

## **IRONMAN Live Spotters**

Fans of the sport worldwide follow IRONMAN professional races events on [IRONMAN.com](https://www.ironman.com) through a live blog with text play-by-play of the race in addition to update on Twitter at @IRONMANLive. Race-day spotters are preferably volunteers with knowledge of how triathlon works, and if possible, some of the professionals racing. They are on-hand throughout the day, stationed along the swim, bike, and run courses, to help a coverage editor (based remotely) cover the event. Spotters are responsible for following the lead pros as the day unfolds and providing "color commentary", photos, videos, and time split verification throughout the day.

As the Coverage Editor is doing the pro race coverage remotely, the spotters are their eyes and ears on the ground. All communication between the Coverage Editor and spotters will be done through a group chat on WhatsApp. The Coverage editor will setup the group chat and send invites to all spotters

### **Spotter needs provided at the local level:**

1. **All access passes** to access the swim start, transitions(s) and finish line for photos, splits and comments provided by the Volunteer Captain/Coordinator.
2. Possible a **Volunteer T-Shirt** making them identifiable as assisting in the race.
3. When possible, minimum of one motto and driver to transport for coverage for the bike portion of the race. (Coverage Editor to coordinate with Race Director)

### **Spotter Captain:**

1. Serves as the primary contact with the Coverage Editor
2. Serves the primary contact between the race volunteer coordinator and onsite race officials, ensures proper credentialing, etc.
3. Coordinates and guides the spotter volunteers on race day
4. Performs spotter duties on race day as needed

### **Spotter:**

1. When requested, provide time split differentials as needed to the Coverage Editor.
2. Takes race photos/videos of the pro race action with smart phone and send to the Coverage Editor through What's App (best app for inter-country texting and video/photo transmission)
3. Provide color commentary to the Coverage Editor (weather, information on key passes, dynamic shifts in the race positions, report significant events when aware such as flat tires, penalties etc.

### **Notes:**

- It is desirable to have the spotter(s) throughout the entire race when possible. (5 hours for 70.3, 10 hours for IRONMAN). Duties can be split between two volunteers if needed (one for the bike and another for the run)
- When possible, race operations will provide a driver and moto for the women's and men's race each of the bike portion of a full IRONMAN. (If no mottos are available, we have had spotters get a personal car credentialed, and taken out on the bike course.)
- When possible, the volunteer(s) will provide their own mountain/road bike for spotting duties on the run portion of the race.