


Back Again in 2013!

the

GRAN FONDO KOOTENAI

Saturday, July 6 – Sunday, July 7, 2013

Held under USA Cycling Event Permit 



Sanctioned by the Montana Bicycle Racing Association

Gran Fondo Kootenai is a 2-day, timed, supported bicycle ride through the spectacular landscapes of Montana's remote northwest corner. You'll pedal lightly-trafficked scenic byways in the shadows of the Cabinet Mountains, cruise along serene Lake Koocanusa, and glide through the legendary Yaak Valley.

With an included Saturday-night stay, you can treat this ride like a miniature stage race or a quick, multi-day tour. Hand us your extra gear at the start line, and we'll have it waiting for you at each day's finish. Simply enjoy the superb cycling, the beautiful surroundings and the great camaraderie.

Gran Fondo Kootenai provides several good challenges; you can make it as competitive or as casual as you wish. Race it all-out, or have a leisurely spin – the choice is yours!

Proceeds from the event benefit Libby's *Kiwanis Koats-4-Kids* program and the Eureka *Lions' Den Booster Club*.

The Courses:

Day 0: Libby - Farm to Market, 30 miles, 550' gain (**tentative**)

If there's interest, we'll lead an easy fun-ride on gentle roads we won't cover during the regular gran fondo. Features awesome views of the Cabinet Mountains.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/2123395>

Day 1: Libby to Eureka, 76 miles, 4700' gain, 3 aid stations. Continuously rolling terrain with grand lake vistas.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1307346>

Day 2: Eureka to Libby, 96 miles, 5900' gain, 5 aid stations. Stellar climbs and fun descents through lush forests.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1309303>

Event Schedule:

Day 1: Saturday, July 6

Registration/check-in/gear drop-off	8:00-9:45 a.m.
Pre-ride meeting	9:50 a.m.
Start	10:00 a.m.
Dinner	6:00-8:00 p.m.

Day 2: Sunday, July 7

Breakfast	6:00-8:00 a.m.
Check-in/gear drop-off	7:00-8:45 a.m.
Pre-ride meeting	8:50 a.m.
Start	9:00 a.m.
Post-ride celebration	3:00-7:00 p.m.

Support: Neutral mechanical support will be provided during and after each day's ride. Service vehicles will patrol the routes, but riders are advised to carry pumps/spares to avoid protracted waits for assistance. Nutritional support (i.e., snacks and fluids) will be provided at food/aid stations positioned along each day's route. Toilets will also be provided at these locations.

Rules: The courses will be open to motorized vehicles. Riders must obey the rules of the road – especially at intersections – unless otherwise advised by officials, course marshals, or law enforcement personnel. Riders must, at all times, stay to the right of the centerline. Participants must wear helmets and assigned numbers while riding. Sorry, no aero bars or forward-facing handlebar extensions allowed.

Accommodations & Extra Gear: On Saturday night, we'll camp outdoors (or inside the gymnasium) at the Eureka High School. Showers and restrooms will be available. Riders should pack extra clothes, a towel, and camping gear in one or two duffle bags. Overnight gear and clothing will be transported from start to finish each day. A limited amount of indoor lodging (motels and B&Bs) is available in Eureka – at participants' own expense – for those who don't wish to camp. We will transport gear to these ancillary locations, if requested.

Meals: In addition to the nutritional support offered during the actual riding portions of the event, we'll enjoy a pasta feed on Saturday night in Eureka. Breakfast burritos also will be served on Sunday morning. As with the overnight accommodations, additional dining opportunities exist at nearby Eureka restaurants for those who desire/need other gastronomic options.

Awards: Top age-group finishers (lowest two-day combined times) will be recognized at the post-event celebration. All participants are eligible for draw prizes; must be present to win.

Registration: \$125 entry fee for early registrants (before June 15), \$150 (June 15-July 3), \$175 on day of ride. Includes overnight accommodations, meals, gear transport, and support during the rides. Register via [USA Cycling's on-line service](#). Pre-registration deadline: 10:00 p.m. MDT, Wednesday, July 3, 2013. Sorry, no mail-in registration. USA Cycling annual or one-day licenses are not required.

Directions: The Saturday start location is at Fireman's Park, just off US Hwy. 2 (at Mahoney Road), in Libby. Registration, check-in, staging, parking, water, toilets, etc. will be located here.

More Info: Additional details on lodging and meals, maps, answers to FAQs, and an entire event summary may be found at: www.gfkootenai.com

Questions? Contact John Weyhrich, (406) 241-2829 or john_veyhrich@yahoo.com