

BIRKIE®*Ski. Run. Bike. Live!*

Birkie Trail Run

Ultra Marathon Course Description

| General Description of the Trails and Terrain | | |
|--|--|--|
| Type | Trail Names | Description |
| Ski Trails 35 of 61 miles 58% of total | Birkie Ridge, Birkie Skate, Birkie Classic, Northend Ski Club Trails | This ski trail sections of the course range from 10 to 30 feet wide. They are mostly grass covered. Some sections have a dirt “goat path” formed on them, some do not get much summer use and are grass covered from edge to edge. The trails are built in a region with glacial topography, littered with potholes and ridges. The ski trails were built to attack the terrain with the slopes going directly up the fall line. This creates a seemingly endless run of steep ups and downs. Most of the climbs are small (less than 50 foot height difference) but are steep, with slopes between 10 and 20%. It is very different terrain from alpine regions, but equally challenging with hundreds of small to medium climbs adding up to large amount of total climb. The descents are equally steep and relentless. |
| Single-Track Trails 22 of 61 miles 36% of total | Makwa, Seeley Pass, Flow Mama, Ojibwe | These trails are built and maintained by the Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association for cycling. They are all intermediate to expert level trails. They are much less steep than the ski trails utilizing switchbacks on the slopes rather than heading directly up the fall line. They are generally more winding than a typical hiking trail. The surface is mineral soil with all the organics removed. The drainage is very good and there are only a few wet spots after a heavy rain. There are general smooth with a relatively low amount of rocks and roots. There are some built “rock gardens” that are easy to navigate. There are many tight switch backs, stay on the marked trail at all times; cutting these would be considered not running the entire course. |
| Gravel Road or Motorized Trails 4 of 61 miles 6% of total | Phipps Fire Lane, Randysek Road, Parker Road. | These sections are open to car and ATV traffic, but they are very sparsely used. The roads and most of the trails are course gravel with some sandy sections. Some of the snowmobile trail sections are native soil with some muddy spots, rocks and roots. The terrain is generally flat to broad hill on these sections. |

Detailed Description by Sections

| Section | Section Miles | Total Miles | Pacer | Section Details | Aid Station Details |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|---|---|
| Birkie Ridge to Boedecker | 3.7 | 3.7 | N | The race begins with 1.5 miles of steady climbing on the Birkie Ridge ski trail. This spur trail terminates at the intersection with the Birkie Skate trail. Here the course turns right on Birkie Skate trail for 2.2 miles to Boedecker Trailhead. | The first time through Boedecker there will be self-serve water, Nuun, and energy food. Cabin and toilet are trailside. The course will return here at 38.6 miles. It will be full-service station on the return trip. |
| Boedecker to Hwy OO | 2.7 | 6.4 | N | This section is completely on the Birkie Skate trail. It features another long climb just prior to the Highway OO road crossing. This is one of two paved road crossings on the course. At this point you will be separating from the marathon course and will only find the purple course markers for the next 30 miles when you return to this point. The course bears right, off the Birkie Trail, enters a parking lot, crossed the road, travels through the portico between the two cabins, then and back on to the Birkie Trail. The race course is two-way for approximately 500 feet through the station and the road crossing. | The Hwy OO station has self-serve water, Nuun, and energy food located on a table under the portico between the trailhead cabins. Toilets are in the parking lot on the south side of the highway. The course will return here at 35.1 miles. |
| Hwy OO to Gravel Pit | 5.7 | 12.1 | N | Leaving Hwy OO, the course continues traveling south on the Birkie Trail (Skate and Classic are combined from here on to the south) for about 1.0 mile. At this point the course follows a pattern of utilizing right-hand turns on and off the Makwa single-track trail. Makwa run parallel with the Birkie trail between Hwy OO and Mosquito Brook Trailheads. The trails cross each other multiple times. For the next five miles, the course will turn right, on and off the single track at each intersection. On the final right-hand turn on to Birke trail, there is a ½ mile section of two-way race course to Gravel Pit Aid Station. | Gravel Pit is full-service aid station. Cabin and toilet next to trail. The course will return here at 29.3 miles. |
| Gravel Pit to Mosquito Brook | 4.6 | 16.7 | N | Leaving Gravel Pit on Birkie trail, the course crosses Pit Road continuing 750 feet more of the two-way traffic. Next it turns right on to Makwa for the final time on the trip south. After 1 mile, it turns right on to a two-track logging road for 750 feet. Here it turns left on to Phipps Fire Road. The course follows this gravel road 1.1 mile. Next it turns left onto the graveled ATV Trail #31 for 1.2 mile. Here it turns right back onto the Birkie Trail for the final 1/3 mile of the aid station. You will cross the paved Mosquito Brook Road just prior to the Aid Station. | Mosquito Brook is a full-service aid station located at the trailside cabin. Toilet next to trail. The course will return here at 24.9 miles. |

