



Race Regulation

Desafio Vertical 0/947 2026



RACE REGULATION

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SUMMARY

Name: VI Desafio Vertical 0/947

Features: DV Trail - 37,8 km / 1910 d+ / 1800 d- (ITRA 2, UTMB 50K, ATRP C.N. Trail and CTSMI - Trail)

DV Trail Sprint - 25,5 km / 1390 d+ / 1290 d- (ITRA 1, UTMB 20K, ATRP C.N. Trail Sprint and CTSMI - Trail Sprint)

DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike - 9,4 km / 300 d+ / 430 d-

DV Kids - 1,5 km / 50 d+ / 50 d-

Date: March 28, 2026

Places: Finish Line - Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (DV Trail, DV Trail Sprint, DV Mini-Trail, DV Hike and DV Kids)

Departures - Ponta da Galera (DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint), Casa da Água Trail Point (DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike) and Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (DV Kids)

Time: 08:00 am (DV Trail Start of the first athlete)

08:30 am (DV Trail Sprint Start of the first athlete)

10:00 am (DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike Start)

10:30 am (DV Kids Start)

Organization: Morcegos Trail Clube

Partners: Azores Regional Government, Lagoa Municipality and Água de Pau Parish Council

Race Director: Pedro Fernandes

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The VI edition of Desafio Vertical 0/947 is a trail running event with both competitive and recreational characteristics, taking place along trails and rural paths in the municipality of Lagoa, namely in the parishes of Água de Pau and Ribeira Chã. It includes 5 races: the DV Trail – 37,8 km / 1910 d+ / 1800 d-, the DV Trail Sprint – 25,5 km / 1390 d+ / 1290 d-, the DV Mini-Trail – 9,4 km / 300 d+ / 430 d-, the DV Hike – 9,4 km / 300 d+ / 430 d- and the DV Kids – 1,5 km / 50 d+ / 50 d-. The DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint start at Ponta da Galera (Caloura), the DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike start at Casa da Água Trail Point (Remédios) and the DV Kids starts at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau). All races finish at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau, located in the parish of Água de Pau.

The Desafio Vertical 0/947 (DV Trail, DV Trail Sprint, DV Mini-Trail, DV Hike and DV Kids) is open to all athletes, provided they comply the age requirements established for each race. The DV Trail is classified as ITRA 2, UTMB 50K, contributes points to the ATRP National Trail Championship (Series 150) and scores for the São Miguel Island Trail Circuit - Trail, while the DV Trail Sprint is classified as ITRA 1, UTMB 20K, contributes points to the ATRP National Trail Sprint Championship (Series 150) and scores for the São Miguel Island Trail Circuit - Trail Sprint.



1. CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

1.1 MINIMUM AGE FOR PARTICIPATION IN EACH COMPETITION

To participate in the DV Trail, participants must be, at least, 18 years old on September 30, 2026 (end of the athletics season according to the FPA – Portuguese Athletics Federation).

To participate in the DV Trail Sprint, participants must be, at least, 16 years old on September 30, 2026 (end of the athletics season according to the FPA – Portuguese Athletics Federation).

To participate in the DV Mini-Trail, participants must be, at least, 16 years old on September 30, 2026 (end of the athletics season according to the FPA – Portuguese Athletics Federation).

In the DV Hike, the registration/participation of minors who are at least 6 years old will be allowed, as long as they are accompanied/supervised by an adult and such participation is previously authorized.

To participate in the DV Kids, participants must be between 6-15 years old on September 30, 2026 (end of the athletics season according to the FPA – Portuguese Athletics Federation) and such participation is previously authorized.

1.2 REGULARIZED REGISTRATION

Registration for the Desafio Vertical 0/947 implies understanding and accepting, without reservation, the rules and the race regulation. The athlete must complete the following steps:

- Correctly register on the registration platform;
- Proceed with payment of the corresponding registration fee;
- Verify that the information entered is correct and corresponds to reality;
- By registering, the athlete declares that have adequate physical and psychological condition to take part in the race and may not hold the organization responsible for any consequences arising from their participation.

1.3 PERSONAL ASSISTANCE

Participants are allowed to receive personal assistance only at the supply and control stations (PAC), previously designated by the organization.



