



2021 Birkie Week Waves & Timing & Awards FAQs – 2/4/21

This is a unique year and we hope to be back to normal for Birkie 2022! We understand that Birkie 2021 plan may not be ideal for you and your personal circumstances. However, we want you to know that we are doing everything in our power to provide a safe event experience for all skiers. Thank you for your understanding and consideration during these unusual times.

Where can I view the race day wave schedules?

- Race day wave schedules can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

How many skiers will be in each wave?

- Individual start waves will range in size from 20 to 150 – there are no large waves as have been in past years. Each wave is represented on each day of race week. See Birkie week daily wave schedule [here](#).

Will all elite skiers ski on the same day?

- Elite skiers will not all ski on the same day.

If I ski the Birkie, will Korte skiers be in my wave?

- No, Birkie, Korte, and Prince Haakon waves will be separate from one another. See [wave schedule](#).

When is the deadline for deciding if I want to change to a different race or change my technique?

- The deadline to make any changes to you race or technique has passed.
- If you're interested in switching to the virtual event option, you may make the change until February 27, 2021 by [clicking here](#).

I registered for more than one race during Birkie week, will I get credit for skiing them all?

- Participants will receive credit for only one Birkie, one Korte, and one Prince Haakon race each year. For example, while a skier may choose to ski the Birkie skate race one day and the Birkie classic race the next, they will only receive credit for skiing one Birkie ski race in 2021.
- Skiers will receive credit for skiing each unique race they've registered for if they successfully complete the individual races.

How will you compare the times from the different race days?

- We will not be adjusting times from one race day to the next.

How will 2021 race times impact wave placements in 2022:

- Race times from 2021 will not be used in calculating a skier's wave placement in 2022.

Will virtual race times and in-person race times be treated the same for future wave placement?

- Virtual skiers will receive credit for skiing their races, however, like the in-person races, virtual ski times will not be considered for future wave placement.



Will there be an American Birkebeiner champion crowned each day? Or, will there the champions be crowned later in the week?

- Slumberland American Birkebeiner champions will be crowned on Saturday (skate) and Sunday (classic).

Will there be an elite skier red group?

- Yes, there will be a red group.

If I signed up for the Birkie and on race day choose to ski the Korte, will I get credit for the Korte?

- No, skiers must ski the race they are registered for, just like in a normal year. Participant movement is modeled to ensure that aid stations and the finish area will not experience overcrowding. If participants ski a shorter course, we can't guarantee the spread will be appropriate.

Can I show up and ski on a day other than the day I'm supposed to?

- No, you must race on your assigned day. Your chipped bib is your personal identifier and will only be valid on your assigned race day.
- If you ski on a day other than the day assigned you will not receive credit for skiing the race.

Can we defer our race registration to 2022?

- No. If skiers are uncomfortable skiing in 2021, they may opt to select the virtual race option.

I registered for the Virtual race; can I still participate in the in-person race?

- Once you've chosen the virtual option, you are unable to go back to the in-person event. We need to plan for and control the number of participants on site at all times. Thank you for your understanding.

Will there still be a Wave 70 for both the Kortelopet and the Birkebeiner?

- Yes, there will be a Wave 70 in both races. See the [wave schedule here](#).

Will there be U19/U16 Prince Haakon waves or Kortelopet scholarships in 2021?

- We are unable to accommodate U19/U16 waves in the Prince Haakon in 2021. Also, the Kortelopet scholarship program has been postponed until 2021.

Will there we age class or wave winner awards in 2021?

- No, we have eliminated age class and wave winner awards in 2021. Knowing there will be reduced medical staff on-course, we want skiers to ski safely and not push themselves needlessly. Additionally, there is no way to fairly determine winners when course conditions can vary significantly over the 5-days of Birkie events. Age class and wave winner awards will be back in 2022!

This is a milestone year for me, how will I pick-up my decade award?

- With the Birchleggings Club Breakfast postponed until 2022, all Birkie 20, 30, and 40-year awards will be mailed directly to the recipients. The Kortelopet decade awards will also be shipped directly to those skiers hitting the 20, 20, and 30-year milestones. Awards will be mailed out in late March to early April.



How will wave starts work this year?

- Upon arrival at the American Birkebeiner Trailhead and after parking, participants will be called to the start over FM radio. When it is time to leave your vehicle for the start line, please leave all warm-up clothing in your car- there is no drop baggage or area for clothing this year. Please mask up as you depart your vehicle. If you are wearing a buff, please make certain it is at least two layers thick. Before heading to the start area, make sure you have your hydration vessel/water bottle/drink belt, your energy needs, and your bib. You must have your bib on and visible to enter the start corral.
- You will have 10 minutes to leave the start in your 15-minute wave window. Your time starts when you cross the start line. The Elite waves on Saturday and Sunday are not chip timed and winners are awarded by first across the line, all other waves over the 5 days area chip timed.