



CRUEL JEWEL 50 RUNNER MANUAL



Maybe
Swearing
will
help... IT'S CERTAINLY
WORTH TRYING.

MAY 17, 2025
8:00AM

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important info you need to
know!

RACE PACKET PICKUP

THUR, MAY 15th

From 4:00pm-7:00pm
@ Angry Hops Brewing
341 E Main St
Blue Ridge, GA 30513

FRI, MAY 16th

From 9:00am-11:30am
@ Camp Morganton
236 Camp Morganton Road
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
34.824640, -84.319425

SAT, MAY 17th

From 4:30am-5:30am
@ Camp Morganton
236 Camp Morganton Road
Blue Ridge, GA 30513
34.824640, -84.319425
From 6:00am-7:30am
@Byron Herbert Reece Heritage Farm
8552 Gainesville Hwy
Blairsville, GA30512

START TIME

SAT, MAY 17th

@Byron Herbert Reece Heritage Farm
8552 Gainesville Hwy
Blairsville, GA30512

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RACE RULES

Any runner that violates any of the below listed regulations is subject to disqualification. Any crew that violates any of the below listed rules is subject to the disqualification of their runner

- No Littering!!
- Runners must stay on marked course at all times
- No cutting of switchbacks
- Runners must check in at each aid station
- Runners may only receive aid at designated aid stations
- Runners may not receive aid from or be paced by vehicles on road sections
- Crews may only use crew accessible aid stations
- Only **ONE** car per crew at each aid station
- Crew will NOT park in a manner that will block traffic, trailheads or other cars.
- Crew will NOT leave car parked at aid station
- Trekking poles are allowed
- Runners may only be scored for awards under gender designated on government issued ID.
- Participants that elect to not disclose their gender or choose "Other" as their gender will not be included in scoring for awards.
- For the bib punch...
 - On the Flat Creek Loop, runners must use designated station to punch bib to show proof of loop completion. Bib will be checked at Deep Gap. If bib is not punched, runner must return to Flat Creek Loop, punch bib and return to Deep Gap.
- Any runner that violates any of the above listed regulations is subject to disqualification.
- Any crew or that violates any of the above listed rules is subject to the disqualification of their runner.
- Last, but not least, be kind to the volunteers other runners, and the general public who may also be utilizing these trails.

Basically, don't be an asshole.





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ADDRESS TO START (IF YOU HAVE CREW DROPPING YOU OFF)

Use this **ONLY** if you have crew taking you to the start. **No vehicles can be left here once the race starts.** We have only rented the farm for the start of the 50. If you do not have a ride to the start, [please use this link to purchase a shuttle ticket](#) from Camp Morganton to Reece Farm Saturday morning.

Byron Herbert Reece Heritage Farm
8552 Gainesville Hwy, Blairsville, GA 30512

ADDRESS TO CAMP MORGANTON (IF YOU ARE TAKING THE SHUTTLE TO THE START)

Use this address **ONLY** if you are taking the shuttle to the start and/or leaving your car at the finish line (Camp Morganton). If you have not yet purchased a shuttle ticket, [you can do so here](#):

Camp Morganton
236 Camp Morganton Road, Blue Ridge, GA 30513

PACKET PICKUP

Please read carefully, there are multiple times AND locations

- Thursday, May 15th 4pm-7pm at [Angry Hops Brewing](#) (ANYONE can pick up during this time)
- Friday, May 16th 9am-11:30am at [Camp Morganton](#) (ANYONE can pick up during this time)
- Saturday, May 17th 4:30am-5:30am at [Camp Morganton](#) (Only for runners taking the shuttle)
- Saturday, May 17th 6:00am-7:30am at Byron Herbert Reece Heritage [Farm](#) (for those with crew taking them to the start.)
- You **MUST** present government issued photo ID to pick up your packet.

