



WAM 50

Frequently Asked Questions



How long is the Wish-A-Mile (WAM) 50 bike tour?

The WAM 50 is approximately 50 miles.

What does Make-A-Wish provide?

- WAM 50 performance T-shirt
- Meal at finish line
- Fully stocked break stops every 10 to 15 miles (approximately)
- SAG vehicles
- Medical support along the route
- Bicycle mechanics
- Massage therapists at finish line
- Smiling crew volunteers
- Wish Hero
- Finisher medal
- Heroes Hurrah finish line celebration

WAM receives limited sample quantities and flavors of donated items from product sponsors such as Clif Bar, Gu, and Butt Butt'r. Please bring any additional energy/protein and carbohydrate products that you prefer for your own personal use while on tour.

Do I have to complete all 50 miles of the route?

There are many Support and Guidance (SAG) vehicles driving the route to pick up any tired riders. We also have a complete medical team ready to respond to any emergency. In addition, there will be bike mechanics along the route helping with repairs.

What is the 2022 WAM 50 route?

This one-day ride is a looped route, starting at the EATON Proving Grounds (19218 B – Drive S Marshall, MI 49068) on Sunday, July 31. We will continue to work throughout the year on specific details, including turn by turn route directions. Updates will be posted on the website and more details will be sent in the WAM email newsletters (WAM Insider) as they become available. Routes are typically posted at the end of May.

What is the registration fee and is it considered a donation?

The WAM 50 rider registration fee is as follows:

October 1 through November 4: Free Registration for anyone
November 5 through December 31 (early bird special): \$45
January 1 through July 30: \$50
Day of: \$65

The registration fee is not a donation, not tax-deductible and does not count towards your fundraising minimum of \$500.00. All registration fees and donations are non-refundable and fees are non-transferable.

What if I do not raise the required minimum of \$500 for the WAM 50 tour?

This amount is a requirement for all WAM 50 riders. WAM is a fundraising event for Make-A-Wish Michigan. Its



WAM 50

Frequently Asked Questions



sole purpose is to raise funds to grant wishes to medically eligible children in Michigan while having an incredible tour experience. If you arrive to rider check-in without this minimum amount, you will be asked to make a donation for the remaining balance in order to ride. If your donation total is under \$500, you will not be able to participate. Due to event costs and to ensure fairness and consistency to all participants, we thank you for your compliance. Each rider must have the appropriate minimum fundraising amount on their individual page to participate and not just averaged among the team.

Where do I mail in checks?

Make-A-Wish Michigan
Attn: WAM
7600 Grand River Avenue, Suite 175
Brighton, MI 48114

*Be sure to include your full name on all mailed in donations.

When will my mailed in donations show up on my webpage?

Please allow up to two weeks from the time we receive your checks for them to post to your account and fundraising webpage.

Am I able to ride in the WAM 50 as a member of a team who is also participating in the WAM 300?

Yes, when you register for the WAM 50 you will have the option to select how you would like to join, either as an individual, a member of an existing team or you can create a new team. Whichever way you choose to participate in WAM (300 rider, 50 rider, volunteer, virtual participant or junior rider) you may still be part of a team.

What are the team sizes?

Super Size:	100+
Extra Large:	45 - 99
Large:	21 - 44
Medium:	11 - 20
Small:	1 - 10

What are the team guidelines?

- All funds must be received by Saturday, July 30 at noon to be counted towards award designations.
- Each registered rider must have the minimum fundraising amount on their individual fundraising page at rider check-in. (\$1,200 for WAM 300 participants, \$500 for WAM 50 participants and \$50 for WAM Jr. participants). The total amount raised by the team collectively and averaged out for minimum fundraising requirements does not qualify.
- Team captains will have a 48 hour window to determine if any new rider(s) signed up on their team should stay on their roster. Team captains do receive automated emails when someone joins their team. To discuss team rosters at any time please contact Hannah Bentley at hbentley@michigan.wish.org.
- Upon initial registration of your team, team captains need to pick their team size category based on how many riders you want/think you'll have for the tour. However, team rosters will be monitored and teams will be moved into the appropriate size category.
- Once team captains have given permission for a teammate to join the team they will not be dropped



WAM 50

Frequently Asked Questions

from the roster. If they are unable to ride their status will change to virtual rider and their fundraising money will count towards your team.

- Team captains can authorize funds to be transferred from the general team account but to uphold donor intent funds transferred from one rider to another will only be allowed to happen if the donor contacts the Foundation to give permission.
- It is the responsibility of the solicitor to notify the donor of the transfer of funds to another rider.
- Volunteers are welcome to be a part of team rosters and will count towards a spot on your team. Volunteers do not have a required minimum fundraising amount, although fundraising is encouraged.
- WAM Junior participants can be added to team rosters or they can be encouraged to set up their own junior team.

