

PARTICIPANT GUIDE TO THE 30th ANNUAL EVENT! September 1-3, 2023



Welcome to the 30th Annual Keweenaw Mountain Lodge Copper Harbor Trails Fest! We're excited to have you join us at our Labor Day weekend event. This participant guide has all the information you need to plan your trip. We update it regularly so be sure to check back for new info as it is released.

GETTING HERE

Find US-41 and head north. Yup, just head north. US-41 ends/begins in Copper Harbor. The main trailhead is right in the middle of town next to Donny Kilpela Memorial Park, our home base for the weekend. Everything is within a few blocks so once you arrive you most likely will not need your car much while you are in Copper Harbor. Just ride your bike!

NEED TO KNOW

Copper Harbor is a very small town. We have all the basics: lodging, food, beer, a couple bike repair/rental shops, world-class trails, and miles of forests, lakes, rivers, and shorelines to explore. We don't have cell service in town. Limited internet is available at local businesses but to get a cell signal you will have to drive to the top of Brockway Mountain or near the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge just outside town. An emergency phone is available on the east side of the Grant Township Hall near the trailhead and restrooms.

LODGING

There are plenty of lodging options available including cabins, motels, full service and rustic camping. Please use the links on the [Copper Harbor Trails Club website](#) and support those businesses that support the trails. Copper Harbor fills up fast for Trails Fest weekend so make your reservations early. CHTC reserves the group campsite at Fort Wilkins, which is available for \$5/night per person. Registration for the group campsite will be released later in the spring.

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

If you don't plan to race every event, please consider volunteering! All volunteers will get free entry to the evening's music, a swag item, and beer (if over 21) and/or food tickets for their efforts depending on how much you volunteer - in addition to the tickets you get for racing! Volunteer signups will be released in early summer.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions, please send an email to nathan@copperharbortrails.org. Follow the Copper Harbor Trails Club [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) pages for updates as the event approaches. If you need details close to the event, email is your best bet. We cannot guarantee we'll reply to your messages quickly during the event (we're busy out there!), so get those questions to us as soon as you can for the quickest replies.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Subject to change as we approach the event! Check back for more details.

Friday, September 1, 2023

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Registration & Check-in Open in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

Saturday, September 2, 2023

8:00 - 9:30 AM Registration & Check-in Open in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

10:00 AM XC Race Start in Downtown Copper Harbor

12:00 - 2:00 PM Registration Open in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

2:00 - 11:00 PM Beer served at Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

3:00 PM Downhill Race on Overflow

4:00 PM Junior MTB races

4:00 PM Pasties served at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

6:00 PM Awards Ceremony in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

6:45 PM ArtBike Opening in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

7:00 - 11:00 PM **Music** at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

Sunday, September 3, 2023

8:00 - 10:00 AM Registration & Check-in Open in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

9:00 AM 10K Trail Run starting at Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

10:00 AM - 12:05 PM* Enduro Race - Beginner classes **depending on wave*

10:00 AM - 1:15 PM* Enduro Race - Sport class **depending on wave*

10:30 AM - 3:30 PM* Enduro Race - Expert class **depending on wave*

2:00 - 11:00 PM Beer served at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

4:00 PM Pasties served at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

6:00 PM Awards Ceremony in Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

7:00 - 11:00 PM **Music** at the Donny Kilpela Memorial Park

8:30 PM Raffle Drawing in between sets; ArtBike auction ends

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

ENDURO

The Enduro is a stage-race format where the goal is to accumulate the lowest combined time from a series of individually timed sections. Awards will be given to the top three men and top three women overall in each class. Our enduro consists of either two (Beginner), 3-4 (Sport), or 5-6 (Expert) timed stages that take place on generally descending terrain. The timed stages are linked by predominantly ascending transfer stages. Although a rider's specific performance on the physically demanding transfer stages does not affect his or her result, the transfers are associated with an overall time cut-off. The Enduro race courses are run on a mix of intermediate through expert singletrack depending on the class.

Riders in each class will have assigned waves for their given class. Each wave has a preset starting time and stage order to help keep congestion to a minimum. Racers will have a chance to choose their wave at registration so that you may ride with friends. Waves can be changed until they are full. We'll release more precise times and stages closer to the event. Detailed wave schedule information will be given out to each racer at check-in.

Scores in the Sport and Expert Enduro are eligible for the [Lake Superior Gravity Series](#). Points will be awarded for men/women in 16-and-under, 17-39, and 40+ age categories.

