

2019 Battle of Blankets Creek Trail Run Racer Update

Thank you for signing up for the 2019 Battle of Blankets Creek Trail Run, Race #2 of the Mountain Goat Adventures Trail Run Series presented by the Georgia Army National Guard! We are excited to bring a trail run to this venue and hope you enjoy the opportunity to run on these great trails. We are partnering with SORBA Woodstock, which is the group that built and maintains the trails at Blankets Creek, and a large portion of the race proceeds will be donated back to them for maintenance of these trails.

Directions to Blankets Creek Trails (RACE START) from Atlanta:

Take I-75 north to I-575 north. Exit at #11, Sixes Rd, and take a left onto Sixes Rd. Head 1.7 miles to Blankets Creek Trails, which will be on the left, just past the Cherokee Charter Academy School. Those who arrive early will be able to park in the Blankets Creek Parking lot. Once that lot fills, you will be directed to park next door at River Church. You may cut through the grass from the River Church lot to Blankets Creek – you do not need to walk all the way around on the sidewalk.

The address is: 2261 Sixes Rd, Canton, GA 30114

Race Number/T-shirt Pickup: (2 Options)

THURSDAY NIGHT, APRIL 18th- 4 pm to 7 pm at REI in Kennesaw

Store address is: Store address is: 740 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW Ste 450, Kennesaw, GA 30144

Tel: (770) 425-4480 – recommended so you can just go to the start line on Saturday morning. You may have someone else check in for you and collect your number/shirt ONLY if you send a signed waiver with them. Your spouse may not sign a waiver for you.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 20th – 6:30 am to 8 am at Blankets Creek Picnic Shelter (directions and address above)

You will need to sign a waiver on-site when you arrive, or bring one with you (link in this email). Shirts/swag bags must be picked up during a race check-in, as they will not be mailed. You may have someone else check in for you and collect your number/shirt ONLY if you send a signed waiver with them. You may have another racer pick up your shirt for you if are unable to attend the race.

If you check in Saturday morning, please arrive early to ensure you have enough time to check in and get ready to race. There will be a short racer meeting at 8:10 am near the start line. The 10 mile race will start at 8:30 am and head to South Loop and the 5 mile race will start at approximately 8:35 am, heading directly to the Dwelling Trail. The kids race will start at approximately 8:40 or when all adult runners have started their races.

Race Distance Changes

If you want to switch from the 10 mile to the 5 mile or vice versa, please do so by contacting me no later than WEDNESDAY APRIL 17th, and we will get you taken care of.

Kids Race:

The 0.5 mile kids 10-and-under race will begin at approximately 8:40 am and will be on a short section of trail near the start/finish. Parents are welcome to jog with their kids, and due to the length of this course, is recommended for the younger ones. This race is free and is not timed or scored, however parents must sign a waiver for their children at registration, as well as pick up a kids race number. All kids race participants will receive a finisher medal. Baby joggers/strollers are welcome in the kids race, however all-terrain wheels will be helpful since the race is on dirt.

Courses:

The run course is clockwise on both trails, so if you wish to pre-run, you'll need to do so on Tues/Thurs/Sat to run in the correct direction and opposite bike traffic.

Both the 5 mile and 10 mile courses will start near the bathrooms and you will have about a half mile of 10' wide trail to space out before hitting the singletrack.

The trail surface is mostly packed dirt, with occasional rocks and roots thrown in. The trail rolls along the shores of Lake Allatoona and while the grades are not too severe, the only flat sections are the first and last half mile.

Aid Stations:

5 mile Course: There will be aid stations at approximately Mile 0.5 and mile 4.5 This aid station will have water, Torq Energy Drink, and Torq Gels.

10 Mile Course: There will be aid stations available at approximately Mile 5 and 9.3. Be sure to take a gel and water before heading out on Dwelling Loop if you are on the long course. All aid stations will have water, Torq Energy Drink, and Torq Gels.

Finish Line: There will be water, Gatorade, soda, PB&J sandwiches, cookies, bananas, chips, granola bars, fig bars, Peanut M&Ms, Skittles, etc. available at the finish line.

Chip Timing and Real Time Results:

This race will be scored using the MyLaps Bibtag system. Your race number has a disposable timing chip adhered to the back of it. Please do not bend or fold this chip. Numbers need to be pinned on your front, preferably on your chest. If you wear a number belt, please ensure the number is on your front when you cross the finish line so your chip reads. You will hear a beep as you cross the finish mats. Your race time and category placing will be visible almost immediately upon finishing on tablets that will be located near the finish line. Please check your finish time/category for accuracy when you finish and report any discrepancies BEFORE you leave, as results will become official (meaning won't be changed) 15 minutes after the last person finishes.

Awards:

We will present medals to the top three in each age group in each race, as well as medals and prizes to the top three overall male and female. First place finishers in the 10 mile race will also receive a custom podium T-shirt. Awards for the 5 mile race will be at approximately 10 am. Awards for the 10 mile race will be at approximately 10:45 am or when most podium finishers have completed the course. If you are a fast runner, it is advised that you bring some warm, dry clothes for after the race, as it can sometimes take a little longer for some of the smaller categories to get their top 3 finishers in. You must be present to receive your award, as they will not be mailed. If you are in a small category and are still on the course when we have the awards ceremony, you will receive your award as you finish the race.

Thanks again for signing up for our event and we are looking forward to seeing you all on April 20th!

If you have any questions not answered here, please contact me before April 18th. I will be out on the trail most of the day on April 19th and may not be able to get you an answer in a timely manner.