What fundraising awards are awarded?

The top fundraising team in each category will be honored with a team trophy. Teams may display their trophy proudly throughout the year's fundraisers, family events and other team gatherings. Teams are determined by number of members and can include participants registered as WAM 300 riders, WAM 50 riders, crew volunteers, junior riders or virtual participants. Awards are also given to the top individual riders (300, 50 and WAM Jr.) and top virtual fundraisers. All funds must be received by noon on Saturday, July 30, 2022 to be counted for award designations.

What is a Virtual Participant?

A virtual participant is anyone who wants to participate in WAM as a fundraiser, but is not able to ride or volunteer on the actual tour itself. Virtual riders can ride their miles at any point throughout the year as well as fundraise and are eligible for all fundraising incentives.

What if I have raised donations but I am unable to ride?

You will still qualify for all of the fundraising incentives. If at any time you realize that you are unable to ride, please contact Kedrin Gall at kgall@michigan.wish.org. You can still participate as a virtual participant or volunteer. All registration fees and donations are non-refundable and the registration fee is non-transferable.

How old do I have to be to volunteer for WAM?

Volunteers must be 21 or older. Volunteers are required to have a valid driver's license and complete a background check.

How old do I have to be to participate as a 300 or 50 rider?

Participants must be 13 or older to participate and must meet the following requirements:

- All riders must be able to ride independently for long distances.
- All riders are required to raise the minimum fundraising goal.
- All Participants between the ages of 13 and 18 are required to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at all times on the tour (i.e. if the minor needs to leave the route, the adult must leave with them and vice versa) and stay within 100 yards of them when on the route.
- All participants between the ages of 13 and 18 need a parent or legal guardian to sign the liability waiver at participant check-in.
- All minor participants are required to read and follow information in the What Every Michigan Bicyclist Must Know publication. This booklet is brought to you by the League of Michigan Bicyclists,



WAM 50

Frequently Asked Questions



which has been promoting bicycling and the safety of bicyclists on the roadways in Michigan since 1981. This booklet will be provided to all participants at participant check-in and is also available on our website.

- We highly suggest that accompanying adults are not responsible for more than one minor child participant on the Tour.
- No trailers, child carriers, tag-alongs, or any equipment and accessories attached to a bicycle for transporting children or pets are allowed on the route at any time.

The safety of all riders is our top priority. We reserve the right to reject future applications or remove riders from the Tour who are in violation of these rules.

What accommodations will be made for participants with disabilities on the event?

When you register, please let us know what special accessibility accommodations you require on the event. Our goal is to make WAM accessible to all.

What is a Wish Hero?

Wish Heroes are children who have already received their wish and will serve as inspiration to riders and volunteers while on their WAM journey. Each team and rider will be paired with a Wish Hero and will be sent a biography on the Wish Hero. All wish heroes are invited to attend the Heroes Hurrah finish line celebration to award the riders and volunteers with a completion medal.

When will I know who my Wish Hero is?

All of our Wish Hero bios will be completed in the spring. At check-in you will receive your Wish Hero wristband to wear when you ride.

What is the Silent Mile?

We ride and volunteer to honor the brave children and loved ones who have battled so courageously but who are no longer with us. We honor them with a very powerful and beautiful Silent Mile near the WAM finish line. The Silent Mile is a special area of the ride where you can see the names and photos of wish children or loved ones who believed in our important wish-granting mission. These amazing souls have touched all of us and the tribute is a reminder that they will never be forgotten.

How do I submit a star for the Silent Mile?

You can submit names and photos of wish children and loved ones you would like to honor in this year's Silent Mile at any time to Kedrin Gall at kgall@michigan.wish.org. All names and photos must be received no later than Friday, June 17, 2022.

What is Heroes Hurrah?

Heroes Hurrah is the finish line celebration for WAM. This event is complete with live entertainment, fun family activities, a delicious meal, and more. The crowning jewel is when the riders cross the finish line and are able to meet their wish hero who inspired them throughout the ride. These wish children proudly award the riders and volunteers with a WAM completion medal.



WAM 50

Frequently Asked Questions

Can my family and friends attend Heroes Hurrah?

Absolutely! We encourage you to invite your friends and family to cheer you on at the finish line!

Can I use my...?

For safety purposes we cannot allow headphones, child seats, bike trailers, rollerblades or pets on the tour.

Will you put my name on various mailing lists?

Make-A-Wish Michigan collects and maintains only personal information that is voluntarily submitted to us. We will not share personally identifiable information with a third party unless the individual submitting this information has permitted us to do so. Make-A-Wish Michigan will maintain a copy of your information and respects the privacy of their donors and participants by not selling or exchanging their names and honors all requests for anonymity.