1.4 RACE BIB PLACEMENT

The race bib must be permanently visible during the entire race, namely, it must be positioned over the clothing, in the chest or abdomen area and only participants with a visible bib will have access to the supply stations.

2. RACE

2.1 RACES OVERVIEW

The Desafio Vertical 0/947 consists of four competitive races, namely, the DV Trail, the DV Trail Sprint, the DV Mini-Trail and the DV Kids, and one non-competitive event, the DV Hike. The event is held in a time-trial format, with athletes starting individually at fixed intervals of 1 minute (DV Trail) and 30 seconds (DV Trail Sprint) between each start. The remaining events (DV Mini-Trail, DV Hike and DV Kids) will not be held in a time-trial format.

The longest competitive race for adult participants is designated as DV Trail and covers an approximate distance of 37,8 km. The first athlete will start at 08:00 am on March 28, 2026 at Ponta da Galera (Caloura) and the finish line will be located at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau).

The intermediate competitive race for adult participants is designated as DV Trail Sprint and covers an approximate distance of 25,5 km. The first athlete will start at 08:30 am on March 28, 2026 at Ponta da Galera (Caloura) and the finish line will be located at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau).

The shortest competitive race for adult participants is designated as DV Mini-Trail and covers an approximate distance of 9,4 km. The start will take place at 10:00 am on March 28, 2026 at Casa da Água Trail Point (Remédios) and the finish line will be located at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau).

The non competitive race is designated as DV Hike and covers an approximate distance of 9,4 km. The start will take place at 10:00 am on March 28, 2026 at Casa da Água Trail Point (Remédios) and the finish line will be located at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau).

The competitive race for children between 6-15 years is designated as DV Kids and covers an approximate distance of 1,5 km. The start will take place at 10:30 am on March 28, 2026 at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau) and the finish line also will be located at the Polidesportivo de Água de Pau (Água de Pau).

2.2 PROGRAMME

The race programme includes activities from December 1, 2025 to March 28, 2026 and the participating athletes must scrupulously respect it under penalty of having their participation in the event refused. The programme presented is subject to changes by the organization, if necessary, but in these cases the organization commits to notify the athletes.

December 1 (Monday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
-	Opening of the 1 st Registration Phase	On-Line Platform

January 31 (Saturday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
-	Closing of the 1 st Registration Phase	On-Line Platform

February 1 (Sunday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
-	Opening of the 2 nd Registration Phase	On-Line Platform

March 15 (Sunday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
-	Closing of the 2 nd Registration Phase	On-Line Platform

March 27 (Friday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
05:00/08:00 pm	Check-In	Casa da Água Trail Point (Remédios)

March 28 (Saturday)

HOUR	ACTIVITY	PLACE
07:30/10:30 am	Late Check-In	Polidesportivo (Água de Pau)
08:00 am	DV Trail 1 st Athlete Start	Ponta da Galera (Caloura)
08:30 am	DV Trail Sprint 1 st Athlete Start	Ponta da Galera (Caloura)
08:45 am	Departure of the DV Hike Bus	Polidesportivo (Água de Pau)
10:00 am	DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike Start	Casa da Água Trail Point (Remédios)
10:30 am	DV Kids Start	Polidesportivo (Água de Pau)
02:00 pm	Award Ceremony	Polidesportivo (Água de Pau)
03:00 pm	Finish Line and Event Closure	Polidesportivo (Água de Pau)



2.3 DISTANCE AND ELEVATION

The DV Trail race has a distance of 37,8 km, with a positive elevation gain of 1910 m and a negative elevation loss of 1800 m (approximate values).

The DV Trail Sprint race has a distance of 25,5 km, with a positive elevation gain of 1390 m and a negative elevation loss of 1290 m (approximate values).

The DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike events have a distance of 9,4 km, with a positive elevation gain of 300 m and a negative elevation loss of 430 m (approximate values).

Finally, the DV Kids race has a distance of 1,5 km, with a positive elevation gain of 50 m and a negative elevation loss of 50 m (approximate values).

2.4 START ORDER

The start order for each race is defined by the Race Director and all athletes are required to comply with the criteria established by him. The start order for all races will be published until the day March 26.

