

Frequently Asked Questions - 2022

Before the Race

How do I confirm a race registration and details? (bib #, wave, start time, etc.)

- Login to your RunSignUp profile
- Scroll down to your Birkie Week event and click “Manage Registration”
- Email registration@birkie.com if any information is incorrect
- All wave/race/technique change request had to be submitted by January 25, 2022.

Can I ski a technique or in a race other than the technique or race I signed up for?

- Only if you submitted an official change request by January 25, 2022. If you proceed with a technique or race that you did not sign up for, you will not get a finish time or ranking and will not be eligible for awards.

What races are qualifiers for the American Birkebeiner?

- There is an extensive list of qualifier races online at birkie.com, this list is subject to change.
- All wave change requests had to be submitted by January 25, 2022 for 2022 events.

Can I transfer my bib to someone else?

- There are no transfers allowed.
- Entry fees are non-transferable between individuals or to future races.
- It will be considered a violation if a participant competes under a false identity.
- Allowing another individual to participate in the bib assigned to you will result in their disqualification and a possible fine imposed on both parties.

Where and when is the Birkie Expo and bib pick-up?

- Bib pick-up is at the Birkie Expo in the Hayward High School at 10320 Greenwood Lane.
- Parking is available on-site
- Bib pick-up hours:
 - Thursday, February 24 – 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
 - Friday, February 25 – 9:00 am to 8:00 pm

Can my bib & hat be mailed if I can't make the race?

- Generally, no.
- You can have someone who is skiing a Birkie event pick it up for you. They may pick-up your bib *only* if they are picking up their own bib. To do so, they must have a paper or electronic copy of your Bib Confirmation email, a copy of your driver's license, and a signed authorization from you.
- IF it is COVID-19 related, we will do our best to mail it to them, at their cost. Email registration@birkie.com and we will send them the link.



Can I go to the Expo even though I'm not a skier?

- Yes! Enjoy the nation's largest cross-country race Expo.

What COVID-19 precautions are in place during Birkie Week?

- Skiers or spectators who have been COVID positive since Valentine's Day are encouraged stay home and enjoy the race via our livestream on Facebook!
- Face coverings are required (ages 2 and up) in all indoor locations, regardless of vaccination status. This includes Expo locations, bib pick-up, changing and warming tents, busses, Birkie Store retail spaces, etc. Face coverings are optional in outdoor areas.

Where can I get a COVID-19 test?

- Please do NOT go to the emergency room for a COVID-19 test.
- Sawyer County Public Health is providing testing during these times:
 - Feb. 23-27: 9am-3pm
 - Feb. 27: 9am-12pm
- Rapid tests (antigen)
 - Drive up—No appointment needed!
- PCR (send out confirmatory)
 - Drive up—appointment needed
 - Pre-register at register.covidconnect.wi.gov
 - Wednesday—Friday only!

I won't arrive until race day morning; how can I get my bib?

- You can pick your bib up at the start area if you arrive early. Remember, you must take a bus to the start area, so ensure time for pick-up.
 - Kortelopet:
 - Bib Pick-up near start area, 8:30am to 11:00am
 - No Birkie Gear Bag (backpack) pick-up available at the start.
 - Prince Haakon:
 - Bib Pick-up near start area, 12:00pm to 1:00pm
 - No Birkie Gear Bag (backpack) pick-up at the start
 - Slumberland American Birkebeiner:
 - Bib pick-up near start area, 7:00am to 10:00am
 - No Birkie Gear Bag (backpack) pick-up at the start

I cannot be there until race day morning; how can I get my Birkie gear bag?

- The Birkie Expo is the only place you can pick-up your Birkie Gear Bag (backpack).
- If you ski Friday – the Birkie Expo is open until 8pm so you could pick it up after you finish
- If you ordered a Birkie Gear Bag and are picking up your bib at the start, you can have your Birkie Gear Bag mailed to you (at your cost) through March 31, 2022.
- The form to arrange for shipping of your gear bag will be on www.Birkie.com



Can I have someone else pick up my bib for me?

- Yes. They may pick-up your bib only if they are picking up their own bib. To do so, they must have a paper or electronic copy of your Bib Confirmation email(s), copy of your driver's license, and signed authorization from you.

Can I pick up another skier's bib for them?

- Yes. You may pick up a bib for another skier, only if you are also picking up your own bib. To do so you must have a paper or electronic copy of the other skier(s) Bib Confirmation email(s), copy of other skier's driver's license, and signed authorization from the absent skier.

How can I get lodging information? / Where can I stay?

