

Introduction to Citizen Permits



A Citizen Permit is a low-cost season-long permit that allows riders to register at any OCA Citizen Race as well as some limited categories at other types of races including Regional and Ontario Cup Races. Riders who would normally consider purchasing a full UCI/CCA licence primarily for use at Regional and Ontario Cup races may find that a Citizen Permit suits their needs

- **Non-Expert Riders under the age of 17 as of December 31, 2009 may wish to consider purchasing a Citizen Permit instead of a full UCI licence.**
- **Riders interested in a MTB Beginner licence may wish to consider purchasing a Citizen Permit instead of a full UCI licence.**

Any rider participating in an OCA event must have either a Citizen Permit, UCI licence or One-Event Racing Permit.

Riders cannot own both a UCI Licence and a Citizen Permit simultaneously.

Riders with club member insurance cards can no longer register at events without a Citizen Permit, UCI licence or One-Event Racing Permit.

One-Event Racing Permits will be available only at the organizer's discretion for Citizen events. One-Event Racing Permits will be available at all Regional and Ontario Cup events. Please contact your organizer for availability details. One-Event Racing Permits will be available for Beginner, Sport and other entry-level categories only (**Note Expert and Elite are NOT entry level). There is a maximum of 3 One-Event Racing Permits per calendar year.

Should I purchase a Citizen Permit or UCI licence?

Below are questions to ask yourself when determining whether to buy a Citizen Permit or UCI licence.

- Are you racing at the National Championships?
- Are you racing Sport, Expert or Elite in any MTB XC O-Cup?
- Are you racing MTB O-Cup Downhill?

- Are you racing Road Ontario Cups and/or Regional Races and are 17 years of age or older as of December 31, 2009?

You will require a UCI licence in these situations unless you are only interested in making use of One-Event Racing Permits.

If none of these apply to you, then a Citizen Permit may be all that you require.

Where can I use my Citizen Permit?

A Citizen Permit will enable anyone to register at a Citizen event, Citizen Series, Try-An-O-Cup (17+), Singlespeed, Cyclo-Cross (10+) or the 8:30 AM race at any Ontario Cup Cross Country (XC) event (10+) as well as any Under-17 age Road category (10-16) at Regional Races and Ontario Cup Races.

Competing in the Ontario Youth Cup Road Series? No problem, a citizen permit will enable you to register for every race of the series, including the series finale, the Tour de University Heights.

They can also be used at the Forest City Velodrome.

Citizen Permits are only valid at OCA events in Ontario.

How do I purchase a Citizen Permit?

Purchasing a Citizen Permit is very much the same process as purchasing a One-Event Racing Permit. Simply arrive at your desired event a little earlier and complete the Citizen Permit Application Form. The person selling the Citizen Permit to you (normally an OCA representative or someone at registration) will make sure your form is completed properly, (including the waiver!!) collect your payment and then present you with your valid Citizen Permit.

Also Citizen Permits can be purchased using the OCA Membership Application Form (available on our website). Submit the form (and its waivers) and appropriate fee to the OCA. Upon processing you will receive a Citizen Permit card in the mail. (Please note that if you are competing while your citizen permit is being processed, you will have to purchase a one-event permit)

Citizen Permits and Ontario Cups

Citizen Permit holders who are under the age of 10 as of December 31, 2009 are not permitted to race in Ontario Cups.

Citizen Permit holders under the age of 17 and over the age of 9, as of December 31, 2009 are eligible for Ontario Cup Points in MTB disciplines excluding U17 Expert. Those between the ages of 10-16 qualify for points in the Ontario Youth Cup Series as well as the Cadet category in Ontario Cup Road Events.

Beginner, U17 (Cadet) Sport Male and Cadet Sport Female permit holders are eligible for Upgrade Points.

MTB plates and Road numbers will not be distributed with your Citizen Permit. Organizers will provide these as required. Citizen Permit holders participating in an Ontario Cup event must go to the OCA table at registration to receive their plates/numbers. Permit holders will only have to go to the OCA table once for XC, as the plate/numbers are valid for the entire season.

Riders racing the Try-An-O-Cup race at 9:30AM are not eligible for Upgrade or O-Cup points.

Citizen Permit holders can compete in the relevant categories at the Canada Cup/Ontario Cup in Ontario.

Citizen Permits are not permitted for downhill events. A UCI licence is required.

Citizen Permit holders (10+) can register at any Cyclo-Cross event including the Provincial Cyclo-Cross Championships and are eligible for Cyclo-Cross Series points and awards. Note Citizen Permits however are not allowed for the Junior and Senior Categories at the UCI Cross Race.

Citizen Permits & Road Racing

Citizen Permit holders who are under the age of 10 as of December 31, 2009 are not permitted to race in Regional and O-Cup road events. Citizen Permit holders who are 17 years of age or older as of December 31, 2009 must purchase a One-Event Racing Permit or UCI licence to register at Regional and O-Cup road events. Citizen Permits are valid for all ages at a weekly road citizen series.

Citizen Permits are not valid at the Road National Championships for any category.

Upgrading Procedures with Citizen Permits

Permit holders who are on the "must upgrade" list (must upgrade is MTB only) are required to purchase a UCI licence in order to compete at additional Regional or Ontario Cup events. Please call the OCA office to receive a UCI licence application.

Citizen Permit holders may apply the full amount paid for an individual permit towards the purchase of a UCI licence.

Fee Structure for Citizen Permit

- \$40 Individual 19+
- \$35 Junior 17-18
- \$30 Youth, Under 17

Citizen Permit Holder's Status with the OCA

A Citizen Permit holder will be an Event Member of the Ontario Cycling Association. You will not have a vote in the affairs of the OCA unless you also become a General Member (General Membership is included with a UCI licence). You will receive a Handbook as well as all regular newsletters and mailings.

After reading this guide, if you are still unsure about which type of race permit/UCI licence you require for your cycling activities, contact Chris Baskys, Membership Coordinator at

416 426-7017

on weekdays between 9:00AM and 4:00PM for further information and assistance.

www.ontariocycling.org