



CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE FOR BICYCLES

GAIOLE IN CHIANTI

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

OFFICIAL RULES & REGULATIONS

WHY A CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE DEDICATED TO THE BICYCLE

Elegance and the bicycle have been a match since their very origins. It is no coincidence that Karl Drais's *Draisienne*, considered the forerunner of all velocipedes, was invented to delight young nobles. Over the next two centuries, the bicycle would assume many other identities beyond pure recreation, acquiring an elegance entirely its own—made of design, technology, materials, and naturally, the touch of the artist, when speaking of the great frame builders who characterized unmatched Italian and international production.

The Concours d'Elegance of Gaiole in Chianti, organized by Eroica in partnership with *Biciclette d'Epoca*, the benchmark magazine in the sector, aims to be a tribute to the elegance of the bicycle and its history, enhancing both the bicycle itself, as happens in prestigious automotive concours, and the bond with the rider who mounts and presents it, because clothing is equally important when speaking of vintage cycling.

"Born clumsy and stocky, on a bike I am one of the ugliest cyclists to see and I know nothing about mechanics and its wonderful secrets. Of elegance, however, I appreciate everything, just as one admires everything one is incapable of; I grasp its virtue of improving the world and human relations. On a bike, it is a rare virtue of true champions, the symbiosis of gesture with machine and clothing: a special gift that improves life. Even mine, genetically inelegant as I am."

— **Giancarlo Brocci, Creator of Eroica**

1. ORGANIZERS AND JURY

The Concours d'Elegance for Bicycles (hereinafter CdE) of Gaiole in Chianti 2026 is organized by Eroica in partnership with the magazine *Biciclette d'Epoca*, the benchmark in the vintage cycling sector, which will draw upon the collaboration of museums, associations, and experts in the field of restoration and collecting to compose the Jury.

2. PURPOSE

- The purpose of the CdE is to promote bicycle culture and its use during Eroica and partner events, while also enhancing the component of period-correct clothing curated down to the details.
- The goal of the competition is to value the specimens submitted to the Jury by awarding recognitions that highlight not only their historical, technical, and stylistic value, but also the great passion for restoration demonstrated by their owners, in full respect of Eroica's participatory spirit and the rigor of *Biciclette d'Epoca*.

3. COMPETITION CATEGORIES

All bicycles presented will belong to two main macro-categories defined as follows:

- **Preserved (Conservato):** Bicycles that have not been repainted, re-nickeled, or re-chromed, and have not undergone significant component replacement.
- **Restored (Restauro):** Bicycles restored to like-new condition through restoration work.

Given these definitions, the competition categories are as follows (9 in total):

CAT.	CATEGORY DESCRIPTION	STATE
A	Pre-1930 Racing (Corsa)	Preserved
B	Pre-1930 Racing (Corsa)	Restored
C	1930/1959 Racing (Corsa)	Preserved
D	1930/1959 Racing (Corsa)	Restored
E	1960/1987 Racing (Corsa)	Preserved
F	1960/1987 Racing (Corsa)	Restored
G	Touring or City Bicycles, up to 1987	Preserved & Restored
H	Sports Bicycles (Sportive), up to 1987	Preserved & Restored
I	Folding Bicycles (Pieghevoli), up to 1987	Preserved & Restored

Notes:

1. The type of bicycle will be identified according to the general guidelines indicated in the Regulations of the Register of Eroica Bicycles.
2. In general terms, bicycles in the Pre-1930 Racing category are those featuring fixed transmission, single ratio, or flip-flop hub gear change. Those in the 1960/1987 Racing category are those featuring a compact frame, with reduced distance between the seat tube and the rear wheel.
3. The applicant may specify the category of ownership of the bicycle, which may however be modified at the sole and unappealable discretion of the Jury.

4. REGISTRATION AND SELECTION

- To participate in the CdE, registration on the Eroica website is required in the dedicated section.
- All bicycles organized in the categories mentioned in point 3 may participate, with the general requirement of belonging to the GOOD or EXCELLENT state of preservation and restoration, as specified in the regulations of the Register of Eroica Bicycles.
- Particular attention is strongly requested regarding the clothing with which the participant presents themselves in the competition, which must be as period-correct and consistent as possible with the entered bicycle.
- The registration fee is **35 Euros** and the deadline is midnight on **Tuesday, September 29, 2026**.
- Registration will include an exclusive kit for all participants with a commemorative wooden box dedicated to the Bicycle Concours d'Elegance.

