



# 2018



## About The Big Bend Open Road Race U.S 285 Course Notes

***Course notes for 2018, Ft. Stockton to Sanderson and return.***

\* Please note that these course notes are based on the 2017 race.

You will notice that there are no mileage markers listed on our course notes. When we did the survey, the mileage markers were being re-done as part of the continued maintenance on U.S. 285. There is a real possibility that they won't be in place until after the race. It is highly recommended that you do your own survey and note reference markers that work for you.

Please remember that the Big Bend Open Road Race is called "one of the Most Exciting Open Road Races In the World" for a reason. In the last 50 miles leading to Sanderson there are 59 turns, some blind, a great many elevation changes, and two lanes that turn into four lanes that turn back into two lanes. These are Texas roads - wide and smooth with wide shoulders. There is an old saying in open road racing, "keep it between the white lines". Good advice.

Enjoy!

**TERMS** Sweeper -- *A long, fast turn* Bend -- *A short, fast turn* Turn -- *Short, but slow* Corner -- *Slow and long*

MILE MARKER	MILES	TURN	SPEED	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
<b>SOUTHBOUND LEG</b> N 30 50. 862 S 102 51.103 (on west shoulder of road) GPS 0705444E, 3414709N					
425.9				Road closed at Mockingbird Lane	
427.15	0.0			STARTING LINE (3,080 ft elevation)	Gate on left
	0.9	1R		Right hand sweeper into long straight	
	2.2			Rough spot	
	3.3	2L		Left hand sweeper into very long straight	
	7.7			Six Shooter Draw Bridge	
	8.2	3R		Slight bend to the right	
	8.4			Bridge (culvert)	
	10.3			Rough in left lane	
	10.5			Blind hill - straight	
	12.0	4L		Left hand corner - up hill - thru cut and down to short straight	Four lanes wide
	12.8	5R		Right hand corner, down hill	Three lanes back to two
	13.1			Bridge	
	14.6	6L		Left hand sweeper - then uphill to -	Three lanes wide
	15.1	7R		Blind right hand turn over crest into downhill straight	Watch out! - narrows to two lanes
	16.2	8R		Right hand bend to very short straight	
	16.6	9R		Right hand bend	

	17.6	10L		Left hand turn uphill into short straight	
	17.9	11L		Blind left hand turn over hill into immediate -	
	18.2	12R		Right hand turn downhill into very short straight	<b>Caution</b>
	18.5	13R		Right hand bend - downhill	
	19.0	14L		Left hand corner downhill into blind exit	
	19.8	15L		Left hand bend - downhill	
	20.9			Nineteen Draw Bridge with a blind rise	<b>Rough surface on bridge</b>
	22.0	16R		Slight right hand bend into very short straight	
	22.3	17R		Right hand bend - slight uphill with Monument Draw Bridge at start	<b>Rough surface on bridge</b>
	23.3	18L		Slight left hand bend - Mitchell Road on left	
	24.7			Marsh Lea Ranch on left	
	25.6	19R		Right hand corner - slight upgrade	
	25.9			Blind uphill into straightaway	
	27.2			Cerf Ranch on left	
	27.7	20R		Blind right hand sweeper over crest - long	
	29.3	21L		Left hand sweeper with elevation changes - Escondido Draw Bridge $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way thru	Dip at end of bridge
	30.6			Blind crest in straight - elevator ride!	Look ahead
	31.7			Blind crest in straight - very quick to next turn	
	32.0	22L		Left hand corner thru cut - Blind exit down hill into very short straight	Look ahead - three lanes
	32.4	23L		Left hand bend downhill into immediate -	Roadside park on left - narrows to two lanes
	32.7	24R		Right hand bend - into immediate -	
	33.0	25L		Left hand turn with blind exit with slight rise into straight	
	35.6	26R		Right hand bend into very short straight	
	36.0	27L		Left hand sweeper with blind exit	
	36.6			Big Canyon Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	37.0	28R		Right hand turn into immediate	Double sweeper
	37.2	29R		Right hand turn with blind exit	
	38.2	30L		Very slight left bend	
	38.8	31R		Right hand turn downhill with blind exit - to short straight	
	39.4	32R		Right hand bend to short straight	
	39.8			Middle Fork Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	40.0	33L		Left hand turn to short straight	
	40.6			Sign - Sanderson 20 miles on right	
	41.1	34R		Long right hand corner with uphill rise	
	42.4	35L		Left hand turn - slight down hill	
	42.8			Clark Place Draw Bridge	<b>Warning! Approaching Quick Blind Corners</b>
	43.8	36L		Long left hand corner uphill into very short straight	Three lanes wide
	44.2	37R		Right hand corner through cut into	Four lanes wide
	44.4	38L		Blind left hand corner downhill, long	
	45.0	39L		Slight left hand bend into -	Back to two lanes
	45.2	40R		Long right hand corner - through cut - Caution very long - into short straight	Three lanes wide
	45.6			FM 2400 Junction on left	
	45.8	41L		Left hand turn uphill and over into	Four lanes
	46.0	42R		Slight right hand bend into short downhill straight	Be prepared; three lanes
	46.4	43R		Right hand corner into short straight	
	47.1	44L		Left hand corner - long	Three lanes at entrance, narrows to two in turn

