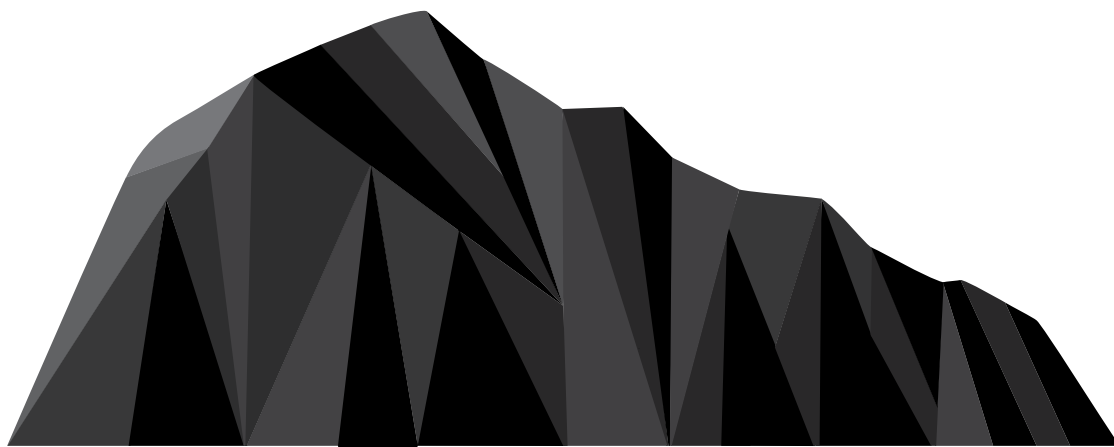


2020 Racer Manual



GOTHIC MOUNTAIN TOUR

PROCEEDS BENEFITTING



Conditions of Participation

***** This is a minimally supported backcountry ski event *****

Rugged backcountry conditions and severe weather may be present along any part of the course. Hazards may include but are not limited to: rapid snow accumulation, avalanche, poor visibility, high winds, extreme temperatures, swift creek crossings, lightning, and/or rock fall. Course officials cannot monitor or guarantee complete safety throughout the entirety of the course. Participants must be skilled in making their own assessment of conditions and have sufficient gear and knowledge of how to manage potentially life-threatening circumstances. Racers proceed at their own risk.

- Racers Must -

1. Have a high level of physical fitness, experience in winter backcountry, and the necessary equipment to survive in strenuous to potentially life-threatening conditions.
2. Attend the **Mandatory Racer Meeting (7:00 pm, 2/22/20 @ CB Mountain Theater, 403 2nd St.)** & Mandatory Pre-Start Beacon Check.
3. Carry all Mandatory Gear throughout duration of the race, including an avalanche beacon worn on the body.
4. Arrive to and depart from checkpoints *prior* to the established cut-off times.
5. Agree to be pulled from the race for any reason deemed necessary by Race Officials.
6. Notify Race Dispatch by phone if decision to self-withdraw, or abandon the race is made without informing race staff on course. (970-349-1707, ext. 5)
7. Present *proof* of current **Colorado Recreational Search & Rescue card**, or valid Colorado fishing/hunting license at Athlete Clearance. [Purchase CORSAR](#)

Mandatory Equipment

Avalanche Rescue:

- Beacon
- Shovel
- Probe

Personal Protection:

- Helmet
- Neck gaiter or balaclava
- Insulation Layers (Warm Down or Synthetic) - Jacket & Pants

Colorado Recreational Search & Rescue Card or Colorado Hunting / Fishing License

Must be presented at bib pickup.

Pre-purchase your CORSAR online prior to bib pick-up - [HERE](#)

Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, February 22nd

5:00 p.m to 7:00 p.m. - Bib Pick-Up

[Mallardi Theater \(CB Mountain Theater \) - 2nd Street & Elk Avenue](#)

All racers must pick up bibs on Saturday; **NO race bibs will be distributed at the start lines.**

7:00 p.m - Mandatory Racer Meeting

[Mallardi Theater \(CB Mountain Theater \) - 2nd Street & Elk Avenue](#)

Comp and Rec racers must attend this pre-race briefing to be cleared to race.

SUNDAY, February 23rd

5:30 a.m. - Competitive Mandatory Check-In & Beacon Check

[Town Ranch - Start Line](#)

NO race bibs will be distributed at the start line.

6:00 a.m. - COMPETITIVE RACE START

[Town Ranch - Start Line](#)

7:45 a.m. - Recreational Mandatory Check-In & Beacon Check

[Snodgrass Trailhead - Start Line](#)

8:00 a.m. - RECREATIONAL RACE START

[Snodgrass Trailhead - Start Line](#)

NO race bibs will be distributed at the start line.

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Finish Party & Raffle

[The Magic Meadows Yurt](#)

Finish Line Bag Drop

Race staff will transport one bag of post-race clothing/gear to the finish at the Magic Meadows Yurt. Please pre-label your gear bags with **Name & Phone Number**.