NO VEHICLES CAN BE LEFT AT THE CRUEL JEWEL 50 START. WE ONLY HAVE THE VENUE RESERVED FOR THE START OF THE RACE. ANY VEHICLES LEFT THERE WILL BE TOWED AT THE OWNER'S EXPENSE.





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COURSE INFORMATION

The Cruel Jewel 50 is a 57.9-mile foot race deep within the beautiful Chattahoochee National Forest of the North Georgia Mountains. It consists of 50 miles of trails, 7.9 miles of mountain roads, and has 11 aid stations.

[GPX file can be downloaded here.](#)

We understand that not everyone is cut out or ready for the Cruel Jewel 100, so for these runners, we are offering a 57 mile option.

CUT-OFF TIMES

AID STATION CUT-OFF TIMES					
	Location	Distance From Start	Distance From Last Aid	Crew Drop Bags	Cut Off Time
Start	Reece Farm	0	0	C	Sat, 8:00AM
Aid 1	Poor Decisions (Water Only)	3.1	3.1		
Aid 2	Wolf Creek	5.8	2.7		Sat, 10:50AM
Aid 3	Fire Pit	10.5	4.7		Sat, 1:00PM
Aid 4	Fish Gap	17.8	7.3		Sat, 4:25PM
Aid 5	Skeenah Gap	22.7	4.9		Sat, 6:45PM
Aid 6	Wilscot Gap	27.6	4.9	C, DB	Sat, 9:00PM
Aid 7	Old Dial Road	33.1	5.5	C	Sat, 11:45PM
Aid 8	Stanley Gap	39	5.9		Sun, 2:40AM
Aid 9	Weaver Creek Road	44.4	5.4		Sun, 5:20AM
Aid 10	Deep Gap	49.4	5		Sun, 7:50AM
Aid 11	Deep Gap (Bib Punch)	55.2	5.8		Sun, 10:40AM
Finish	Camp Morganton	57.9	2.7	C	Sun, 12:00PM
C = Crew Access DB = Drop Bag Access					





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CREW ACCESS AID STATION DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Wilscot Gap (AS#6) to Old Dial Road (AS#7)

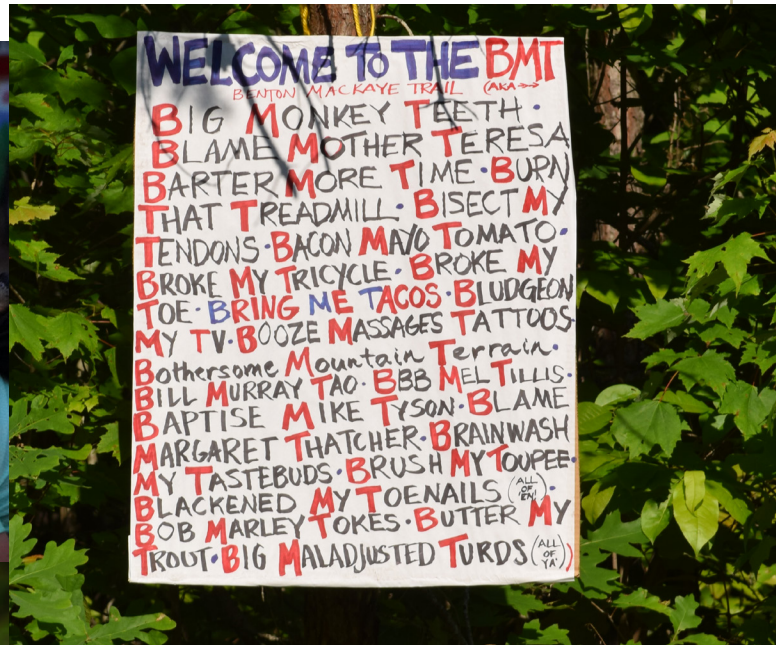
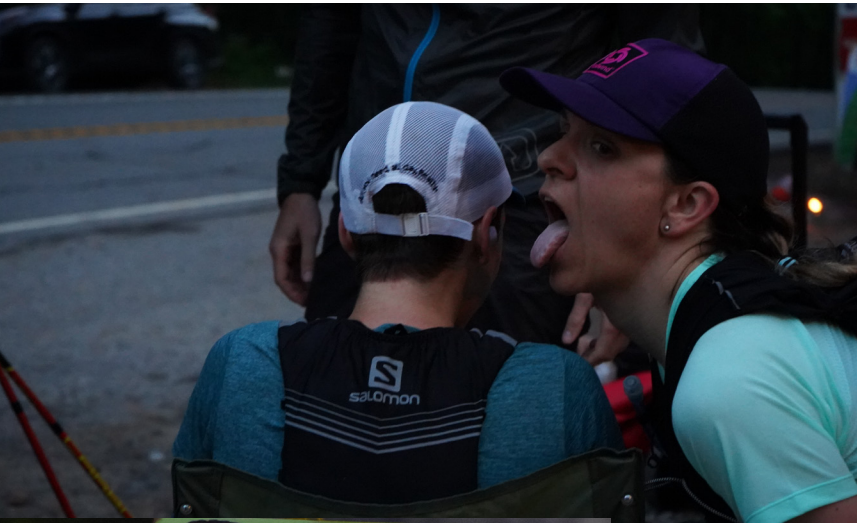
<https://goo.gl/maps/rCFXY>

