



GRAND TRAVERSE

MOUNTAIN BIKE

2024 RACER MANUAL

SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2024



evil eye

icebreaker

Move to natural



CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

*** This is a backcountry event requiring a high degree of self-sufficiency and preparedness. ***

Rugged backcountry conditions and severe weather may be present along any part of the course. Hazards may include but are not limited to swift creek crossings, rain, hail, snow, lightning, rock fall, and/or strong winds. 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 conditions. Racers proceed at their own risk.

Racer's Must:

- Have a high level of physical fitness, backcountry competency, and possess the sufficient gear to survive in strenuous to potentially life-threatening conditions.
- Arrive to and depart from checkpoints prior to the established cut-off times.
- Agree to be pulled from the race for any reason deemed necessary by Race Officials.
- Notify Race Dispatch by phone if a decision to self-withdraw or abandon the race is made without informing race staff on the course.
- Not litter! It is prohibited to dispose of food wrapping, bottles, equipment, etc., on the course.
- Not stash supplies along the course. Racers will not accept outside aid except within 100 yards of a designated aid station.
- Carry REQUIRED GEAR:
 - Helmet
 - Waterproof Shell with Hood
 - Gloves
 - Hat or Buff
 - Provide proof of current [Colorado Recreation Search and Rescue \(COR SAR\)](#) coverage or a valid [Colorado Fishing and Hunting License](#)

RACE DIVISIONS

Mountain Bike Division
Individual Female and Male

Individual Dual Sport Division
Individual Female and Male

AGE CLASSES

Female	Male
18 + under	18 + under
19-29	19-29
30-39	30-39
40-49	40-49
50-59	50-59
60+	60+



Triple Crown
Individual Male and Female

*** Final results for Dual Sport and Triple Crown will be determined by summing total finish times for each race leg, to arrive at the fastest cumulative finish time. ***





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REGISTRATION REFUND

A 50% refund will be offered until June 28, 2024. Absolutely no refunds will be offered after that day for any reason. We will operate a traditional waitlist through Race Roster this year to fill spots as they open up.

If you opted in for the Racer Protection, you must contact them for a refund. [Click here](#) to file a claim.

There will be no deferments or transfers - [Refund Policy](#)

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday, August 30, 2024

Bib Pick-Up - 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM

[Crested Butte Nordic Center - 620 2nd Street](#)

Saturday, August 31, 2024

Bib Pick-Up - 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

[Ajax Park - 1001 S. Ute Avenue](#)

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Late Bib Pick-Up and Finish Line Bag Collection - 6:00 AM

[Ajax Park - 1001 S. Ute Avenue](#)

ONE COMPACT WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO THE MT. CRESTED BUTTE FINISH LINE

Race Start - 7:00 AM

Mt. Crested Butte Finish Line - Noon to 5:00 PM

[Crested Butte Mountain Resort - 32 Emmons Road, Mt. Crested Butte](#)

Racers finish throughout the day. Athletes are served a complimentary meal and beer.

Podium Ceremony ~ 2:00 PM

[Crested Butte Mountain Resort - 32 Emmons Road, Mt. Crested Butte](#)

Top 5 Overall Mountain Bike - Female and Male

Top 3 Overall Individual Dual Sport - Female and Male

Age Class Winners - Female and Male

Presentation of 2023 Triple Crown Champions - Female and Male



ACCOMMODATIONS

Crested Butte

[Mount Crested Butte Lodging](#) (877-547-5143)

[Crested Butte Camping](#)

North Village Campground: Free camping is available within this Mt. Crested Butte municipal campground. Tents may be pitched on a first come, first served basis at any of the 22 established tent platforms. Port-a-potty restrooms are present on site.

[Vehicular Camping at Crested Butte Mountain Resort Parking Lot](#): Friday through Monday evening. You must obtain a parking pass at registration and pay a \$20 fee. Port-a-potty restrooms will be present on site.

Aspen/Snowmass

[Aspen/Snowmass Lodging](#) (800-739-0842)

[Aspen Area Camping](#)

Public Showers

[Aspen Recreation Center](#)

0861 Maroon Creek Rd., Aspen, CO

Parking in Aspen

Short-term parking in downtown Aspen is available for up to 4 hours.

The [Rio Grande Parking Garage](#) offers all day parking for \$15/day.

Metered spaces are enforced Monday - Saturday from 10am to 6pm.