2.5 CUT-OFF TIMES

The overall cut-off time at the finish line will be:

- DV Trail – 7 hours to complete the entire course (03:00 pm + the minutes corresponding to the athlete's start time);
- DV Trail Sprint – 6 hours to complete the entire course (03:00 pm + the minutes corresponding to the athlete's start time);
- DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike – 5 hours to complete the entire course (03:00 pm).

Intermediate barrier times will be established at the supply and control stations (consult the official event website). To be allowed to continue in the race, participants must leave the supply and control station before the designated barrier time.

For meteorological or safety reasons, the organization reserves the right to adjust the cut-off times. Additionally, the organization also reserves the right to neutralize (stop) an athlete at the cut-off times established at the supply and control stations, or if it is clearly demonstrated that the athlete is unable to reach the next control point/finish line within the defined time limit, or does not present adequate physical condition to continue the race.



2.6 SUPPLY AND CONTROL STATIONS

The supply and control stations (PAC) are mandatory crossing points and are located at specific locations designated by the organization. The organization reserves the right to modify the location of any supply and control station without prior notice.

2.7 LOCATIONS AND TYPE OF SUPPLY STATIONS

The organization provides to all athletes, in all supply stations, solid and liquid nutrition to adequately meet their fueling needs according to the distance covered.

For DV Trail are planned three supply stations:

- PAC1 – Miradouro da Barrosa (8,9 km – approximately);
- PAC2 – Reserva Florestal da Macela (18,7 km – approximately);
- PAC3 – Valado Velho (28,7 km – approximately).

For DV Trail Sprint are planned two supply stations:

- PAC1 – Miradouro da Barrosa (8,9 km – approximately);
- PAC3 – Valado Velho (16,3 km – approximately).

For DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike is planned only one supply station:

- PAC3 – Valado Velho (5,4 km – approximately).

For DV Kids are not planned any supply station.

2.8 MANDATORY EQUIPMENT

The mandatory equipment for the DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint includes the following items:

- Race bib visible at all times;
- Mobile phone with sufficient credit and battery for the entire duration of the race;
- Whistle;
- Reservoir(s) with a minimum capacity of 0,5 L filled with water or isotonic drink;
- Survival blanket.

Although not mandatory, the organization strongly recommends that all athletes participating in the DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint carry the following equipment:

- Waterproof jacket and/or windbreaker;
- Hat, beanie or buff;



- Spare nutrition;
- Long-sleeve shirt or arm sleeves;
- Poles;
- Sunscreen;
- Cup (no cup will be provided at supply stations).

The mandatory equipment for the DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike includes the following items:

- Race bib visible at all times;
- Mobile phone with sufficient credit and battery for the entire duration of the race.

Although not mandatory, the organization strongly recommends that all athletes participating in the DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike carry the following equipment:

- Spare nutrition;
- Whistle;
- Reservoir(s) with a minimum capacity of 0,5 L filled with water or isotonic drink;
- Survival blanket;
- Cup (no cup will be provided at supply stations).

The mandatory equipment for the DV Kids includes the following item:

- Race bib visible at all times.

2.9 PENALTIES

The organization and race officials stationed at control zones may apply the following sanctions at any point during the event:

BEHAVIOR	PENALTY
Failure to assist a participant who need help	Time penalty
Abandoning the race without notifying the organization	Exclusion from future editions
Sharing or transferring the race bib with another person, in part or throughout the course	Disqualification
Using paths other than the ones signposted for the race to gain advantage	Time penalty or disqualification
Using unauthorized transportation	Disqualification
Removing course markings or signage	Disqualification
Ignoring safety measures indicated by the organization or associated entities	Time penalty or disqualification



Absence of mandatory equipment and/or refusal to present it when requested by the organization	Time penalty or disqualification
Exceeding the time limit	Disqualification
Missing a supply and control station (PAC)	Disqualification
Littering or causing environmental damage	Disqualification and exclusion from future editions
Receiving external assistance outside the areas designated by the organization	Time penalty
Race bib not visible or positioned in a non-visible location	Time penalty

2.10 SPORTS INSURANCE

In accordance with Decree-Law No. 146/93 of 26 April, the organization provides sports insurance covering all participants. In case of an accident that requires hospital treatment, the injured athlete must request a medical report to submit to the insurance company. The costs must initially be paid by the injured athlete and will subsequently be refunded by the insurance company (for the amount exceeding the deductible). The organization declines any responsibility for payment.

