

Letter to Riders announcing OGP change to Shea 2025:

The Oakland Grand Prix September 14 has been moved. Not in time, but in space. Due to last minute construction issues (what again?) in downtown Oakland, we've had to move the OGP at the last minute from Oakland out to Livermore, to the site of the Shea Criterium Course. Now called the OGP Crit at Shea Center, still Sunday Sept 14, the race uses the usual Shea Center square with an additional out-and-back section on Constitution Ave and a hairpin turn, for a 0.88 mile lap distance. (see attached maps).*

We'll be back to downtown Oakland next year, but this year's OGP was stymied by construction timing overruns on Thomas Berkley Ave in the middle of the course. The contractor now plans to pave that street ON SEPTEMBER 14TH, so we lose the course this year.

The OGP Crit at Shea Center will follow the same schedule as the original OGP, but everything will be ***one hour later***, to allow people to take BART to the Dublin/Pleasanton Station (a 9.3 mile flat ride to the race see map), and for riders to make the adjustment for the extra travel. Registration will open at 8:00 a.m. and the first race will be at 9:00. The Race Notes on BikeReg will be updated Tuesday morning.

We tried a number of things to maintain the old race course, including shifting a block or two, but to no avail; we are hemmed in by Broadway, Grand Ave and Harrison Streets, all major thoroughfares. We also explored courses at the Port of Oakland, at Alameda Point in Alameda, at Brisbane's Sierra Point and elsewhere, but with only a week to go, none were able to get approvals from all the necessary agencies. (the last two resulted in interest from the cities in having a race next year...) The NCNCA Board, race officials and others all worked to get another course, with no luck.

Riders wishing to withdraw from the race for a refund or credit can do that at BikeReg up until 5 pm Wednesday; if you have difficulty with the procedure, send me an email before that deadline, and we will take care of it with you.

* There is a sidewalk along the north side of Constitution to the center of the course; please use it rather than the street, as riders will be going both ways on that block. Groups will stage in front of the circle at parking, and go on to the course when called up for each race. Toilets and registration will now be located in the closest lot to Constitution Drive.

--Robert Leibold velopro1@gmail.com

Yes, Henleyville Road Race is on as advertised, Sept 20, with no construction issues!)