- All registrations that are not completed by the deadline (complete data, photos, and payment) will be considered invalid. The maximum number of entries across all categories is **40 specimens**. Beyond this number, no further registrations will be accepted
- As for professional bicycles, they are generally permitted. However, the organizers reserve the right to evaluate each case individually, as the purpose of the Concours d'Elegance is to showcase the bicycle as an example of period technology and its state of preservation, including the clothing of the person presenting it. The fact that the bicycle belonged to a great champion could lead to disparities in the evaluation.

All applicants must provide the following information:

- Last Name and First Name
- Email
- Bicycle Model & Brand
- Year of Production
- Frame Serial Number (if present, otherwise write "not present") & Frame Size
- Photograph of the "drive side" of the bicycle (transmission side)

5. PRIZES AND RECOGNITIONS

- The best specimen for each category will be awarded, for a total of **9 category prizes**.
- The following **3 recognitions** will also be assigned regardless of category. No bicycle may win more than one of these recognitions. If the winner of "Best in Show" is also nominated for another recognition, the latter will be awarded to the second-place bicycle for that recognition:
 - **Fidelity Award (Premio Fedeltà)**: for the bicycle deemed overall most complete, coherent, and therefore most accurate from a restoration/preservation perspective.
 - **Elegance Combination (Combinata d'Eleganza)**: for the best style match between the bicycle and the clothing of the person presenting it in competition. An award intended to highlight the virtuous combination that values both the machine presented and the importance of period-consistent attire.
 - **Best in Show**: for the bicycle considered by the Jury to be the most deserving specimen in the competition.

6. EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Category Prizes:

- Each bicycle will be evaluated by jurors, who will examine the bicycles in pairs, according to the following parameters with a score from 1 to 5:
 - **Rarity (Rarità)**
 - **Quality (Qualità)**
 - **Completeness (Completezza)**
- The sum of these parameters across all Jury scorecards will give the total score of the bicycle. Bicycles reaching the highest score in each competition category will be awarded.
- In case of a tie score, the bicycle obtaining the highest score in individual parameters in the listed order will be awarded.
- In case of a further tie, the Jury will decide by majority vote.
- If the Jury considers, at its sole discretion, that none of the bicycles present in a category reaches the necessary quality standards for an award, that award will not be granted for the category in question.

Recognitions:

- Each juror may indicate up to 3 bicycles for each of the 3 planned recognitions.
- The "*Elegance Combination*" recognition will be awarded exclusively based on the clothing and condition of the bicycle at the moment it is exhibited in Gaiole during the competition, and not on the basis of any photos previously sent.
- The specimen collecting the most nominations for each recognition will win the respective award.
- In case of a tie and if the Jury cannot reach a majority agreement, the bicycle with the highest evaluation score will be awarded.

7. EXHIBITION

- The bicycles will be exhibited in Gaiole in Chianti at the space set up in **Piazza Ricasoli on Friday, October 2, 2026**. The exhibition may be outdoors or indoors depending on weather conditions at the time.
- Setup takes place from **09:00 to 12:00**. All participants are invited to bring their bicycle to the exhibition site within these hours to complete registration and setup procedures.
- Bicycles will remain on display on site until the end of the awards ceremony and freely open to the public.
- Each competing bicycle will be assigned an identification number and a ribbon rosette with a pin that the owner must wear.
- It is the participant's responsibility to bring a display stand that allows the bicycle to stand upright.
- The start of the actual competition is scheduled for **14:30**. At that time, participants must be present in the structure next to their bicycle for all evaluations.
- Every participant is invited to remain at the disposal of the Jury until the end of the evaluation phase.

8. AWARDS CEREMONY

- The awards ceremony will take place in Piazza Ricasoli in Gaiole in Chianti.
- All registered entrants present at the awards ceremony will receive a certificate of participation.
- Winners of each prize or recognition will be called onto the stage for awards and official photos.
- Presence at the awards ceremony is required. If a winner is unreachable, the prize will be awarded to the runner-up, and so on.

9. EXTRA

The winning bicycle of the "**Best in Show**" recognition will be published and analyzed in issue **#78 of *Biciclette d'Epoca*** magazine.