Drive South on GA-60 for 2.8 miles. Turn RIGHT onto Dial Road and follow for 2.5 miles. At intersection with Newport Road, continue straight onto Old Dial Road for 3.4 miles until intersection with Shallowford Bridge Road.

Old Dial Road (AS#7) to Camp Morganton (FINISH LINE)

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/8MwUnfUS1uiYzkcG6>

Turn LEFT onto Shallowford Bridge Road and drive 1.3 miles (turning LEFT to cross the Toccoa River over steel bridge). Turn RIGHT onto Aska Road and drive 5.4 miles. Turn LEFT onto Snake Nation Road and drive 1.1 miles to RIGHT onto Camp Morganton Road. Be cautious of runners on the road between Shallowford Bridge/Stanley Gap Road and Aska Road/Snake Nation Road.





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Aid Station 1: Poor Decisions (WATER ONLY)

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	891 ft
Descent	240 ft
Max Elevation	2,947 ft
Min Elevation	2,217 ft

After exiting the trail at Byron Reece Farm, turn right onto
PAVED Hwy 180 (Wolfpen Gap Rd)
BE ALERT!! WATCH FOR CARS!!
Continue on Hwy 180 for 1.5 miles to right turn at
Burnett Gap and Coosa Backcountry Trail.

Distance to next aid (Wolf Creek): 2.7 miles

Aid Station 2: Wolf Creek

Cutoff: 10:50am Saturday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	209 ft
Descent	1,021 ft
Max Elevation	2,882 ft
Min Elevation	2,066 ft

Continue on the doubletrack Coosa Backcountry
Trail to WOLF CREEK.

Distance to next aid (Fire Pit): 4.7 miles

Aid Station 3: Fire Pit

Cutoff: 1:00pm Saturday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	2,400 ft
Max Elevation	4,256 ft
Descent	970 ft
Min Elevation	2,070 ft

Cross dirt Wolf Creek Rd and continue on the Coosa Backcountry
Trail and begin the 2,000-foot ascent of Coosa Bald,
crossing through Locust Stake Gap and crossing over a dirt
Forest Service Road in Calf Stomp Gap. Once reaching the
junction of the Coosa Backcountry Trail and the Duncan Ridge
Trail (DRT), turn right on the DRT and continue to the summit of
Coosa Bald. Descend Coosa bald on the DRT into FIRE PIT.