| Section | Section Miles | Total Miles | Pacer | Section Details | Arrival Station Details |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|---|--|
| Mosquito Brook to Hatchery Park | 3.9 | 20.6 | N | Leaving Mosquito Brook station, heading south, the course consists of a two-way section on Birkie trail for ¼ mile. Just past the wooden bridge over the brook, it turns right onto the single-track Hatchery Trail for 30 feet to a trail intersection. The course bears right at the intersection following the Hatchery Trail for the next 3.5 miles to Hatchery Park. The course crosses the Birkie Trail multiple times but does not follow it in this segment. The single-track terminates at a narrow ski trail. Here it turns right for 200 feet to the station. This is southernmost station on the course. Shortly after this point, the course turns to return north. | Hatchery Creek is a full-service aid station. The cabin and toilets are located 100 feet from the trail to runners right. |
| Hatchery Park to Mosquito Brook | 4.3 | 24.9 | Y | The course continues from Hatchery Station on the ski trail for ¼ mile turns left onto the northbound section of single-track Hatchery Trail. It follows Hatchery Trail for 3 miles. It crosses the Birkie Trail multiple times but does not follow it until it reaches the northern terminus of the Hatchery Trail Loop. Here the course bears right 30 feet back to the Birkie Trail and the ¼ mile two-way segment heading north to Mosquito Brook Aid Station. | Mosquito Brook is a full-service aid station located at the trailside cabin. Toilet next to trail. |
| Mosquito Brook to Gravel Pit | 4.4 | 29.3 | Y | Leaving the Mosquito Brook Aid Station, the course jogs briefly to the right on paved Mosquito Brook Road for 50 feet, turns left in to the parking area, then through the gateway on to the single-track Makwa Trail. It follows Makwa for 2 miles to intersect with the Birkie trail, turns right on Birkie Trail to the Gravel Pit Aid Station. The final 750 feet to the station is two-way race course. | Gravel Pit is full-service aid station. Cabin and toilet next to trail. |
| Gravel Pit to Hwy OO | 5.8 | 35.1 | Y | Leaving Gravel Pit station to the north, the courses continues on the two-way section of the Birkie Trail for ½ mile. To where the southbound course enters from the left. The course continues on the Birkie Trail for another ½ mile to the next intersection with Makwa Trail. Here the course resumes the pattern of utilizing right-hand turns on and off the Makwa and Birkie Trails for next 4.5 miles. The course reaches Hwy OO through the gate at the northern terminus of the Makwa Trail. Here it travels through the portico between the cabins, cross Highway OO, bearing right in the parking lot, and rejoining the Marathon Course back on the Birkie Trail at same point where it departed 30 miles prior. | The Hwy OO station has self-serve water, Nuun, and energy food located on a table under the portico between the trailhead cabins. Toilets are in the parking lot on the south side of the highway. |
| Hwy OO to Boedecker | 3.5 | 38.6 | Y | From Hwy OO the course continues on a shared course with the Marathon race, following Birkie Classic Trail with no turns to Boedecker Station. | Northbound Boedecker is a full-service station with cabin and toilets. |