	48.0			Ranch house on right	Left lane rough
	48.7	45L		Slight left hand bend	Left lane rough
	49.4	46R		Blind right hand corner downhill into long straight	Look up
	49.9			Terrell County Sign	Pavement changes
	50.1			Downie Draw Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	50.8			Sign - Sanderson 10 miles	
	51.4	47L		Left hand corner uphill with a very late apex to exit, into very short straight	Three lanes
	51.8	48L		Left hand sweeper, through cut, downhill - almost joins next turn to make a double left	Widens to four lanes
	52.2	49L		Left hand turn, into very short straight	Three lanes, tighter than previous sweeper
	52.5	50R		Right hand corner downhill, blind exit, into -	
	52.7	51L		Long left hand corner still downhill into	Two lanes at exit
	53.2	52R		Right hand corner into short straight	
	53.7	53L		Left hand corner	
	54.2	54R		Right hand bend	
	54.9	55R		Slight right hand bend into very short straight	
	55.3	56L		Left hand turn into short straight	
	55.9	57R		Long right hand corner	
	56.5			Bridge	
	57.4	58R		Right hand turn - bridge just past exit - into immediate	<b>Caution</b>
	57.7	59R		Right hand corner	<b>Caution - slower than previous turn!</b>
	58.2	60L		Left hand sweeper - then head to finish line	
488.3	59.0			<b>FINISH LINE</b> (2,885 ft elevation), GPS 0749705E, 3340148N	<b>Very short shutdown distance</b>
				<b>Yellow flag</b>	<b>Slow down</b>
488.9				<b>Red Flag - Cones and Waving Red Flag</b>	<b>Obey Speed Limit. Go into town and park at County Court House. You will be given instructions for return to re-start line.</b>
<b>MILE MARKER</b>	<b>MILES</b>	<b>TURN</b>	<b>SPEED</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
				<b>NORTHBOUND LEG</b> N 30 10.026 W 102 24.421(on east shoulder of road) GPS 0749705E, 3340148N	
488.9				Road Closed	
488.3	0.0			<b>STARTING LINE</b> (2,885 ft elevation)	Rodeo Arena Driveway on left
	0.6	60R		Right hand sweeper into short straight	
	1.1	59L		Left hand corner goes into immediate -	
	1.4	58L		Left hand sweeper, bridge just before entrance	
	2.5			Bridge	
	2.8	57L		Long left hand corner into short straight	
	3.5	56R		Right hand turn into very short straight	
	3.9	55L		Slight left hand bend	
	4.7	54L		Left hand turn	
	5.1	53R		Right hand corner uphill into short straight	
	5.7	52L		Left hand corner uphill into immediate	
	5.9	51R		Long right hand corner uphill into immediate	Three lanes wide
	6.4	50L		Left hand corner uphill to very short straight	
	6.7	49R		Right hand turn approaching double cut into immediate	Be careful; 4 lanes at exit