Distance to next aid (Fish Gap): 7.3 miles

Aid Station 4: Fish Gap

Cutoff: 4:25pm Saturday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	2,124 ft
Descent	2,535 ft
Max Elevation	3,813 ft
Min Elevation	2,844 ft

Continue on the DRT (do not take the road!!!) climbing Buckeye
Knob, descending into Buckeye Gap, through Bryant Gap (stay on
DRT, do not enter the road!!!), and up Buck Knob. You will then
drop into West Wildcat Gap, climb over West Wildcat Knob, and
descend into Mulky Gap. Cross over dirt Mulky Gap Rd
and continue on the DRT over Akin and Clements
Mountains before descending into Akin Gap, and climbing Fish
Knob, leaving you with the final descent into FISH GAP.

Distance to next aid (Skeenah Gap): 4.9 miles

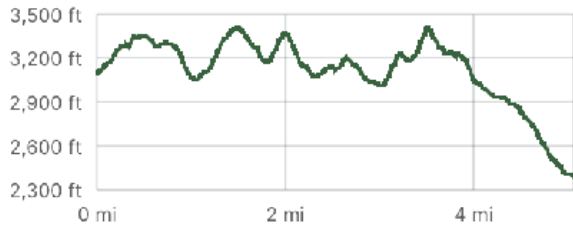


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Aid Station 5: Skeenah Gap

Cutoff: 6:45pm Saturday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,473 ft
Descent	2,143 ft
Max Elevation	3,413 ft
Min Elevation	2,400 ft

Leave Fish Gap on the DRT through Sarvis Gap.
Enter Rhodes Gap, and begin climbing the ridiculously steep
Rhodes Mountain, then drop down to the junction of the
DRT and Benton MacKaye Trail (BMT).
Turn right and follow the BMT down to paved SKEENAH GAP.

Distance to next aid (Wilscot Gap): 4.9 miles

Aid Station 6: Wilscot Gap

Cutoff: 9:00pm Saturday

CREW ACCESS | DROP BAGS



Ascent	1,439 ft
Descent	1,387 ft
Max Elevation	3,065 ft
Min Elevation	2,400 ft

Cross Paved Skeenah Gap Rd
(BE ALERT!! WATCH FOR CARS!!)
and continue on the Benton MacKaye Trail through Payne Gap,
ascending Deadennen Mountain, descending into Lula Head
Gap, up Wilscot Mountain, before finally dropping down to
paved HWY 60 at WILSCOT GAP.

Distance to next aid (Old Dial): 5.5 miles

Aid Station 7: Old Dial

Cutoff: 11:45pm Saturday

CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,652 ft
Descent	2,201 ft
Max Elevation	3,165 ft
Min Elevation	1,908 ft

Cross paved HWY 60
(BE ALERT!! WATCH FOR CARS!!)
continuing on the BMT up Tipton Mountain, over Bald Top, down
into Ledford Gap, ascending Brawley Mountain with its view of
Brawley Fire Tower, before descending into Garland Gap and
ascending Garland Mountain. Descend on the Benton MacKaye
Trail to paved OLD DIAL ROAD.

Distance to next aid (Stanley Gap): 5.5 miles

Aid Station 8: Stanley Gap

Cutoff: 2:40am Sunday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,279 ft
Descent	848 ft
Max Elevation	2,357 ft
Min Elevation	1,779 ft

Turn right on to the Benton MacKaye Trail and follow the
BMT over Free Knob. Descend to paved Shallowford
Bridge Road and turn right. At steel bridge turn left and cross
the Toccoa River. Turn right and follow paved Aska Rd for
0.5 miles. Turn left on paved Stanley Creek Rd and
follow until it turns to dirt, then continue on for another 1 mile
and turn right into the STANLEY CREEK parking area.