Gear bags will be collected from racers the morning of the race at the [Town Ranch Start Line](#) or the [Snodgrass Trailhead Start Line](#).

Considerations:

Post race, participants will need to ski themselves approximately 1 mile from the Magic Meadows Yurt to meet shuttle transportation. Any gear sent to the finish line will need to be carried out by the participant at the conclusion of the race.

Bags that are unclaimed at the yurt will be brought back to the [Crested Butte Nordic Center](#) by 6:00 PM the day of the event.

Crested Butte Nordic is not responsible for personal property which may be lost, stolen or damaged

Parking & Shuttle

Limited parking is available at the Town Ranch Trailhead. Additional parking is available adjacent to Town Ranch in the Community School rear parking lot. Parking is also permitted on any of the adjacent residential streets.

A return shuttle is provided to transport finished racers back to vehicles parked at the start line. Racers will be required to ski themselves approximately 1 mile, from the Magic Meadows finish utilizing the groomed Nordic trail network to meet the shuttle at the Gronk Trailhead on Peanut Lake Rd.

Shuttle Pick-Up location - "The Gronk"

Recreational START Shuttle

A limited capacity shuttle to the Snodgrass start is available to rec participants, departing from the Crested Butte Nordic Center at **7:15 AM Sharp!**

Cut-Off Racers' Shuttle

Racers cut-off in Gothic must ski themselves back to the Snodgrass Trailhead. A shuttle will be provided to transport these participants back to the Town of Crested Butte. Alternatively, the Mountain Express bus can be obtained at Snodgrass, with departures running every hour on the hour.

Course Information

Competitive Course

23.5 Miles / 5,130 Feet Climbing

Read complete Course Description on next page.

Recreational Course

17.85 Miles / 2,379 Feet Climbing

The **Recreational Course** is presented as a tour option for skiers to experience the unparalleled GMT backcountry route at a more relaxed pace. Rec participants however must still progress on course in a timely manner and meet the **9:00 AM Gothic Townsite Cut-Off**.

The Rec division starts **8:00 AM** at the [Snodgrass Trailhead](#) (5.7 miles into the Competitive Course), averting the initial climbing out of Town to the resort high point, the Rec course proceeds directly out the Gothic Road grade, subtracting another 600 feet of climbing off the Competitive course's climb to the Snodgrass Highpoint transition.

The distance from the Snodgrass Trailhead start to the Gothic Townsite is ~ 3.2 miles.



[\(Link to Interactive Map\)](#)

Cut-Offs

7:45 a.m. - Top of Painter Boy Lift - Crested Butte Mountain Resort

9:00 a.m. - Gothic Townsite

Racers cut-off in Gothic must ski themselves back to the Snodgrass Trailhead. A shuttle will be provided to transport these participants back to the Town of Crested Butte. Alternatively, the Mountain Express bus can be obtained at Snodgrass, with departures running every hour on the hour.

The Race Director reserves the right to delay the race start, alter cut-off times, alter the race course, and/or cancel the event as deemed necessary.

Failure to respect and adhere to an enforced cut-off will result in your name being blacklisted from all future Crested Butte Nordic events, including The Grand Traverse.

Aid Stations

- **Mile 9.2** (Gothic Townsite) - Hydration Only
- **Mile 13.5** (Top of the World) - Nutrition Only
- **Mile 16.3** (Pittsburg Townsite) - Hydration & Nutrition
- **Mile 23.5** (Magic Meadows Yurt Finish) - Cold Beer & Hot Soup

Course Marking

The ascent from the START to Crested Butte Mountain Resort will be marked with reflective tape or strobe lights, adhered to wood lathe stakes with ORANGE flagging ribbon.

Where necessary, the course will be marked with YELLOW Pin Flags bearing Grand Traverse insignia.

Descents that are prone to avalanche hazards will be marked with ORANGE flagging tied to vertical posts and trees creating wide gates for racers to pass between. Racers must be vigilant to adhere to the designated descent route delineated by the gates.

Course Description - Full Course 23.5 miles

Crested Butte >>> Painter Boy Ridge

The Competitive race starts at the [Town Ranch Trailhead](#) located behind the Crested Butte Community School.

The race sets off on groomed nordic track ([Tony's Trail](#)) towards the base of Mt. Crested Butte. Here the course departs the groomed Nordic system transitioning to a climbing traverse onto a natural bench, approximating the summer "Upper Loop" singletrack trail.

At (**mile 2.2**) the course deviates RIGHT, departing the summer Upper Loop trail, making an ascent through aspens trees towards the ski resort boundary. Gradual climbing delivers

racers to the CBMR boundary, entering the resort on the “Banana Exit” cat track. The route continues LEFT, descending on the cat track, delivering racers to the top of **West Wall Lift**.