The injured athlete must notify the organization on the day of the event, via email and telephone, and report to the insurance company on the following day. For all claims submitted to the insurer, injured athletes must provide the name of the event organizer, the insurance policy number, and the date and time of the incident. In race insurance, there is a deductible, that is, the insurer only pays for the damages caused up to a certain amount, which is defined in the contract.

2.11 SAFETY

The race will be covered almost entirely on trails and dirt roads, and parking of vehicles at the start and finish areas is not allowed. The route includes agricultural paths and pedestrian trails located in the municipality of Lagoa, and athletes must remain alert for potential crossings with vehicles and animals.

Withdrawals must be carried out exclusively at supply and control stations (PAC). In case of an accident or injury that prevents the participant from reaching a control station or the finish line, the athlete must activate a rescue operation by contacting the organization. The organization's emergency contact number will be printed on the participant's bib and should also be saved in advance on mobile phone.

The organization reserves the right to modify the course and the location of the supply and control stations (PAC) at any time without prior notice. In case of adverse weather conditions, the start may be delayed by a maximum of one hour, after which the race will be cancelled.



Additionally, during the race, in case of bad weather or other circumstances, and for safety reasons, the organization reserves the right to modify the cut-off times and/or suspend, shorten, neutralize or stop the race. No refunds will be issued.

3. REGISTRATIONS

3.1 REGISTRATION PROCESS

Interested participants may register through the STOP and GO platform, which can be accessed at <https://www.morcegostrail.com>. The registration includes race bib, t-shirt, transportation upon selection at the time of registration (only for the DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike), insurance, and a small meal at the end of the event.

Registrations will only be considered valid after payment and confirmation by the STOP and GO platform sent to the athlete's registered email address.

The issuance of an invoice must be requested at the time of registration on the STOP and GO platform by providing the tax identification number (NIF). After the registration period has closed, the organization will no longer be able to issue invoices.

3.2 REGISTRATION FEES AND PERIODS

The registration fee varies according to the event which the athlete participates and also depending on the date which the registration is completed.

- Registration Fees:
 - From December 1, 2025 to January 31, 2026
 - DV Trail: 25€
 - DV Trail Sprint: 20€
 - DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike: 12€
 - DV Kids: 5€
 - From February 1, 2026 to March 15, 2026
 - DV Trail: 35€
 - DV Trail Sprint: 30€
 - DV Mini-Trail and DV Hike: 15€
 - DV Kids: 5€



The registration period ends on March 15, 2026, and the total number of registrations for the DV events is limited to a maximum of 600 athletes. In addition, athletes are responsible for checking if their personal data is correct on the list of registered participants, and corrections will only be allowed until March 15, 2026.

The organization reserves the right not to refund the registration fee after payment has been made and does not allow the transfer or deferral of registrations to future events organized by the club.

In addition, the organization also does not guarantee the delivery of the t-shirt event to athletes who register during the 2nd registration phase.

3.3 CHECK-IN

The check-in will operate for all races on Friday, March 27, 2026, from 05:00 pm to 08:00 pm at Casa da Água Trail Point, and on Saturday, March 28, 2026, from 07:30 am to 10:30 am at Polidesportivo de Água de Pau.

To collect the race bag and respective bib number, the following documents must be presented:

- Citzied ID card;
- Liability waiver (required only for participants under 18 years of age);
- It will be possible to collect another athlete's bag and race bib, since the person collecting it presents the athlete's ID card (or a copy);
- If the athlete or their authorized representative does not collect the athlete's race bag at the check-in locations designated by the organization, the bag and bib will not be stored for future collection.

