

# The 37th Annual Original Merced Criteria Criterium



Sunday March 2, 2025



Presented by Golden Chain Cyclists & Velo Promo

Held under USAC Racing Rules & Permit 2025-10213

**Registration:** Opens at 7 a.m. at M and 19th Street, downtown Merced, CA (1901 M Street). Registration closes 15 minutes before each event's scheduled starting time.

**Course:** A 0.75 mile loop of flat city streets: three 90-degree turns, and a narrow loop around the Old Courthouse. Good to Fair pavement, some bottle dots/reflectors, especially on the wide finish straightaway. Streets: M, 18th, N, Courthouse loop, 21st, M. Start/finish in on M at 19<sup>th</sup> St.

**Directions:** Merced is on Hwy 99 between Modesto and Fresno. Take the R Street exit and head on R towards the Sierra (northeast). Turn right on 18th or 19th to the course.

Events:	minutes	places	value	fee	start	limit
Master 50+ 1/2/3**	45	6	\$100	\$50	8:00	50
Women 4&Novice	40	6	\$100	\$50	8:55	50
Mstr 35+ 4/5*	45	6	\$100	\$50	9:40	50
Mstr 35+ 1/2/3	45	6	\$100	\$50	10:30	50
Category 4 & 5	45	6	\$100	\$50	11:20	50
Women 3, 40+50+60+	45	6	\$100	\$50	12:10	50
Category 3 & 4	45	6	\$100	\$50	1:00	60
Women 1/2/3/Pro	60	10	\$250	\$50	1:50	50
Cat. 1/2/3/Pro	60	10	\$250	\$50	2:55	70

\* Cat 5 has also been called Novice by the USAC

\*\* Including a Master 60+ group picked out separately for 3 places @\$50

**Prizes:** Will be merchandise, cash (minimum \$600) & awards.

**How to Enter:**

---via **On-line** at [www.BikeReg.com](http://www.BikeReg.com), from now to February 23, 2025 for above fees plus on-line surcharge. From Feb 24-26 the fee on-line is \$12 additional. No on-line entry after midnight PST Wednesday Feb 26. Online entry is encouraged, no day-of signing then necessary. After this date, day-of entry is still available (see below)

---**By Mail:** You may still enter by mail, but if a group is filling, go on-line. By mail, send standard USAC entry form/release along with fee above (if Postmarked by Friday Feb 21 to Velo Promo/Merced, 19780 Soulsbyville Road, Soulsbyville, CA 95372. For those postmarked after, add \$12. Note: indicate what category you are entering on check or form. Entries for several races in one envelope ok, but be sure to list race names on the outside. Envelopes without names of races on the outside may go to the wrong race. Mail in entries will not be processed until after the opening of online reg.

---**At Race:** You may enter at the race, provided your event is not filled, for the above listed fee plus \$12

2025 USAC license required (available at race). One day licenses are available only for Cat 5, Master 5 or Women 5 (novice riders). Entry fees include \$3.00 NCNCA and \$5.99 USAC insurance surcharges. Numbers will be provided.

**Credit** for another VP race will be given if you follow the below procedure by 5 pm Wednesday 2/26 letting us know that you can't compete. No credit issued if you plan to enter another race instead; no cash refunds. No substitutions (transferring to another rider) for cancellations.

**Procedure:** Go to "[Edit My Entry](#)" link on the [BikeReg.com registration page](#), in your confirmation email, or in your [BikeReg account](#) to access this credit system.

**Second races: \$20 extra to register for a second**

**Champion Discounts:** Champions pay normal fees up front; Current [NorCal/Nevada](#) District Criterium Champions and National Criterium Champions will get a refund at the reg desk of all but \$9 per day if 1) their entry is received by the deadline above (otherwise they pay full fee, including late fee) and 2) they ride in the category they won the championship in (Master Champions may ride down in age, and ride for \$9, and Juniors may ride up. District jersey is not required

**Rules:** Free lap rule applies. Lapped riders may not sprint for primes and may be pulled. **Ride safely and legally while warming up on open streets in the area.**

**Further information:** (209) 604-1354 or [www.velopromo.com](http://www.velopromo.com) or [velopro1@gmail.com](mailto:velopro1@gmail.com). Cantua Creek RR 2/15, Pine Flat RR Feb 16, Snelling RR March 1, Copper Valley Circuit Race Feb 23; More races coming up, see [www.velopromo.com](http://www.velopromo.com)

Map of the Course:

Merced Map2.bmp

