

# UnLeashed Cani-Cross

Hosted by End of the Leash  
Water & Dirt Festival

Get ready to hit the trails with your dog like never before.

**UnLeashed Cani-Cross** is a high-energy trail race where you and your dog run as a team—connected, working together, and feeding off each other's drive. Whether you're brand new or experienced, this event is designed to be fun, welcoming, and just competitive enough to push you.

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## July 17 **Event Details**

**Date:** Aug 15, 2026

**Location:** Petawawa Golf Course location

### **Schedule:**

- **9:00 AM** – Check-in / Registration
- **9:45 AM** – Mandatory Racer Briefing
- **10:00 AM** – Kids Race Start
- **10:30 AM** – 2.5 km Race (Beginner / Recreational)
- **11:15 AM** – 5 km Race (Competitive / Experienced)

*(Race times may be slightly adjusted based on festival coordination)*

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## **Race Distances**

- **2.5 km Loop** – Perfect for beginners, youth, and first-time teams
- **5 km (2 loops)** – For experienced runners and dogs ready for more

The course follows a scenic loop trail as part of the Coureurs de Bois route —fast, fun, and built for flow.

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## Categories

### **Kids Race (2.5 km)**

- Under 16
- Under 12 must run with a parent/guardian

### **2.5 km – Recreational / Beginner**

- Open to all experience levels
- Great for first-time canicross teams

### **5 km – Competitive / Experienced**

- For those ready to push pace and endurance

### **Dog Categories:**

- Single Dog (standard)
  - Tandem Dog (2 dogs – experienced handlers only)
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## Registration

- **Kids:** \$50
- **Adults:** \$60

Limited spots available:

- 50 participants per distance
- Kids race capped for safety

Register early—this will fill.

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## What is Cani-Cross?

Cani-cross is trail running with your dog while connected via a waist belt and bungee line. Your dog runs out front, helping drive the pace—it's teamwork at its best.

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## **EQUIPMENT – KEEP IT SIMPLE**

You don't need a ton of gear to get started—but there are a few **non-negotiables** to keep things safe and fair for everyone.

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### **MANDATORY EQUIPMENT (Required to Race)**

These are the basics for safe canicross participation:

- **Hands-free leash setup**
    - A leash attached to your body (waist belt or similar)
    - No handheld leashes
  - **Secure harness or setup on your dog**
    - A properly fitted harness is strongly recommended
    - Must be safe, secure, and not restrictive
  - **Leash with some give (recommended bungee or flexible line)**
    - Helps absorb pulling and reduces strain on both you and your dog
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### **NOT PERMITTED**

- Handheld leash only
  - Choke chains, prong collars, or correction-based tools
  - Retractable leashes
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### **RECOMMENDED (BUT NOT REQUIRED)**

For the best experience (and what we strongly encourage):

- **Canicross harness (pulling-style)**
  - Allows your dog to move freely and comfortably
- **Bungee line (shock-absorbing leash)**
  - Makes running smoother and safer for both of you
- **Waist belt designed for running**
  - More comfortable and stable than improvising
- **Trail running shoes**
  - The course may include uneven terrain, roots, or mud

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## Dog Requirements

- Minimum 12 months old
- Healthy, fit, and able to run the distance
- Non-aggressive and under control at all times

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## Race Rules (Quick Overview)

- Dogs must run in front of or beside the handler
- No dragging or forced running
- Safe passing required (call your pass)
- Respect other racers, volunteers, and dogs

Full rules will be reviewed during the pre-race briefing.

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## Volunteers Needed

This event runs on community—and we need your help.

We're looking for:

- Trail marshals & safety support
- Start/finish crew
- General event help

Even if you're racing, we can work around your time.

 Message us or contact **End of The Leash** to volunteer.

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## Why Join?

- A unique race experience for you and your dog
- Beginner-friendly but still competitive
- Part of the Water & Dirt Festival atmosphere
- Built by a local team that lives and breathes dogs

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## Questions?

Reach out anytime—we're happy to help you get set up and race-ready.

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**Spots are limited. The trails are ready.**  
Grab your dog—and let's run. 🐾🔥