The 37th Rhodes Trail RUN

-Scenic Torture-

Saturday, 10th of July 2027

_____ RULES, GENERAL INFORMATION & GUIDELINES_____

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General Entries

Closing date Friday 14 May 2027

NO LATE ENTRIES

Mavis Bank Check Point, 1989

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Please take time to read this carefully.

1. ENTRY PACK

The following are the documents you should download from our website

Entry Form – or complete the entry form on-line
General Rules (this document)

Entry options are available on rhodesrun.co.za: here you will find an online entry form and payment option

Those who prefer, can still download the entry form and pay by EFT and forward proof of payment

Consider using Entry Ninja: note the extra platform fee to use this option.

2. ENTRY PROCESS 2027

There will be 3 entry windows as follows:

Window	Slots	Open	Close	Requirement
Early Bird 1	50	16 October 2026	30 October 2026	Run previously*
Early Bird 2	50	31 October 2026	13 November 2026	None
Standard	100	14 November 2026	14 May 2027	None
Substitutions	n/a	n/a	14 June 2027	None

* Must have one Rhodes Run medal or entered but not run or completed the 2026 Rhodes Run.

The organisers reserve the right to reject any entry at their sole discretion and are not required to provide reasons for their decision.

3. RACE FEE 2027

Race fee for 2027 is structured as follows:

Window	Race fee	
Early Bird 1	1850	
Early Bird 2	1850	
Standard	2100	
Substitutions	R 250	

4. ENTRY PROCESS AND BANKING DETAILS

- **Complete entry form and payment online at www.rhodesrun.co.za**
- If you download and complete the entry form, please email it to annalize@rhodesrun.co.za
- For all EFT payments, please use this bank account:

FNB
FIRST BUSINESS ZERO
The Rhodes Run
Account nr- 63224132223
Branch- 250655
SWIFT- FIRNZAJJ

Use your name and surname as a reference.

- If payment cannot be identified 1 week after receipt of your entry form (email or on-line), your entry will be voided.
- If you are unable to make an EFT, you are required to add an additional R60.00 to any cash payment.
- Your entry will be confirmed in writing, via email.
- We have several promising runners in Rhodes. Our policy is to offer complimentary entries to the first 3 runners from the previous event who permanently reside in Rhodes:
- To provide opportunities to more runners, we have introduced an **option** for you to contribute to the entry fee of a local runner. Funds raised and runners sponsored will be made public during the event

5. WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE ENTRY FEE

- Finisher's medal
- Goody bag with a local flavour
- Iconic Rhodes Run Bandana
- Rhodes Run long sleeve T-shirt
- 6 well provisioned feed stations with nutritious food (nothing in containers or sachets)
- Qualified medical support and evacuation plans
- Marked route – no self-navigation or GPX provided

6. REFUND POLICY

A 70% refund is available to all entrants up to 18h00 on Friday, 30 April 2027.

Thereafter, substitutions may be made until 14 June 2027.

7. SUBSTITION PROCESS

- Complete and sign the top section of the Substitution Form (available on request) and pass the form to another runner (your Substitute).
- Your Substitute must complete the rest of the Substitution Form.
- Your Substitute must pay the substitution fee into the account –

FNB
FIRST BUSINESS ZERO
The Rhodes Run
Account nr- 63224132223
Branch- 250655
SWIFT- FIRNZAJJ

Your Substitute must use their name and surname as a reference. If the payment cannot be identified, it could result in the substitution not being accepted.
You must recover your entry fee from your substitute.

8. HOW WILL YOU KNOW IF YOUR ENTRY HAS BEEN ACCEPTED

Confirmation of receipt of your entry will be made via email, so please ensure that you provide your correct email address. All pre-race communication will be by way of email.

9. WHO ARRANGES A SUBSTITUTE

The organisers are not responsible for sourcing a Substitute. Entrants must arrange their own Substitute and obtain payment of the original entry fee.

Closing date for substitutions is 12:00 noon on 14 June 2027

10. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WAITING LIST

There is currently no waiting list. Anyone may enter after Early Bird Window 1. This might change depending on the number of entrants.

11. WHERE AND WHEN DOES THE RACE TAKE PLACE

The race will take place in the Southern Drakensberg mountains, surrounding the village of Rhodes in the North-Eastern Cape on Saturday, the 10th of July 2027.

The race starts and finishes in the heritage village, Rhodes, Eastern Cape.

The start is at 07:00 and all runners making the cut-offs and completing the course within **9 hours** will qualify as finishers.

12.WHAT IS THE DISTANCE AND ROUTE CONDITIONS

The distance is approximately 52km for the Run.