Racers are required to descend to the base of West Wall Lift, remaining Skiers LEFT of the lift towers on Lower Championship run, to avert early morning alpine race training occurring on Buckley run.

From the bottom of West Wall, the race route skirts the main base area, ascending parallel to the Magic Carpet, until just before the Silver Queen Lift, racers may begin ascending Warming House Hill continuing to Houston trail and the base of **Painter Boy Lift**.



*** Be cautious to not be led astray from the race route by inadvertently following General Public skinning the resort recreationally ***

Racers ascend in-line with Painter Boy lift towers to gain the ridge (**Mile 4**). Here a check-point will be established with a course marshal who will enforce a strict **7:45 AM CUT-OFF**. Racers cut-off here may descend to the resort base to obtain the Mountain Express bus back to town.

Painter Boy Ridge >>> Gothic Townsite

After transitioning, racers will descend North Pass ski run, passing beyond the Gold Link lift base on through the Prospect Drive underpass tunnel. Follow YELLOW pin flagging directing you around the Prospect housing development, onto a cat track leading towards the CBMR Maintenance Building.

Just before the entrance to the maintenance yard, the course abruptly climbs LEFT. A sign will be placed here directing racers uphill, further leading racers towards the Snodgrass Trailhead. **(mile 5.7)**

From Snodgrass Trailhead the course climbs approximately 600 vertical feet up the "standard" lower Snodgrass skin track. Upon reaching a natural terrain bench, the race course veers RIGHT. Follow directional signage pointing racers to traverse this bench to the "Snodgrass Highpoint" where you'll transition for descent to meet the Gothic Road.

This **descent route trends skiers LEFT** following a gentle fall line through aspen forest. Look for ORANGE flagging on bamboo steaks and/or trees.

This descent is in avalanche terrain. It is critical to adhere to the marked course as this is the safest route. Expect variable conditions, with exposed obstacles on this descent.

Upon reaching Gothic Road at the "Rosy Point" bend **(mile 6.2)**, the race route continues descending northerly on this road grade, leading racers to the Gothic Townsite **(mile 9.2)**.

A course marshal in Gothic will enforce a strict **9:00 AM CUT-OFF**.

Gothic Townsite >>> Magic Meadows Yurt Finish

The route continues on the road beyond the Gothic Townsite into the widening valley towards Schofield Pass. At the signed Gothic Campground the course breaks LEFT onto a steeply climbing skin track. This begins a sustained ~ 2000 foot ascent approximating the summer single track - Trail 403. The route winds through dense forest and intervening meadows until finally summiting at the "Top of the World" high point **(mile 13.6)**. Course marshals will be stationed here, providing limited nutritional support.

The course immediately descends down the ridge a few hundred vertical feet to the Washington Gulch saddle, where racers will begin one final sustained climb to the Anthracite Mesa high point, roughly 400 vertical feet. A course marshal will be stationed at the top of this transition. Marshals will direct racers to the marked descent route into the Slate River drainage, approximately 1700 feet below.

This descent is in avalanche terrain. It is critical to adhere to the marked course as this is the safest route to the valley floor. Expect variable conditions, with exposed obstacles on this descent.

Approaching the valley floor prior to the Pittsburg Townsite (Mile 16.3), racers must pass through an established **Mandatory Checkpoint**. Failure to have your bib recorded at this checkpoint will result in race disqualification. Hydration and nutrition will be provided at this checkpoint.

The course proceeds south on Slate River Road for approximately 4 miles, progressing towards the Oh-Be-Joyful Campground. Beyond the Oh-Be-Joyful road signage the course will divert RIGHT (west) leading you to the Gunsight Bridge crossing the Slate River. This gentle

descent will be marked with pin flags. Just beyond the bridge the course connects to the groomed Crested Butte Nordic trail system (**mile 20**). This will be your glide super highway to the finish!

[Mike's Mile](#) trail will lead you through the nordic network for 1.5 miles, passing across a handful of pin flagged trail intersections towards an abrupt powder descent that will reveal the Finish Line at the Magic Meadows Yurt!

Awards & Raffle

Top 3 - Male & Female Competitive Race

Receive product prize packages

Top-of-the-World Premium

The first male and first female racer to the Top-of-the-World will be offered a \$100 premium to carry the “awkward load” to the finish. To receive the premium payout, the “awkward load” must be delivered to the finish line.

A “**Raffle Roulette**” consisting of product prizes, will be dispensed according to randomly assigned finisher places on the results board. Upon completing the race, review the results board to see if your finish was identified as a raffle roulette winner.

Lodging Options

CB Nordic works with a variety of Lodging Partners to offer you diverse options.

Lodging Partners

Featured Lodging:



Enjoy 15% off lodging at West Wall Lodge when you book online in advance barring blackout dates; use promo code NORDIC.