- Please contact any one of the following for lodging assistance:
- Hayward Lakes Visitor & Convention Bureau Sawyer County, WI, USA: 800-724-2992 or 715-634-4801 info@haywardlakes.com www.haywardlakes.com
- Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce 800-724-2992 or 715-634-8662, www.haywardareachamber.com
- Cable Area Chamber of Commerce 800-533-7454 www.cable4fun.com
- Rice Lake Tourism 800-523-6318 or 715-234-8888 www.ricelakewis.com/lodging/hotels-motels/
- Ashland Chamber of Commerce 800-284-9484 www.visitashland.com

Where is dorm housing and is it still available?

Dorm housing is located at the Hayward Wesleyan Church at the intersection of Highway 77 and Nyman Avenue in Hayward, WI.

- Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.
- The registration link is at www.Birkie.com/lodging.
- You may register the day of ONLY IF SPACE IS AVAILABLE!
- The Wesleyan Church is located at 10655 Nyman Ave, Hayward, WI 54843

What type of wax should I use on race day?

- The Birkie has banned the use of fluorinated ski wax. Visit birkie.com/birkieweek for the current wax policy.
- Talk with your local (Hayward, Rice Lake, Duluth, Superior) ski stores.
- Talk to vendors at the Birkie Expo.

Is there a Birkie Wax Cabin this year?

- Yes, the New Moon Ski & Bike Tech Room at the Samuel C. Johnson Family Outdoor Center, OO Trailhead, will be available 24 hours a day for your Birkie Week ski waxing needs. Bring your own iron, wax, supplies. Wax benches, space and heat will be provided. Limited hours on Friday, from 12:00pm to 8:00pm (closed during the Kortelopet start). See Page RG-12 of the Race Guide for details.



Is the Birkie Trail open and can I ski on it during Birkie week?

- The Birkie Trail will close on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 11:59pm and will remain closed through Saturday for race events.

If I can't ski the Birkie Trail, where can I ski?

- Birkie Ridge will be available for skiing on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, February 22, 23 and 24 up to and where it meets the groomed Birkebeiner Trail racecourse. At no time should anyone ski on the groomed Birkie Trail racecourse other than as a participant of an event on race day. See page RG21 in the race guide for location of Birkie Ridge Trailhead.
- Birkie Ridge is closed on Friday and Saturday for Kortelopet and Birkie event parking. Birkie Ridge will re-open completely on Sunday, February 27, 2022
- Other ski trails in the area are listed below - please check with each trail system for hours and grooming updates.
 - North End Ski Trails in Cable: 41640 Randysek Rd, Cable, WI 54821
 - Rock Lake Ski Trails (classic only) east of Cable: 21094 Co Hwy M, Cable, WI 54821
 - Town of Hayward Recreation Forest over County Hill in Hayward, WI (W County Hill Rd)
 - Seeley Hills Ski Trails on Old OO: 13159 W County Hwy OO, Hayward, WI 54843
 - Hayward Hospital Ski Trails (classic only) off Hospital Rd. in Hayward, WI (North entrance of the hospital trailhead to the left)
 - Mukwonago Ski Trail 18.5 miles east of Hayward on Hwy 77.

Where can I get breakfast before the race?

- We suggest that you either check with your hotel if there is an early breakfast available or bring your own food for breakfast on race day morning.

Can I get a Gluten Free Meal somewhere?

- Yes, you can get a gluten free meal at Millers Market, Backroads Coffee, Coop's Pizza, Velo Café, and may find meals at other restaurants throughout the area.

Are there any Spaghetti Feeds in the area?

- Spaghetti Feeds will be available at:
 - Birkie Bash Pasta Buffet, Thursday 20th from 5:30-8:30pm
 - St. Joseph's Catholic Church on Dakota Avenue in Hayward. Friday, February 25th from 4pm to 7:30pm.
 - Spider Lake Church Youth Center on N State Hwy 77. Friday, February 25th, from 4pm-7pm

When is the Worldloppet Breakfast?

- The Worldloppet Passport Holder's Breakfast gathering is on Friday, February 25th.
 - 7:30am Coffee/8:00am Breakfast
 - Flat Creek Inn & Suites on Highway 27 in Hayward
- Tickets are available at the door.
- Meet special guest, Kikkan Randall – Olympic and World Champion
- Kortelopet skiers will be transported to the Kortelopet start – bus departs at 9:00am

Race Day

What will the process be from start to finish on Friday and Saturday?

- Park in a designated lot – Birkie Ridge on Friday (Kortelopet & Prince Haakon), Prince Haakon Farm Lot on Friday (Prince Haakon only), Birkie Ridge or Cable Lot on Saturday (American Birkebeiner)
- Bus to the start of your race – Kortelopet, Prince Haakon or American Birkebeiner
- Drop your bag at the designated drop-off area
- Head to the warming tent or your start gate, depending on arrival time
- All skiers will finish on Main Street in Downtown Hayward
- All skiers will move through the Finish Zone - Kemp's chocolate milk, Nuun, JoJe Bars, Medals, and ski ties await all skiers
- Next up the Recovery Zone where skiers can change, eat, hydrate, and meet their companions.
- Then, head to the Celebration Zone for music, Earth Rider Beer, Birkie Store, and Results.

