



POLICY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES – KOČEVSKO OUTDOOR FESTIVAL

The Kočevsko Outdoor Festival is a place for all nature and outdoor activity enthusiasts. We understand that persons with disabilities often face challenges that make participation in sporting events more difficult. Therefore, we aim to create an environment that promotes accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunities for all participants, regardless of their physical or other limitations.

To encourage greater inclusion, we also allow participation with a companion (guide) who assists the participant in safely completing the activity. Participants with disabilities may apply for a **free registration for their companion**.

Please note the following:

- the participant must inform the organizer about their disability and any special needs before registration or no later than prior to the event;
- the companion must be officially registered;
- the participant and companion must complete the entire course together;
- the companion does not participate as a competitor, therefore their result will not be recorded;
- both the participant and companion will receive their own race bib number;
- the companion is not entitled to all competitor benefits (e.g. medal or official result);
- only one companion is allowed per participant;
- the participant must be capable of completing the selected course within the official time limits;
- the participant takes part at their own responsibility;
- in the event of a change of companion, the participant must notify the organizer in due time.

The Kočevsko Outdoor Festival takes place in a natural environment, with routes running along forest trails, gravel roads, and other uneven terrain. Certain locations are accessible only on foot, and the terrain is not suitable for all types of disabilities. Weather conditions may also significantly affect accessibility, therefore full accessibility cannot be guaranteed.

The organizer will make every reasonable effort to provide basic information regarding course difficulty, assistance in choosing a suitable distance, and support at the event venue. Each request will be considered individually, and we will strive to find the most appropriate solution. The organizer will ensure suitable access to the venue, race bib collection area, and start zone. Aid station staff and marshals will also be informed to provide appropriate support for the runner and companion during the race.

This policy applies to athletes with the following disabilities:

- **athletes with a medically confirmed severe visual impairment**, including individuals with severe or complete vision loss, less than 10% remaining vision, or functional blindness (including complete blindness or significantly reduced ability to perceive light and shapes);
- **athletes with physical or neurological mobility impairments who experience permanent movement difficulties due to injury, illness, or congenital conditions**; this includes individuals with amputations or limb deformities, persons with cerebral palsy or other neurological conditions affecting muscle control and coordination, as well as individuals using assistive devices such as braces or prosthetics. Due to the nature of the event (trail running on natural terrain), the courses are not suitable for wheelchair athletes;
- **athletes with intellectual disabilities or developmental disorders affecting cognitive abilities and social interaction**; this includes lower IQ (generally below 75) and limitations in adaptive behavior, such as communication, social, and self-care skills.

The condition must be confirmed with a medical certificate.

This policy applies to athletes who, due to their circumstances, require a companion for safe and uninterrupted participation. The policy does not apply to athletes who do not meet the above criteria.

Athletes must submit their request for companion approval to the organizer no later than **May 1** via email at kocevsko@trailrun.si.

Important: the number of companion places is limited.