Note that all distances referred to in the Rules, Pre-Race Instructions, on the website and any other communication are approximate, by virtue of the terrain and possible route changes from year-to-year.

We do not issue a GPX of the route as the route may change due to weather conditions.

The race is not recommended for unfit runners or for those who are not prepared to cover rough terrain. Competitors must expect to walk through mountain streams and may have to contend with snow, icy conditions, wet roads and strong wind.

13.WHAT IS THE MINIMUM AGE

All entrants must be over 18 years of age on the day of the race.

14.<u>IS THERE A QUALIFYING TIME</u>

You do not have to run a 'qualifying time' before you enter the Rhodes Trail Run.

However, you need to be able to comfortably complete a 'fast flat road' 21km in less than 2:15 in order to make the border Check Point (Mavis Top) cut-off of 4½ hours.

At this pace, it will still be a serious push to beat the cut-off at the Finish. Any slower and there is a good chance you'll be riding down the mountain in a recovery vehicle.

15. WHEN IS PRE-RACE REGISTRATION

Pre-race instructions will be emailed to entrants during June.

All participants must register prior to the race during the following times

09 July 2027 15:00 – 19:00

10 July 2027 06:15 – 06:45

***** NB Original Identity documents must be produced. *****

16. ARE THERE CUT-OFFs DURING THE RACE

Yes, there are **four cut-offs** in addition to the final 9-hour cut-off for the 52km run:

Mavis Bank Farm ('Soft' and 'Hard' cut-off)

There is a 'soft' cut-off at the Mavis Bank Farm Check Point (approx. 13km). Anyone arriving after 2 hours from race start (9:00) could be required to abandon the race. The Check Point Chief's decision is final. There is a 'hard' cut-off at 2½ hours.

Mavis Bank Top (Border Road)

The cut-off at the top of Mavis Bank (approx. 21km) is 4½ hours from race start.
Runners who arrive at the Check Point after the cut-off must abandon the race.

If you make the cut-off **do not** go back down Mavis Bank to assist slower runners. This negates the safety and control system.
Any runner going down Mavis Bank, having been recorded at the Check Point, will be disqualified.

Quarry Check Point

The cut-off at the Quarry Check Point (approx. 29km) is 6 hours from race start.
Runners who arrive at the Check Point after the cut-off must abandon the race.

16:00 (4pm) Road cut-off

There is a mandatory cut-off on the road at 16:00 (4pm), 9 hours from race start.
Any runner having not crossed the Finish line by 16:00 (4pm) must, when approached by an official sweep vehicle, abandon the race and be uplifted by the sweep vehicle. Failure to follow this instruction could result in the runner being barred from future events.

Final cut-off

The cut-off to receive a medal and to be recorded in the results is 16:00 (4pm) at the Finish, 9 hours.

17.<u>ARE THERE FEED STATIONS AND MAY YOU HAVE PERSONAL SECONDING</u>

Feed stations will be provided (depending on weather conditions) approx. 10km apart. It can be a very harsh environment in the Southern Drakensberg and runners are cautioned to prevent dehydration by ensuring they carry adequate water. Runners should carry a water container (of at least 500ml) with them.

You are ultimately responsible to ensure you are adequately hydrated at all times.

We do not provide any food or drink in pre-packed containers or sachets. Runners must carry their own drinking cups for energy drinks, cold drinks or heated drinks

Due to the nature of the route personal seconding is not permitted.

Any runner receiving assistance, of any form, from a vehicle or individual who is not a run official or crew member, will be sanctioned. Such sanction could include disqualification. A run official will be monitoring runners and vehicles on the route.

18. WHAT COMPULSORY EQUIPMENT MUST YOU CARRY

You will receive an **emergency survival blanket (space blanket)** at registration. You must bring your own **whistle** and a **rigid or collapsible heat proof cup.** The whistle, emergency survival blanket and cup **must be carried with you for the duration of the run.**

A kit check may take place and participants without all three of these items will receive a **60-minute time penalty**. The time penalty will be served there and then. You will only proceed when the time penalty has been completed.

Race identification as provided must be worn on the front, unaltered and visible at all times.

It is recommended that you carry a rainproof top with you for the duration of the run.

Carry a small card with your **medical history, medication and allergies**.

19. IS THE RACE FEE REFUNDABLE IF I AM NOT ABLE TO RUN OR IF THE EVENT IS CANCELLED OR THE DISTANCE SHORTENED

The race fee or substitution fee is not refundable after 30 April 2027.

The route is approximately 52km, but the organisers may at any stage, at their discretion, shorten or change the route should conditions threaten the safety of the runners or crew. There will be no refund of the race fee should there be any route change, or should the race be cancelled for any reason. The race will not be re-scheduled.