SHORT AND LONG XC RACES

The length of our short and long XC races vary each year but always feature challenging singletrack and elevation changes that are the trademark of the Copper Harbor Trails. The short course is right around 14 miles and the long course is near 30 miles. The exact course is altered every year for variety and to take advantage of new trails. All racers begin with a mass roll-out at 10:00 AM in front of the [Mariner North](#). Course splits will be well marked.

Awards will be given out by age group and gender for both short and long races, combined single speed competitors in the short and long races, and top overall male and female in the long race.

Aid stations will be located along the course at key intersections or checkpoints. These are usually located every 7-10 miles along the course for both our short and long racers. Aid stations include gatorade and water, as well as basic first aid supplied by Bike Patrollers with radios.

DOWNHILL

Our Downhill event will be held on our mightiest trail, Overflow. Back after a year off, the trail will be better than ever before after getting a complete overhaul from our friends at Rock Solid. Overflow features huge rock rolls, brutally fast berms, a gap jump with a view that cannot be beaten, and more huck than you can shake a stick at. Experts only! Best 1 of 2 timed runs will determine winners. Practice time will be available prior to the event from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. Shuttles will be available at the bottom of Overflow.

Scores in the Downhill are eligible for the [Lake Superior Gravity Series](#). This is the final Downhill race in the series and awards will be given out Saturday evening.

10K TRAIL RUN

Looking to race something other than your mountain bike? Give our 10k competitive trail run a try! We'll give out awards to the top 3 male and female racers in this rugged race that tackles some of our system's gnarliest terrain. Don't think that just because you're not on a mountain bike that we'll go easy on you.

JUNIOR MTB RACE (KIDS RACES)

One for the kids! We'll have 1.5 mile and 3 mile mountain bike races for children under 13 years of age on our Back 9 Trails. The trails are wide, gently rolling, with very few obstacles. Come cheer on our youngest competitors before they leave you in the dust later! Parents will be allowed to ride with their child for guidance and support. Please be respectful of other racers - it might be a race, but there's no gleaming trophy at the end or a place on the Olympic team. We're here to have fun, not crack the whip.

Racers will be sent out in waves depending on their race and age. Exact times will be released closer to the event.

KING & QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAIN

Do you have what it takes to dominate at every event? The King and Queen of the Mountain is awarded to the fastest racers in the Expert Enduro, Long XC, & Downhill events. You must race in all three events to qualify! KOM/QOM ranks are determined by tallying up your place in each of the qualifying races. The lowest combined score wins. This is not judged on time, otherwise whoever wins the Long XC would come out on top. After all, the Enduro and Downhill events are often judged by fractions of seconds!

BEAST MODE

Given out to the craziest man and woman on the mountain, this special award recognizes the insane spirit of those that truly appreciate trails and are able to tackle every discipline at a high level. Competitors must complete not only the Expert Enduro, Long XC, and Downhill mountain biking events, but also must take on the 10k Trail Run! All four events must be completed in their entirety to qualify for the Beast Mode award. This extra special award is unique each year. Scores are tallied the same way that the KOM/QOM are.

In the event of a tie for either the KOM/QOM/Beast Mode, we will use combined race times for each qualifying event as a tie-breaker.



REGISTRATION FEES

These are tentative and subject to change slightly!

<u>Race</u>	Before August 1	August 1 - 27	After August 27
XC	\$55	\$65	\$75
Enduro (Sport/Expert)	\$55	\$65	\$75
Enduro (Beginner)	\$40	\$45	\$50
Downhill	\$55	\$65	\$75
10k Trail Run	\$50	\$60	\$70
Junior MTB	\$10	\$10	\$10

Each additional event added will be discounted \$20. **Examples:** XC (\$55) + Enduro (\$55) = \$90 (\$110 - \$20). Downhill + XC + Trail Run = \$105 (\$155 - \$40)

Refund Policy

If we cancel the event, you will have the option to get a refund of your registration fee, convert it into a donation to CHTC, or defer your registration to 2024. Otherwise, no refunds. You may transfer your registration to a friend or family member for free.

Swag & Giveaways

Each participant will receive one Trails Fest double-walled stainless steel pint glass (while supplies last), one beer ticket (over 21), one food ticket (\$10 value) to be used either Saturday or Sunday, and access to two nights of music! Junior MTB racers get a cookie from Jamsen’s after their race but no food/beer ticket or swag item.

Event Shirts

We will have event shirts on sale throughout the weekend. We will not sell shirts ahead of time due to the hassle of retrieving reserved merchandise during check-in. There will be a healthy number of shirts for sale but show up early for the best selection.

Music

Wristbands for evening music will be \$20 at the door for entry to both nights. Be sure to keep your wristband! No wristband = no entry. Volunteer or race and receive free entry!