Pay Stations are located in the downtown business core and some residential areas.

TRANSPORTATION

Gunnison Airport Shuttle

Crested Butte is located 30 minutes from the Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport. Airport transportation can be arranged from [Alpine Express Shuttle](#).

Carpooling

Transportation logistics for a point-to-point event can be daunting. We highly encourage our racer community to assist each other in pooling resources. You may publicize carpooling requests, in addition to other race logistics help wanted, by posting in the [Grand Traverse Athlete Forum](#).

Bike Transport

We are currently looking for shuttle options for dual sport athletes.

Return Transportation

Return shuttle service may be [booked through online race registration](#) for \$80/person. The shuttle will depart from the Finish Expo at Ajax Park. There will be 1 shuttle departing at 6 pm.

Vehicle Shuttle Service

Arrange your private vehicle shuttled to a destination with [Maroon Bells Shuttles](#).



COURSE DETAILS

Course Marking

The route is NOT continuously marked. Limited marking does not free participants from their obligation to familiarize themselves with the course route. You must remain diligent to keep your bearings during the race. Course flagging will be placed at critical turns and intersections. Additional confidence flagging will be placed roughly at one 50-yard interval following the turn indicator.

The following marking conventions will be used:

Positive Direction:

PINK - Flagging Tape

YELLOW/PINK - Ground Flags



Wrong Direction:

RED - Flagging Tape

RED - Ground Flags



We thank [Central Colorado Mountain Riders](#) and the [GOATS](#) for their volunteer course marking support!



AID STATIONS

Full Aid

Water, electrolyte, gels, salty and sweet snacks, fresh fruit, soda

Limited Aid

Water, electrolyte, gels



MTB AID #1 - LIMITED AID

Aspen Mountain Summit Mile 5 (39° 9' 4.01"N 106°49' 7.46"W)

CUT OFF - 9:00 AM

MTB AID #2 - FULL AID

Taylor Pass Mile 15.5 (39° 1' 12.75"N 106°45' 22.04"W)

CUT OFF - 11:30 AM

STAR PASS - Medical Staging

Mile 22.5 (38°58'5.51"N 106°47'43.63"W)

MTB AID #3 - LIMITED AID

CR 738 & FS Trail 435.1 Mile 33 (38° 51' 32.77"N 106°55' 22.19"W)

CUT OFF - 2:30 PM

TAKING CARE OF "BUSINESS" ON COURSE

In accordance with backcountry ethics, every participant should be prepared to responsibly dispose of their personal human waste.

- Carry a packaged wet wipe towelette for sanitation.
- Dig a proper 6 inch deep "cat hole" to bury and cover solid waste.
- Aid #1 & #3 will be equipped with a Bucket Toilet for more convenient relief.



PACT Outdoors will be providing additional waste disposal tools at aid stations.



CUT-OFF TIMES

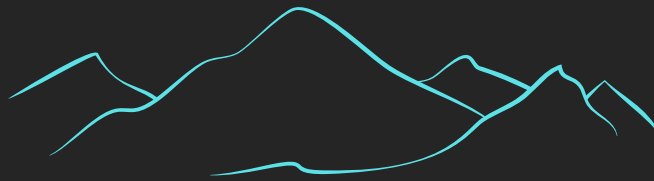
To ensure the safety of participants and Course Staff, the following cut-off times will be strictly enforced. Weather or changing conditions may compel the Race Director to alter cut-off times without prior notice.

Aspen Mountain Summit (Aid #1) - **CUT OFF 9:00 AM**

Taylor Pass (Aid #2) - **CUT OFF 11:30 AM**

Brush Creek Road (Aid #3) - **CUT OFF 2:30 PM**

Racers must DEPART checkpoints at the appointed cut-off time. Failure to abide by an imposed cut-off will result in immediate disqualification and will blacklist athletes from all future Grand Traverse events.



SELF-WITHDRAWAL

Race officials must be notified if you choose to abandon the race. Failure to properly exit the race could result in an unnecessary Search & Rescue mission activation.

You MUST phone Race Dispatch if you elect to abandon the race without notifying a Course Official. Race Dispatch's phone number will be printed on your bike plate.



CUT-OFF CONTINGENCY PLANS

To assist cut-off racers from being stranded without their intended return transportation, bib numbers of cut-off racers at Star Pass will be publicized on [Grand Traverse Facebook](#) (@grandtraverse)

Aid #1 - Cut-off riders will be instructed to turn themselves around and descend Aspen Mountain via County Road 14.