How do I get to the start?

- Skiers and spectators must take a bus to the start area.
- There are detailed instructions on where to park and how to get to the Start area in the 2022 Birkie Race guide on page RG-14.
- Birkie Race Participant guides are available at bib pick-up, at the Birkie office, and in Visitor magazine boxes at gas stations and restaurants in the surrounding areas (one side of the magazine is the Visitor Birkie Spectator Guide and the flip side is the Race Participant Guide.
- Kortelopet: Birkie Ridge is the only skier parking & drop-off lot!
- Prince Haakon: There is a Prince Haakon Farm lot for Prince Haakon skiers located approximately 3 miles north of Hayward on the West side of Hwy 63, across from KOA Campground. Limited Parking. Prince Haakon skiers may also park at Birkie Ridge.
- American Birkebeiner: Birkie Ridge & Cable Lot are the only parking and skier drop-off lots!

Can I park at the start area?

- No. There is no general parking available at the Start!
 - **Friday:** Birkie Ridge is the only lot available for Kortelopet. Birkie Ridge & P.H. Farm lots are the only skier parking lots for the Prince Haakon.
 - **Saturday:** Birkie Ridge and Cable Lot are the only skier parking lots for American Birkebeiner skiers.
 - All skier and spectator parking lots are free.
 - Only skiers who hold a "Premium Parking at the Start" pass can park at the start area. All other vehicles will be turned away.

Where do I board a bus?

- At the skier parking lots identified for your specific race. For a complete look at Birkie week parking and busing, please see page RG-14.



Is parking at Donnellan Field still available?

- No. The only skier parking lots available are:
 - **Friday:** Birkie Ridge is the only lot available for the Kortelopet. Birkie Ridge & P.H. Farm lots are the only skier parking lots for Prince Haakon skiers.
 - **Saturday:** Birkie Ridge and the Cable Lot are the only skier parking lots for American Birkebeiner skiers.

What time do I really need to be on the bus?

- We suggest allowing at least 1 hour and 30 minutes to get to the start. That includes an estimated:
 - :30 minutes to park, gather your gear, and board the bus in a designated Lot
 - Up to :30 minutes to travel to the start - bus travel times range in length depending on parking lot location (see page RG-14 for details).
 - :30 minutes at the start

I am staying at a hotel, will there be a pick-up bus?

- There is a special, one time only, service to the start area from select Hayward hotels and Birkie Dorm Housing.
- There is no return bus service to these locations!
- Check with your specific hotel to see if they participate in this service!

If I park in a designated skier parking lot will the bus take me to my car after I'm done with my race?

- Yes! See the Race Participant Guide for parking and busing details – page RG-14
- **Friday** – Birkie Ridge is the only lot available for Kortelopet. Birkie Ridge & Prince Haakon Farm lot are the only skier parking lots for the Prince Haakon.
- **Saturday:** Birkie Ridge & Cable are the only parking and skier drop-off lots, with busing to the start.

What are the drop bag procedures at the race start areas?

- A plastic drop bag with your bib number on it will be given to you when you pick up your bib, unless you are using your Birkie Gear Bag (backpack) which has a bib number sleeve in the top of the bag.
- These are the only two bags that will be accepted and transported to the Recovery Zone. **NO OTHER BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**
- Your bag should be used to hold items that skiers will need after they finish their race.
- Only items that securely fit into the bags will be transported to the pickup area (no skis or poles will be accepted or transported).
- The American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
- All items left at the Start Area will be transported to the Birkie Lost and Found at the Hayward Veteran's Center on Highway 63 and Main Street in Hayward.



What do I do if I need to drop out of the race? How should I alert my family?

- Skiers who are not able to finish the race should report immediately to an Aid Station chief or Birkie medical volunteer. Transportation to the Finish areas will be provided to those in need.
- See Page 25 in the Race Guide for details.

Where should I watch the race?

- Friday: best to either watch at the start area (ride bus) or watch in downtown Hayward. It is unlikely you will be able to watch your skier start AND finish due to increased traffic.
- Saturday
 - Take a bus to the start area
 - Watch at the OO trailhead (parking available)
 - 13076 W County Hwy OO, Hayward, WI 54843
 - **Park in lot on South side of OO**
 - New Belgium brewing will be on site
 - Seeley Lions Club selling food

Can my family follow my progress on the racecourse?

- Yes! You can track an athlete on your Smartphone. First download the RTRT.me mobile app at <https://rtrt.me/birkie22> or search for "rtrt.me" in your app store.
- Once the app is downloaded to your phone, search for and select the "2022 Birkie" event.
- Participants, family, and friends can use Live Tracking to get status of participants in real-time using the Live Tracker & Leaderboard. Users will get details such as time, pace, position on the map, and an estimated finish time. Skier tracking calculations improve as they pass through each aid station.