Distance to next aid (Weaver Creek): 5.4 miles



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Aid Station 9: Weaver Creek

Cutoff: 5:20am Sunday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,384 ft
Descent	1,805 ft
Max Elevation	3,355 ft
Min Elevation	1,932 ft

Turn left onto the Stanley Creek Trail and begin ascending Rocky Mountain followed by Rich Mountain. On Rich Mountain you will come to the junction of the BMT and the Stanley Creek Trail 'T' intersection. Continue on Benton MacKaye Trail, following signs for Weaver Creek, following it briefly before descending to WEAVER CREEK ROAD.

Distance to next aid (Deep Gap): 5 miles

Aid Station 10: Deep Gap

Cutoff: 7:50am Sunday

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,641 ft
Descent	1,332 ft
Max Elevation	3,262 ft
Min Elevation	1,932 ft

Leave Weaver Creek Road and follow the Benton MacKaye Trail to the junction of the BMT and the Stanley Creek Trail 'T' intersection. Turn left onto shared Stanley Creek/Benton MacKaye Trails. At second junction of Stanley Creek and Benton MacKaye Trail, turn right and follow the Stanley Gap Trail down to junction with Flat Creek Trail at DEEP GAP.

Distance to next aid (Deep Gap): 5.8 miles

Aid Station 11: Deep Gap

Cutoff: 10:40am Sunday | (BIB PUNCH)

NO CREW ACCESS



Ascent	1,145 ft
Descent	1,155 ft
Max Elevation	2,719 ft
Min Elevation	1,993 ft

Turn right and follow the Flat Creek trail counterclockwise up Davenport Mountain and back down, cross over Flat Creek and return to DEEP GAP.

Approximately half-way through the Flat Creek Loop, runners must use designated station to punch bib to show proof of loop completion. Bib will be checked at Deep Gap before continuing to Camp Morganton. If bib is not punched for Loop 2, runner must return to Flat Creek Loop, punch bib, and get verified by Deep Gap Aid Station before continuing on to Camp Morganton.

Distance to next aid (Camp Morganton): 2.7 miles

Aid Station 12: Camp Morganton

Cutoff: 12:00pm Sunday

FINISH LINE!!!!



Ascent	301 ft
Descent	593 ft
Max Elevation	2,284 ft
Min Elevation	1,870 ft

Exit Deep Gap aid station and turn left on paved Aska Rd. Follow Aska Rd to left turn onto Crabapple Dr. Follow flagging off of Crabapple Dr to Pine Tree Rd. Turn right onto Davenport Mountain Rd, followed by a right onto Snake Nation Rd. Turn left onto Camp Morganton Rd to CRUEL JEWEL FINISH.





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DROP BAGS

Bring them with you to the start and we will transport them to the proper aid station(s). Drop bags must be labeled with Your Name, Bib Number and Drop Bag location. (From our experience, sticking duck tape with the info printed on it to a fabric bag does not always stay in place.) If you are taking the shuttle bus, you will bring your drop bags on the bus with you and then leave them at a designated location once you arrive at Reece Farm. Drop bags will be transported back to Camp Morganton (finish) when the aid station closes. If you have crew at the aid station, they may pick your bags up for you. We do not have a size limit on drop bags, but be reasonable and courteous to the other potential 349 runners also bringing a bag, and our volunteers who are sorting them out for you!

AID STATIONS

There are 11 aid stations along the 57.9 mile route, ranging from 2.7-7.6 miles apart, with the average being 5-6 miles. All aid stations EXCEPT FOR POOR DECISIONS will be stocked with typical race food: water, sports drink (Mandarin Orange Tailwind, no caffeine), Coke, Mountain Dew, Ginger Ale, peanut butter/jelly sandwiches, cookies, chips, candy, bananas and watermelon, pickles, potatoes, cookies, M&M's, gummy bears, pretzels, peanut butter pretzels, etc). Some aid stations will also have simple hot foods: soup, grilled cheese, ramen noodles, broth (chicken & veggie). Dumass Events provides these standard aid station foods. Aid station volunteers may bring special items for their individual aid station, and you should NOT expect to find these items at all aid stations. Poor Decisions is an unmanned, WATER ONLY aid station.