4. AGE CATEGORIES, ETHICS AND COMMUNICATION

4.1 DV TRAIL, DV TRAIL SPRINT AND DV KIDS CATEGORIES

The DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint events will include the following categories (age calculated as of the end of the sports season), with awards for the top three finishers:

- Overall Classification Male and Female;
- Under-23 Category (athletes aged 18-22 years) Male and Female;
- Seniors Category (athletes aged 23-34 years) Male and Female;
- Veterans 35 Category (athletes aged 35-39 years) Male and Female;



- Veterans 40 Category (athletes aged 40-44 years) Male and Female;
- Veterans 45 Category (athletes aged 45-49 years) Male and Female;
- Veterans 50 Category (athletes aged 50-54 years) Male and Female;
- Veterans 55 Category (athletes aged 55-59 years) Male and Female;
- Veterans 60 Category (athletes over 60 years) Male and Female;
- Teams.

For the teams classification, the three best athletes in the overall ranking will be considered, regardless of gender or age group. The team classification will be determined by the sum of the ordinary rankings of the three fastest athletes from each team and the team with the lowest points will be declared the winner. This classification may only be contested by teams that have at least three members in each race and all of them must complete the race. In the event of a tie in points, the tie-breaking criteria will be the sum of the times of the three athletes who scored for the team classification, with the team having the lowest total time being declared the winner.

The DV Mini-Trail will have an overall classification for the top three finishers (male and female), with no age-group classifications.

The DV Kids event will include the following categories (age calculated as of the end of the sports season), with awards for the top three finishers:

- Benjamins A Category (athletes aged 6-8 years) Male and Female;
- Benjamins B Category (athletes aged 9-11 years) Male and Female;
- Infantis Category (athletes aged 12-13 years) Male and Female;
- Iniciados Category (athletes aged 14-15 years) Male and Female.

As the DV Hike is a non-competitive event, it will not be timed and no trophies will be awarded to the fastest participants.

All athletes who complete the event will receive a commemorative item related to the event.

4.2 UPHILL SEGMENT 0/947

In addition to the overall awards, trophies will be awarded for the Sea to Mountain 0/947 Segment to male and female athletes who complete the segment in fastest time. The segment is as follows: <https://www.strava.com/segments/39651081>, which runs along the climb to Pico da Barrosa, with the start and end points of the segment being marked on the day of the event. Trophies will be



awarded to the three fastest male and female athletes among all participants in the DV Trail and DV Trail Sprint races.

In the event of a tie, the tie-breaking criteria will be applied in the following order:

- Advantage of the athlete competing in the DV Trail over the athlete in the DV Trail Sprint;
- Advantage of the athlete who completed the race in the fastest time over the slower athlete.

4.3 ETHICAL STANDARDS IN COMPETITION

All athletes must demonstrate exemplary behaviour and fair play towards everyone involved in the competition, including both opponents and members of the organization.

In addition, athletes must refrain from using substances, pharmacological groups, or methods intended to artificially enhance their physical abilities. All participants are required to undergo any anti-doping control if requested to do so.

4.4 OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

The official communication and information channels for the race are the website <https://www.morcegostrail.com>, the email desafiovertical@morcegostrail.com and the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/desafiovert0947>. The athlete must periodically consult these channels to stay informed about news or possible changes to the course and regulations, as well as to check or confirm their registrations.

4.5 IMAGE RIGHTS AND ADVERTISING

The organizing entity has the exclusive rights to the use of the race's image and any photographic or journalistic audiovisual material from the event. Any project or promotional material intended for publication must obtain prior consent from the organization.

4.6 DATA PROTECTION

The personal data provided by athletes in the registration form will be recorded by the organizing entity exclusively for the purpose of processing the event and may be published, namely in the list of registered participants, news, and race results. All participants can exercise their right to access, rectify or cancel personal data by sending an email to desafiovertical@morcegostrail.com.



4.7 MISCELLANEOUS

Completing and submitting the registration form for the races implies that the athlete acknowledges that they have read and unconditionally accepted this regulation. Any cases not covered by this regulation will be resolved by the organization, whose decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

5. RACE DIRECTOR

The race direction is under the responsibility of Pedro Fernandes.

6. ACCEPTANCE OF THE REGULATIONS

By registering for the event, the athlete fully accepts the present regulations. The organisation reserves the right, for safety-related reasons, to postpone or cancel the race, as well as to modify these regulations.