After the Race

Where should I meet my family after the race?

- The Recovery Zone will be the first opportunity to reunite skiers with their friends and family after the finish.
- It will take :30 to :45 minutes to navigate the Finish Zone and Changing Area before you reach amenities in the Recovery Zone.
- No spectators will be allowed in the Finish Zone. Athletes should plan on reuniting with their companions in the Recovery Zone or in the Celebration Zone.
- See page RG-26-27 for details.

Is there a Lost and Found?

- Please label all your skis/Poles/Boots & gear with your name & phone number before the race!
- Check for missing items at the Veteran's Community Center, Main Street and Highway 63 in Hayward.
 - Friday 1:00 to 6:00pm
 - Saturday 11:00am to 7:00pm
 - Sunday 8:00am to 1:00pm
 - Monday 8:00am to noon.



Where can I buy Birkie gear?

The Birkie Store is home to all official Birkie gear and merchandise.

- Birkie Store at the Birkie Expo
 - Thursday, 10am to 8pm
 - Friday, 9am to 8pm
- Birkie Store in the Celebration Zone, downtown Hayward.
 - Thursday, 10am to 5pm
 - Friday, 10am to 5pm
 - Saturday, 9am to 5pm
 - Sunday, 9am to 1pm

Where will the race results be posted?

- You can track your finish results online at birkie.com
- Visit the results selfie station in the Celebration Zone
- Race results station in the Birkie Store (Celebration Zone) to pick-up personal results printouts. Remember, there may be finishers from later waves who displace your result as printed.
- The Sawyer County Record produces a results edition that is FREE and available on Sunday morning. Look for results issues at Marketplace Foods, outside the Birkie office, and at most gas stations throughout town.

I just finished my 20th/30th/40th race, where do I get my Birchlegger Award?

- The Birkie Store in the Celebration Zone
 - Saturday – 2pm-5pm
 - Sunday – 9am-1pm

When and where can I pick awards?

Pick-up for the following awards in the Birkie Store tent in the Celebration Zone

- Kortelopet (age class, wave winner & decade awards)
 - Friday – 3:30pm-5:00pm
 - Saturday – 9am-5pm
 - Sunday – 9am-1pm
- American Birkebeiner (age class & decade awards)
 - Saturday – 2pm-5pm
 - Sunday – 9am-1pm
- American Birkebeiner wave winner awards
 - Pick-up at Slumberland Furniture in Hayward, WI
 - Saturday – 1pm-6pm
 - Sunday – 9am-6pm

I skied the Open Track, where can I get my decade finisher awards?

Pick-up for the following awards in the Birkie Store tent in the Celebration Zone

- Thursday & Friday – 10am-5pm
- Saturday 9am-5pm
- Sunday 9am-1pm



I can't pick up my award in person, do I have any other options?

- **Yes**, you can have your award mailed to you at your expense. Please pick it up at the finish if possible. Visit birkie.com to submit your mailing request **BEFORE** March 31, 2022.

Will this race/ski event qualify for a Worldloppet Passport stamp?

- Yes, completion of the American Birkebeiner will qualify for a gold Worldloppet Master stamp, and the Korteløpet a silver Worldloppet Master stamp.

Where and when can I get my Worldloppet Passport Stamped?

- Passports will be stamped at the Birkie Office during the following hours:
 - Friday - 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm
 - Saturday - 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
 - Sunday - 8:00 am to 1:00 pm (**SUNDAY TIMES MISSED IN RACE GUIDE**)

Will I get credit for skiing the Birkie or Korte?

- Yes. You will get credit for participating in the race you are registered for – Birkie, Korte or Prince Haakon.
- The sticker on your bib indicates the number of races you've completed (by the race you are registered for).
- After skiing 20 American Birkebeiner ski races you'll become a Birchlegger, and after 30-years an Uberlegger.
- After skiing your 10th Korteløpet, you'll become a Skiløper.

Will the Birkie office be open throughout the weekend?

Yes. Birkie office hours are:

- Thursday 8-5pm
- Friday 8-6pm
- Saturday 7-7pm
- Sunday 8-1pm

Where is the Birkie office?

The Birkie office is located at 10527 Main Street, Hayward, WI.

Where are the Hospitality Zones for Spectators?

- If your posse needs a space to warm-up, chill-out, and watch the race, send them to the Hospitality Zones at Slumberland Furniture, Ariens Lodge, or the Village at Marketplace.
- Be sure to share the spectator guide with your family and friends! It is chock full of information just for them!
- Or, see Page RG-30 for details on what's available in each Hospitality Zone location.

What are the future dates of the Birkie?

- February 23-26, 2023
- 2024 (5th Anniversary) – Not set