| Section | Section Miles | Total Miles | Pacer | Section Details | Arrival Station Details |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|--|--|
| Boedecker to Timber Trail | 5.1 | 43.7 | Y | Leaving Boedecker, the course continues north on Birkie Classic for ½ mile Then turns right on to the single-track Seeley Pass Trail. After approximately 1500 feet, Seeley Pass makes a job on to the gravel Seeley Fire Tower Road, exiting the road with a left turn after 200 ft. It continues on Seeley Pass Trail for 2/3 mile to the “Ball Field”, an old grown over CCC baseball field. At this point the trail takes on the name Flow Mama. There is no intersection, just a name change. The course climbs steady on Flow Mama for 2/3 mile to a right-hand turn on to the Birkie Classic Trail. It follows Birkie Classic for 2.7 miles to the Timber Trail Aid Station. The final 500 feet are on two-way trail. | Timber Trail is full-service aid station with hot food. Cabin and toilets are trail side. The course returns the station again southbound at 52.9 miles. |
| Timber Trail to Birkie Trailhead | 3.5 | 47.2 | Y | Continuing from Timber Trail northbound, the course continues on two-way section for 500 feet, then bears right on the Birkie Classic Trail for 1.4 miles. At this point it reaches a 4-way intersection with the single-track Ojibwe Trail for the first time, turning right. This also a departure point from the Marathon race course. From this point, the course makes a 10-mile loop, returning to this intersection again from the opposite direction (North). It follows Ojibwe for ¼ mile where it bears left on to the single-track Telemark Traverse Trail for 1.1 miles to the terminus of Telemark Traverse at the Birkie Trailhead Aid Station. This is the northernmost point of this leg of the course and will begin to travel southbound to the second visit to Timber Trail aid station. | Full service aid station with hot food. Cabin and toilet are trail side. |
| Birkie Trailhead to Timber Trail | 5.7 | 52.9 | Y | The Birkie Trailhead is the origin of the Birkie Skate and Classic Trails. The course continues on this ultra-wide section of trail for ¼ mile, there it turns left onto Birkie Classic Trail for ¼ mile, then left on to Kortelopet Trail for 1.1 miles, then left back on to Birkie Classic for 1.3 miles. At this point the course is back at the intersection with the Ojibwe Trail completing the northern loop and rejoining the Marathon Race course. Here it turns right, heading east on the Ojibwe Trail for 600 feet. Next it turns left on to Birkie Skate Trail for 700 feet, then right on to North End Ski Trail for ¼ mile, then a sharp left on to the North End Classic Trail for ½ mile, then another left back on to North End Classic Trail for ¼ mile, and finally right turn back on to Birkie Skate Trail for 1.4 miles to the Timber Trail Aid Station. The final 500 feet to the aid station are two-way race trail. | Timber Trail is full-service aid station with hot food. Cabin and toilets are trail side. |

| Section | Section Miles | Total Miles | Pacer | Section Details | Arrival Station Details |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-------|--|---|
| Timber Trail to Cable | 7.8 | 60.7 | Y | <p>New for 2017! Exiting Timber Trail to the south, the course continues to follow the two-way section of Birkie Trail for 500 feet, then bears right on Birkie Skate Trail for 375 feet, then turns right onto Ojibwe single track. It follows Ojibwe for 2.5 miles as it swings west and then north re-crossing Timber Trail Road. Next it makes a left on to a short segment of the North End Classic Trail, through an intersection with the North End Trail and left back on to the Ojibwe. After $\frac{3}{4}$ mile it bears right on to Ridge Trail for 500 feet where it intersects with the North End Trail. Turning left on the North End Trail for 200 feet to the North End Trailhead. The course turns right and follows Randysek Road north for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile then sharp left on to Parker Road for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. Here the road ends and the course goes through the gate on to Snowmobile Trail #70 for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Here Trail #70 terminates at Snowmobile Trail #73 which is an old rail right of way. Turn sharp right onto Trail #73 for 1.8 miles to the finish!</p> | <p>The finish is on the Old Chicago & Northwestern RR right of way behind the Ideal Market/Rivers Eatery in Cable.</p> <p>Drinks and energy food at finish.</p> <p>Drinks and party at Rivers Eatery!</p> |
| Total Miles | 60.7 | | | | |