

BLACK MOUNTAIN

BMX

World famous North Phoenix track offers fun for the entire family.

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Age is just a number when it comes to BMX racing. Tiny riders 18-months-old to those simply young at heart can participate in this thrilling, adrenaline-packed, family-oriented sport. And, at Black Mountain BMX, that's exactly what fearless riders—both young and old—do.

Along 7th Street, south of Happy Valley Road, a paved single-lane road divides two mountains. Neatly tucked away, just out of sight, sits the Black Mountain BMX race track. If you weren't looking for it, you'd never know there was a nationally recognized racetrack nestled a quarter mile off the main road. Most nights, where the paved road turns to dirt, stadium lighting illuminates riders flying over dirt obstacles and kids rolling their bikes into the starting lanes, while the slamming of the gate sounds sharply as the light changes from red to green. Meanwhile, competitors pump and peddle their way around the track, all hoping to be first across the finish line.

Bicycle motocross, or BMX as it's more commonly known, was started by Southern California youth in the early 1970s. The birth of this adrenaline-fueled craze is credited to a handful of kids racing around in vacant lots on