We will have some drink cups at our aid stations (ONE per person at each Aid Station), but if you have a personal cup, we encourage you to bring and use it.

Lots of folks are volunteering their time to help us make this an amazing race, so thank the volunteers.

VOLUNTOLDING, WE MEAN, VOLUNTEERING

If you have friends or family in the area who would like to volunteer, join the [Cruel Jewel Volunteer Facebook Page](#), or use the [fancy form on our fancy website](#). There are always last minute places we need help.

LITTERING

Don't do it! If you see trash along the trail, please pick it up. You ONLY have to carry it to the next aid station. We want to leave our trails in better condition than we find them!





TRAIL MARKING

The route is marked with white pin flagging (stuck in the ground) with our beloved donkey logo printed in red (see photo on page 2). Attached to each pin flag is a piece of white reflective tape to aid in night time travel (and yes, we put EACH piece on by hand). There are corrugated plastic signs with red reflective arrows used in some locations. At the T-Intersection of the Stanley Gap Trail and Benton MacKaye Trail as well as at the Flat Creek Loop trail, there are also directional signs. You may also see some red lights used along road sections or at road crossings. We also have **WRONG WAY** flagging. If you see **RED** survey tape tied to tree limbs or vegetation, **DO NOT** go that way.

MANDATORY EQUIPMENT

- Headlamp (in a drop bag at least)
- Reflective Gear: you will run on 2 sections of paved roads and cross several other roads, so you **MUST** have something reflective on your back to alert passing cars. Your headlamp will suffice for forward facing safety gear.
- We recommend having a wind/rain layer and hat & gloves for your drop bag (see weather link for more info).
- Hiking poles are also not a bad idea

SWEEPS

We will have runners sweeping the course and following all runners back to Camp Morganton.

BIB PUNCH

You will be required to prove that you completed the Flat Creek Trail. It will be **CLEARLY** marked where you will do this on the trail. There will be several punches at the station, and while the punches are different, it **DOES NOT MATTER** which punch you use. Your bib will have a box labeled "Flat Creek Loop". There is also a box where Deep Gap aid station personnel will validate your completion of the loop. Keep this in mind if you plan to fold your bib before you put it on. Also put your bib on you in a location that is easily accessible to do the bib punch. The loop is run **counterclockwise**.

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BEARS, SNAKES, TICKS, YELLOWJACKETS, & POISON IVY

We've got them all. Black bears, venomous snakes: rattlesnakes, copperheads, water moccasins, ground nesting yellow jackets, primarily wood ticks, and a plethora of healthy poison ivy. Come prepared!

WEATHER

[Local forecast can be found at this link.](#) In 2017, the forecast was a high of 85 and a 30% chance of thunderstorms. The high did reach 85. The thunderstorms didn't start until the majority of runners passed Wilscot Gap (drop bag location) and many did not take any extra gear (hat, gloves, rain jacket). The temps dropped 30 degrees, there was heavy rain and wind. Runners were soaked, shivering, and cold coming into the finish. Be responsible and bring gear for ALL conditions. We will try to have a weather forecast available at Wilscot Gap.

PACERS

NO PACERS are allowed for this event.

DNF/DROPS

If you drop from the race, you MUST notify race personnel (Race Director, Aid Station Volunteers or Safety Runner/Sweep). While we will have vehicles on course to assist in getting runners back to Camp Morganton, you should be prepared for a long wait.

TRACKING

We will have live tracking at most of our aid stations, and we'll send out details closer to the event.

PACE CALCULATING

We have this fancy Google Sheet you can make a copy of and share with crew to determine when they should get to the next crew access aid station.

[Dumass Pace Calculator](#)

How to use:

- Click on link above
- In the upper-left corner, click File > Make a copy
- In your new copy, click File > Make available offline (this will allow you to use it if you do not have cell signal)





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TO SEE WHO ACTUALLY READS THE ENTIRE MANUAL**

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