



Child Welcome Policy

(Updated October 2025)

Overview

To promote family-inclusive participation in trail running, UTMB Group introduced a pregnancy policy for all UTMB World Series Events in 2023. In 2025, it was expanded and renamed the Child Welcome Policy to support athletes who are pregnant, using surrogacy, adopting, or pursuing Medically Assisted Reproduction (MAR), along with their partners.

Eligibility for Policy

Athletes qualify for deferral if they meet one of these criteria and provide required proof with the relevant dates:

- Pregnant athletes (proof of pregnancy).
- Athletes pursuing Medically Assisted Reproduction (MAR). (proof of MAR)
- Athletes with a pregnant partner with a due date within 3 months before or after the race (proof of pregnancy + proof of relationship/residence is required).
- Athletes adopting a child or birthing via surrogacy (adoption or birth certificate dated within 6 months before the race).

Note: The above conditions do not apply to registrations that are completed after the pregnancy or Child Welcome is known or MAR started, and athletes will not benefit from any of the refund or deferral options offered in the Child Welcome policy.

Policy Options

Eligible athletes have the following options available under the Child Welcome Policy.

Non-Lottery races

- A full refund of the registration fee (excluding service fees and additional purchases such as donations, photos, or accommodation & if the request is made at the latest, the date of the race).
OR
- Deferral up to 2 years to the same race category or shorter.

Lottery Races

- A full refund (excluding service fees and additional purchases such as donations, photos, or accommodation & if the request is made at the latest, the date of the race).
AND
- For women who are pregnant: Priority entry for up to 5 years for 50K, 100K, 100M (reduced to 2 years for partners and parents adopting or birthing via surrogacy) and up to 2 years for 20K. Access to the same race category or shorter.
- Additional Note: If conditions arise after pre-registration but before lottery results or registration completion, it is possible to cancel without penalty for a full refund (if applicable). A positive lottery draw is not considered a registration and cannot be deferred.



Repeated Deferrals

Athletes can repeat the deferral process for an additional deferral if they meet the Child Welcome eligibility again during the deferral period.

Additional Requirements

- **Request Deadlines:**
Lottery Races: Due to limited places, requests must be submitted via email prior to the event preregistration period.
Non Lottery races: All requests made prior to the opening of registrations will be accepted. Requests made after registration is open cannot be guaranteed and are based on availability. No requests will be accepted after registrations for the event are closed.
- **UTMB Index:** For events requiring a valid UTMB Index, ensure it is valid at the time of registering for the deferred race.
- **Verification:** The organizer may request additional proof and deny requests at their discretion.

Special Considerations for Women Elite Athletes

Women elite athletes starting a "Child Welcome Journey" (pregnancy, adoption, surrogacy, or MAR) should email elites@utmb.world to defer race registration for up to 5 years.

During this period, their UTMB Index may decline due to non-competition. Upon resuming competition in any race awarding a UTMB Index, they retain prior elite status benefits for 2 years across all UTMB World Series Events / Majors / Finals (same or shorter categories), including:

- Access to elite starting groups.
- No valid UTMB Index required (if index was valid pre-journey).
- Free race bibs (if applicable pre-journey).
- Extended qualification period for UTMB World Series Finals until June 30 of the finals year, if request is made to the Elites team by the end of November in the prior year (conditions apply).