Aid #2 - Cut-off riders will be instructed to descend Express Creek Road to County Road 15C (Castle Creek Road). A white shuttle van will meet you to bring you to Aspen or Crested Butte.

Aid #3 - Cut-off riders will be instructed to ride themselves into the Town of Crested Butte via Brush Creek Road. Free Mountain Express bus transportation (with bike racks) may be obtained in town for vehicular assistance to the CBMR base finish,

* Racers unsure of their ability to continue beyond Death Pass cut-off should instruct their arranged transportation to monitor GT Social Media feeds until 12 pm. *



ROUTE STATS AND DESCRIPTION

MTB - Miles & Elevation Gain / Loss (**RED**= Cut-off Location)

Mile	Altitude	Waypoint	+ Miles	+/- Elevation
0	8,062'	Start Line - Aspen 1A Base	-	-
5	11,270'	AID #1 - Aspen Mountain Summit	+ 5	+ 3,208'
10	11,060'	Richmond Ridge - Low Point	+ 5	-210'
14.4	12,267'	Richmond Ridge - High Point	+ 4.41	+ 1,207'
16.7	11,930'	AID #2 - TAYLOR PASS	+ 2.29	-337'
19.5	11,535'	Taylor Ridge Road - Low Point	+2.8	- 395'
22.5	12,336'	Star Pass Summit	+ 3	+ 801'
35.2	9,065'	AID #3 - Brush Creek Rd.	+ 12.75	- 3,271'
35.9	9,433'	Upper Upper - High Point	+ .61	+ 368'
37.8	9,100'	Upper Upper - Low Point	+ 1.96	- 333'
39.7	9,789'	CBMR - High Point	+ 1.91	+ 689'
41	9,404'	Finish Line- Crested Butte Mountain Resort	+ 1.29	- 385'

AJAX PARK TO ASPEN MOUNTAIN SUMMIT

The Mountain Bike start is **7:00 AM** at **Ajax Park**, located at 1001 S Ute Ave. This will be a neutral mass start, rolling out on pavement for approximately 2 1/2 blocks until intersecting with the gravel surfaced Summer Road (CR-14) junction. Riders are launched directly into a sustained 3,300' climb over 5 miles, ascending the Summer Road to the summit of Aspen Mountain. AID #1 will be distributed here.

*** Aspen Mountain Summit - **9:00 AM CUTOFF** ***

ASPEN MOUNTAIN SUMMIT TO TAYLOR PASS AID STATION

Departing the Ski Area boundary riders set off over a rolling traverse on Richmond Ridge Road (CR-15E). At mile 9.5 riders begin their second sustained climb of 1,292' over 3.4 miles. After an intervening 300 ft. descent, leading back into a 300' climb, followed by another 300' descent, racers arrive at AID #2 (mile 16.5) and the Taylor Pass Checkpoint.

*** Taylor Pass Aid Station - **11:30 AM CUTOFF** ***



TAYLOR PASS AID STATION TO BRUSH CREEK ROAD

Riders continue on a moderate double-track descent for 4.5 miles. At mile 18.3, the route begins an alpine ascent to the top of Star Pass, double-track transforms into singletrack at mile 20.5. Once over Star Pass, riders will embark on a relentless 11.4 mile descent down the Brush Creek drainage. Singletrack turns back into double-track at mile 23.4 (FS Road 738.2B). Continuing to mile 28.5, riders will divert off the jeep road, forking to the south (LEFT) onto the Death Pass singletrack traverse, a narrow off camber section skirting a steep escarpment.

Take caution on this exposed section! Arriving on the opposite end of the singletrack, riders continue STRAIGHT, regaining the double-track road (FS Road 738.2B). The road briefly descends to a cattle guard, soon leading to the wide West Brush Creek crossing. Immediately upon crossing the creek, the road climbs gently on a cross-slope trajectory. The top of this climb opens into a large meadow area with numerous dispersed campsites. CAUTION - vehicular traffic becomes a hazard from here until AID #3. The route continues onto a sustained descent to the valley floor where double track transitions to graded dirt - County Road 738. The course continues down valley on level road surface, until crossing the East River bridge, the road begins a .25 mile climb up to AID #3 (Mile 35.25). Any rider unable to depart this checkpoint by **2:30 PM** will be **CUT-OFF** and asked to ride themselves into the Town of Crested Butte via Brush Creek Road to Hwy 135.