	6.9	48R		Blind right hand sweeper thru double cut into very short straight	Narrows to 3 lanes
				Caution: Begin steep downhill	
	7.4	47R		Right hand downhill corner into long straight	<b>Caution</b>
	8.8			Downie Draw Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	9.1			Pecos County Line	Pavement change
	9.4	46L		Left hand corner, uphill	<b>Caution</b>
	10.1	45R		Slight right hand bend	Right lane rough
	11.0			Ranch house on left	Right lane rough
	11.5	44R		Long right hand corner uphill -into short straight	Widens to 3 lanes
	12.5	43L		Left hand corner to steep uphill with blind crest	
	13.0	42L		Slight blind left hand bend to immediate	
	13.1	41R		Right turn over crest into short straight	<b>Watch out!</b> ; 4 lanes, narrows to 3 at exit
	13.3			Highway FM2400 on right	
	13.5	40L		Long left hand corner thru cut into -	Narrows to 2 lanes at exit
	14.0	39R		Slight right bend	Three lanes wide
				Three Turn Series	
	14.3	38R		Right hand corner thru cut downhill into	Four lanes wide
	14.6	37L		Left hand corner into very short straight	Narrows to 3 lanes at exit
	15.0	36R		Long right hand corner downhill into straightaway	
	16.2			Clark Place Draw Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	16.5	35R		Right hand turn uphill	
	17.6	34L		Blind left hand corner downhill - tight - to short straight	
	18.9	33R		Right hand turn to short straight	
	19.1			Middle Fork Big Canyon Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	19.5	32L		Left hand bend to short straight	
	20.0	31L		Left hand turn uphill	
	20.7	30R		Very slight right bend	
	21.0			Windmill on right	
	21.5	29L		Blind left hand turn at end of straight - to immediate	#29 & 28 almost like one turn
	21.9	28L		Left hand turn	
	22.3			Big Canyon Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	22.7	27R		Right hand sweeper into very short straight	
	23.2	26L		Left hand bend into straight	
	25.4			Blind crest - straight	
	25.9	25R		Right hand turn - into immediate	
	26.1	24L		Left hand bend uphill into immediate	Roadside park on right at exit
	26.5	23R		Right hand bend - steep uphill - into very short straight	Three lanes wide
	26.8	22R		Blind right hand corner - narrows thru cut on exit	
	28.0			Blind crest - straight	Four lanes wide
	28.3			Blind crest into narrowing road	Two lanes wide
	29.3	21R		Long right hand sweeper - Escondido Draw Bridge shortly after entrance	Dip on entrance
	30.7	20L		Long left hand sweeper uphill - exit over crest	
	31.1			Crest near exit	
	31.8			Cerf Ranch on right	
	33.0	19L		Left hand corner	
	34.2			Marsh Lea Ranch on right	
	35.5	18R		Slight right hand bend	Mitchell Road on right
	36.6	17L		Left hand bend over Monument Draw Bridge into very short	<b>Rough bridge</b>

				straight	surface
	36.9	16L		Slight left bend	
	38.1			Nineteen Draw Bridge	<b>Rough bridge surface</b>
	38.6			Bunger Cameron Ranch on right	
	39.1	15R		Right hand bend	
	39.7	14R		Long right hand corner uphill	
	40.4	13L		Left hand bend into very short straight	
	40.8	12L		Short left hand turn uphill into immediate	
	41.0	11R		Blind right hand turn into short straight	
	41.3	10R		Right hand turn	
	42.3	9L		Left hand bend to very short straight	
	42.7	8L		Left hand bend	
	43.6	7L		Left hand turn up and over hill - into very short straight	Four lanes wide, narrows to 3 after exit
	44.1	6R		Right hand sweeper downhill	Look up!, 2 lanes after exit
	45.9	5L		Left hand corner up steep hill - to short straight	Three lanes wide
	46.6	4R		Blind right hand corner out of cut - long	Four lanes wide
	47.0				Back to two lanes
	48.2			Blind crest thru cut - straight	
	48.7			Rough in right lane	
	50.6			Bridge (culvert)	
	50.7	3L		Blind slight left bend - to very long straight	
	51.3			Six Shooter Draw Straight	
	51.7			Sign - Ft. Stockton 10 miles	
	55.3	2R		Right hand sweeper - slight uphill - into long straight	
	56.7			Rough spot	
	57.8	1L		Left hand sweeper into finish line straight heading home	
427.15	59.0			<b>FINISH LINE</b> (3,080 ft elevation), GPS 0705444E, 3414709N	Gate on right
				<b>Yellow Flag</b>	<b>Slow down</b>
				<b>Red Flag</b>	<b>Observe posted speed limit</b>
				<b>Please go to Rooney Park for interview and viewing area.</b>	