access to an excellent ultra-trail experience, with a complete package of services and support, designed to maximize your safety, comfort and performance:

- **Participation in the Race:** Access to The Ancient Quest 500K course.
- **Sports Insurance:** Coverage for personal accidents during the race, with the legally required coverages and deductibles.
- **Premium Athlete Kit:** Includes personalized bib, official technical t-shirt of the event (exclusive design), a personalized padded jacket, gifts from sponsors and other high-quality surprise items.
- **Official GPX File:** Access to the detailed and validated course for GPS navigation, essential for your autonomy.
- **Complete Logistical Support:** Unlimited access to all Checkpoints (CPs) and Life Bases (LBs). Wide offer of hot and cold meals, snacks, fruits, isotonic drinks and water, adapted to the needs of ultra-endurance.
- **Rest and Sleep Areas:** Comfortable spaces with mattresses and blankets for recovery and sleep management.
- **Medical and Physiotherapy Assistance:** Professional team available for evaluation, treatment of injuries and advice. It also includes a physiotherapy service for muscle recovery.
- **Toilets and Showers:** Facilities for personal hygiene in selected LBs.
- **Timing Service:** Electronic time recording at all CPs and LBs, with real-time tracking (live tracking) for family and friends.
- **Exclusive Finisher Medal:** For all athletes (Solo and Relay) who complete the race within the time limit, a unique medal that celebrates their achievement.
- **Finisher Prize:** A special and memorable prize to mark the completion of this epic race.
- **Certificate of Participation:** With the final time and official classification.
- **Transport of Drop Bags:** Transport of bags with personal material to pre-designated LBs, allowing access to dry clothes, extra shoes and specific foods.
- **Abandonment Transport:** In case of withdrawal, transport of the athlete from the nearest CP/LB to the finish line.
- **Final Bath and Meal:** At the end of the race, access to facilities for a bath and a convivial meal.
- **Online Results and Live Tracking:** Real-time tracking of the race for family and friends.
- **Professional Photography and Video:** Comprehensive coverage of the event, with access to high-quality photo and video galleries to remember your adventure.

Important Note: The mandatory material (see section 3.5) and personal equipment are the responsibility of the athlete and are not included in the registration fee.

The organization may provide rental services for GPS or other essential equipment, at an additional cost, to ensure that all participants meet the safety requirements.

9. Personal Data

The data of the participants indicated in the registration form will be registered by the organizing entity for the purposes of processing in the event, namely, insurer, list of registered, news, classification and for sending information related to the event, including subsequent editions.

All participants can exercise their right of access, rectification or cancellation of their personal data by sending an e-mail to ansibikers@gmail.com.

In the event that the participant is a member of ATRP – Associação de Trail Running de Portugal, ITRA - International Trail Running Association, as well as is UTMB Index, and at the time of registration, it presupposes the authorization for their data to be transmitted for the purposes of preparing the classification, statistics and evaluation of the event.

10. Image Rights

The organization of the race, its respective sponsors and the entities that collaborate in the organization of this sporting event reserve the rights to freely use in all countries and in all forms, the participation of the competitors, as well as the results obtained by them.

The race may be recorded on video and/or photographed by the event organization and/or by members of the media for subsequent dissemination or advertising use.

The acceptance of these regulations necessarily implies that the participant authorizes the use of their image for the dissemination of the race in all its forms of communication (radio, written press, video, photography, posters, social media, etc.) and that these may be used timelessly in any advertising action, with the sole purpose of promoting and disseminating the event.

It also cedes all rights to its commercial and advertising exploitation that it considers appropriate to execute, without the right, on the part of the athlete, to receive any economic compensation.

11. Final Provisions

The organization reserves the right to change the regulations for the benefit of the proper functioning of TAUT.

These rules may be edited, altered or improved at any time by the organizing entity, without prior notice until the day of the event. Each time these regulations are modified, it

will be indicated in the footer, in the field reserved for the version of the document and its respective update date.

The organization decides on all matters related to the event and that have not been the subject of regulation or on misinterpretations of these regulations.

There will be no appeal against the decisions of the organization.

Ansião, March 5, 2026

The organization:

ANSIBIKERS - Associação de Praticantes de BTT

12. Updates

VERSION	DATE	SUBJECT
01	07/03/2026	

13. Annexes