

Grand Traverse Frequently Asked Questions

If you are a participant, please read the **Racer Manual** for your event, which covers most frequently asked questions. Racer Manuals, course information, mandatory gear, aid station details, and other race information can be found on the Grand Traverse website under the event you are registered for.

Are there refunds?

No. We do not offer race entry refunds. As a small nonprofit, Crested Butte Nordic relies on early registrations to plan the events, and many expenses—including permits, staffing, contractors, and insurance—are paid upfront. Registration fees also help support organizations such as Crested Butte Nordic, Crested Butte Avalanche Center, Crested Butte Search and Rescue, and Western Search and Rescue.

Can I transfer my entry to another person?

No. We do not allow race entry transfers between participants. We understand that life happens and circumstances may prevent you from racing. We strongly recommend purchasing **Racer Protection** during registration, which may provide a refund if you are unable to attend due to qualifying circumstances such as injury, illness, COVID-19, or job loss. Learn more about Racer Protection on the registration website.

Do you offer deferments?

No. Most event expenses are paid upfront, so we are unable to offer registration deferments.

Do you have a mandatory gear list?

Yes. Please review the mandatory gear requirements for your event on the Grand Traverse website. The most up to date ski gear list can be found on the website.

For the **Run**, required gear includes:

- Tracking device
- Waterproof windshell with hood
- Hat or buff
- Water
- Gloves
- CORSAR card or current Colorado hunting or fishing license

For the **Bike**, the same gear is required, along with a bike helmet.

These are the required essentials. However, every athlete should use their own backcountry judgment when deciding what additional gear and supplies to carry.

Do I have to get a CORSAR card?

Yes. A **Colorado Outdoor Search and Rescue (CORSAR) Card**, or a current Colorado hunting or fishing license, is required to participate in any Grand Traverse race.

You will need to show proof of purchase at bib pickup, so we recommend taking care of this ahead of time. The \$5 CORSAR card fee supports Colorado Search and Rescue and provides important protection in the unlikely event of a backcountry rescue.

How do the ski team registrations work?

One partner will complete the initial registration and create a team name. The team captain will need to share this information with their teammate.

The second partner must complete their portion of the registration by **December 15**. Incomplete teams after December 16 will forfeit their entry.

If one partner is injured or otherwise unable to race, an individual may register as a new teammate between **December 15 and March 9**. The new teammate must complete their registration and pay one-half of the ski team entry fee.

Do you have a waitlist for the Grand Traverse races?

Yes. We operate a traditional waitlist and will add racers as space becomes available.

Because we know some attrition will occur, we intentionally allow for more registrations than the final race field. However, we do **not** accept last-minute racers. **Registration will close approximately two weeks before the event so that tracking devices and other race logistics can be finalized.**

Do you hold spots for elite racers?

Yes, as space allows.

The Grand Traverse may allocate up to **five competitive entries per gender** in the Trail Run and Mountain Bike events to help create a competitive field. Athletes must submit the **Summer Grand Traverse Elite Entry Application** by the deadline listed on the website.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, so we encourage athletes to apply early. Entries are at the sole discretion of the Race Director, and athletes will be notified of decisions by email.

Will the course be marked?

Yes. However, we expect all racers to have a good understanding of the route before race day. Portions of the course take place in the dark, and trail markings can be difficult to see.

Course maps and descriptions are available on the Grand Traverse website and in the Racer Manual. Course routes may change based on conditions, so always follow official course markings on race day.

What kind of aid will be provided?

Please see the **Racer Manual** for your event for complete information about aid station locations and available support.

We also recommend carrying some of your own nutrition, as you know your body and nutritional needs best. We do not provide medication of any kind at aid stations.

Do you have live tracking?

Yes. Live tracking will be available for the Run and Bike events through **MAPprogress**. Tracking is mandatory and is used to help support racer safety.

Are the cutoffs strictly enforced?

Yes. Each of the three races has different cutoff times and locations. Please review the Racer Manual for your specific event for complete cutoff information.

Are the races challenging?

Yes. We strongly recommend that participants regularly train at elevation and incorporate longer-distance efforts into their preparation so that their bodies are adequately prepared for race day.

We are often told that this is one of the more challenging events our racers have participated in. Proper training and preparation are essential—not only for your own safety and success, but also for the safety of our field teams, volunteers, and medical personnel.

Please take the demands of the course, distance, and elevation seriously and prepare accordingly.

Do you offer shuttles?

Yes. Shuttles will be available for purchase during registration. Shuttle availability and pricing may vary depending on the contractor providing the service.

Available shuttles include:

- **GT Ski:** Aspen → Crested Butte
- **GT Run:** Aspen → Crested Butte
- **Dual Sport Bike Transport:** Crested Butte → Aspen
- **GT Bike:** Crested Butte → Aspen