



Information about your Transponder

The Virginia Championship Hare Scramble Series (**VCHSS**) is implementing new transponder technology for the 2004 racing season. Just like anything new, it's important that you take the time to become familiar with some of the details of the system.



About the Transponder - Our transponders are manufactured by Texas Instruments – the leader in transponder technology. The transponders are EXTREMELY durable, made from a polycarbonate material, requiring virtually zero maintenance, requiring no batteries, and having an infinite life. They can be covered with mud, or completely hidden with layers upon layers of duct tape and still have full reliability at the checkpoint. When issued, they will already be programmed with your rider number, and as you change classes, either during the year, or from season to season, you will only need to have the transponder reprogrammed with your new rider number.

Scoring - In the VCHSS it will be the riders' responsibility to ensure he's been scored. A remote display is available at all events, displaying the rider number, the class, his current standing, and how far he's behind the nearest rider in his class. You'll know you've been scored when you see your information on the display.



The Checkpoint – The transponder is detected when the rider passes the “gate” (shown to the left) at the finish line. There may be a penalty for running into the “gate” at the finish line. We expect riders to do their part in helping us keep a quality, reliable system.

How fast can I ride through the checkpoint? – To ensure a proper backup and for the safety of both the Riders and the scoring personell all riders must perform a stop and go at the checkpoint. A series of turns will be Implemented to make sure riders pass through at safe speeds. A transponder check station will be located near the start area and all riders are encouraged to conduct this self test to ensure their transponder is mounted and is being read properly, rather than discover problems at or during race time.

Does the transponder differentiate between me and another rider? – The system is easily able to differentiate between riders at the checkpoint, regardless of how close they are together. Riders will go through the checkpoint single file, so there's no problem with proximity between riders.

What happens if I forget my transponder at home? – We will always have additional transponders available at signup, allowing you to rent one for the day. There will be a \$15 charge at signup but you will be allowed to return it before the scoring team leaves that weekend for a \$10 refund if you wish. Do not expect a refund after the weekend you rented it.

****** IMPORTANT ****** Where should I mount my transponder? – Regardless where it's mounted, it **Must be mounted cross-ways, horizontal to the ground and it WILL NOT WORK if it's mounted on or against metal. WITHOUT QUESTION THE BEST PLACE IS TO TIE-WRAP OR ZIP-TIE IT TO YOUR CHEST PROTECTOR, EITHER IN FRONT OR BACK, IT DOESN'T MATTER.**

An alternative location is to mount it to either the front or rear fender as shown in the accompanying photos. While it might seem logical to mount it to the crossbar pad, this is not a good location. The pads are prone to rotate, bringing the transponder in contact with the metal handlebar clamps. In all cases, be sure the transponder is VERY securely mounted. Use extra zip-ties or duct tape. Remember, the transponder is YOURS, so take the extra time and effort to ensure you don't lose it. Be sure to make some pass through the test gate prior to race time to confirm readability.