20. EVENT OFFICIALS

Race officials, marshals and event crew must be obeyed at all times.

Failure to comply with their instructions may lead to an immediate disqualification.

Event instructions, as set out in pre-race instructions and outlined during any pre-race briefing, form part of the official rules and must be adhered to.

21.PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LITTERING

The route passes through a unique ecological area and over private property, and it is imperative that the environment be preserved. Litter bins will be provided at the feeding stations for debris, used sachets and the like.

'Stashing' of kit and/or bottles on the route prior to the event is classified as littering.

Any runner littering the route will be disqualified and barred from future events.

22.DISCLAIMER

The entrant will acknowledge the following by signing the Entry Form:

I hereby declare that I have had the opportunity to read, and that I understand the Rhodes Trail Run Rules and such Supplementary Rules and Pre-Race Instructions as have or may be issued for the event and agree to be bound by them.

I understand that it is my responsibility to be medically fit to run, and I declare that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate and I am competent to do so. I and my family and or beneficiaries are aware and fully understand that this is an extreme event and are aware that I will be exposed to risks that I am not normally exposed to, involving significant risk of injury and trauma, and agree to accept the same notwithstanding that such risks may involve negligence on the part of the organisers or officials and with this knowledge I voluntarily participate and assume full and complete responsibility for any injury or accident which may occur, including but not limited to falls that may result in personal injury, death and damage.

I am aware that the event will take place at a time and location that may make access to medical treatment and facilities difficult. I agree that if I suffer injury Rhodes Trail Run may at my expense arrange for me to receive medical treatment and emergency evacuation services as the organisers or medical team deem appropriate, which could include helicopter

evacuation, and I understand that any personal injury that I incur may be worsened or compounded by not only my actions but by the actions, omissions or negligence of others. I agree that I am responsible for my own medical, hospitalisation, emergency evacuation and ambulance insurance as well as insurance for my personal belongings.

I and my family and or beneficiaries do hereby release and discharge the Rhodes Trail Run, the organisers, any and all sponsors, event partners, volunteers, landowners, any local or government authorities from any right to claim damage, personal injury, death, economic loss, property loss or consequential loss that I may suffer arising from my participation in this event.
I consent to the collection and retention of my personal information by the organisers of the event.
I accept ALL rules and regulations. I have read the above and acknowledge that my participation in the event is entirely at my own risk.

I acknowledge that any form of abuse, verbal or otherwise, on my part towards any volunteer crew, sponsor, race official, spectator or anyone involved with the event could result in my disqualification and not being invited to future events.

23.IMAGE USE

The entrant will acknowledge the following by signing the Entry Form:

I grant my permission to use my name, race information and any photographs, video tapes, motion pictures, website images, recordings, broadcasts and telecasts or any other record of this event in which I may appear, free of charge.

24.GENERAL

Runners and their supporters may not set up or create personal route or distance markings. Anyone found to have contravened this rule will be disqualified and barred from future events.

25.AWARDS

Medals will be awarded to all finishers.

Prize giving will take place at the Finish area at approximately 16:45.

Floating trophies will be awarded to winners in various categories.

Please note an athlete must be present to collect a trophy and/or permanent number. Under no circumstances will a permanent number or medal be posted after the event.

26.ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

The Friday evening meal at the **Agricultural Hall** is popular: it is essential to book this in advance: contact details are available on www.rhodesrun.co.za. Funds raised go to the NG Kerk.

On Saturday morning, they will also serve a breakfast/brunch for friends and family.

Meals and Refreshments will also be available on Saturday, 10 July at the Agricultural Hall.

Other meal options are the **Rhodes Hotel**, **Walkerbouts,** which include the well-loved Saturday evening buffet, their famous pizzas and home made pies, and **Studio House**.

Please see www.rhodesrun.co.za for Meal options and how to book and pay in advance.

Limited accommodation is available in Rhodes and at Guest Farms in the vicinity of Rhodes. You ay contact Rhodes Information Centre for assistance or annalize@rhodesrun,co.za

Please book your accommodation early.

Those unable to stay in Rhodes must please note that high speed traveling is not possible on the dirt roads, and entrants must give themselves adequate time to reach the start.

Visit www.rhodesrun.co.za or

Contact Rhodes Info at info@rhodesinfo.co.za

27. <u>IN CLOSING</u>

Thank you for joining us on the 37th Rhodes Trail Run in 2027.

Without the landowners over whose land we run we would not have this unique event. Please respect their land and livestock so that they will continue to welcome us.

We hope that you have an enjoyable, safe and memorable run. We look forward to welcoming you and your family and friends to our lovely heritage village.

We trust you will enjoy your stay and would return every year to build new memories.