***** Brush Creek Road - 2:30 PM CUTOFF *****



BRUSH CREEK ROAD TO FINISH LINE AT CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN RESORT

Departing AID #3, the route returns to singletrack (FS Trail 435.1 - “Upper Upper Trail”), presenting racers a 470’ stinger over 0.5 miles. After twisting descents through the “bridges” section of the Upper Upper trail, riders will continue to their last climb, ascending through a technical rock section. This last 700’ climb over 1.4 miles tops out at Hunter Hill Road. Intersecting pavement, racers turn RIGHT on the road, following course markings to the San Moritz condo parking lot, which leads to the San Moritz Trail accessing the resort singletrack. This trail propels riders onto a descending finish at the base of Crested Butte Mountain Resort.



Interactive Map

[CLICK HERE](#)

COURSE SWEEP

Every portion of the course is cleared by a back-of-pack sweep team. If you incur an injury that renders you immobile, rest assured, if you remain on the course you will be encountered by the Course Sweep, who are equipped to provide emergency assistance.



REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED GEAR

A minimum degree of backcountry self-sufficiency is expected of every athlete on course. You must be prepared to survive in strenuous to potentially life-threatening weather conditions.

Required Weather Protection Gear



- Helmet
- Waterproof Shell with Hood
- Gloves
- Warm Hat or Buff

Recommended Additional Gear

- Collapsible cup/bottle - Aid stations will NOT provide cups
- Dark Sunglasses
- Thermal Under Layers
- Mylar Emergency Blanket
- Moist Towelettes



FINISH LINE BAGS

A single gear bag will be transported per competitor to the CBMR finish line. Finish-line bags must be **under 20 lbs.** and no bigger than an airline carry-on.

Finish bags will be collected by Race Staff at the START LINE prior to the race start.

Label bags with the following contact information - Name / Phone Number / Bib #

Unclaimed bags/gear will be returned to: Crested Butte Nordic Center on Tuesday, September 5th.

THE GRAND TRAVERSE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST, STOLEN, OR ABANDONED PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Please contact Crested Butte Nordic, events@cbnordic.org, to claim your bag. Unclaimed bags will be donated one week after the race.



RACE UPDATES

Receive regular race updates by following us on the following social channels. We want to share in your GT experience!

Share your race by tagging - #TheGrandTraverse #GrandTraverseRun #MtCBtoAspen



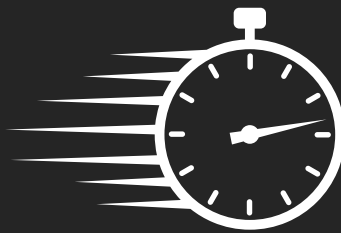
ATHLETE COMMUNITY

[Grand Traverse Athlete Forum](#) - Utilize this valuable community resource for anything and everything GT related!

RESULTS

Live preliminary results will be posted throughout the event at [Rocky Mountain Timing – RFID Race Timing Solutions \(rmtiming.co\)](#).

Official results will be posted to the [Grand Traverse Results Board](#) by 5:00 PM Tuesday.



AWARDS

Finisher Award

Every finisher will receive a commemorative finisher award.

Age Class Award

Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to the 1st place Female and Male in each Age Class.

Individual Mountain Run Division

Top 5 podium - Female and Male, cash prizes will be awarded.

1st Place - \$1,000

2nd Place - \$700

3rd Place - \$400

4th Place - \$200

5th Place - \$100

Individual Dual Sport Division

Top 3 podium - Female and Male, will be awarded product prize packages.

2024 Triple Crown Championship

1st Place - Female and Male, with lowest cumulative finish time across all three events will be crowned the series champions.

Triple Crown Champions will receive commemorative trophies and a cash prize of \$200.



DISCLAIMERS AND PERMITS

This event is made possible through sponsorship from The Town of Mt. Crested Butte.



All information contained herein is subject to change. For the safety of participants and race staff, the Race Director reserves the right to delay the start of the race, alter the course, or cancel the event.

The Grand Traverse is a fundraiser for Crested Butte Nordic a 501c3 non-profit organization.



The Grand Traverse operates under a Special Use Permit in the Gunnison and White River National Forest.



BIG THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS!

