



**50 MILE, 50K, HALF-MARATHON & 10K**

**50 Mile | 50 Mile Relay | 50K**

**Participant Guide**

**Oracle State Park**

**January 25, 2020**

## **Welcome:**

We would like to welcome all 50 Mile, 50K runners and their crews to the 4th annual AZT Oracle Rumble. Please take the time to read through this participant guide before race weekend. Our hope is that you will find all the information you need for a successful race day. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to sharing the day with you. We hope that at the end of the day you leave Oracle State Park sharing our collective love for Arizona's wild landscapes and the Arizona National Scenic Trail.

## **Schedule of Events:**

Friday, January 24, 2020

3:00pm-6:00pm - Packet Pickup at Summit Hut (Oro Valley) 7745 N. Oracle Rd.

Saturday, January 25, 2020

4:45am - gates open at Oracle State Park

5:00am-5:30am - Packet pickup and runner check in

5:30am-5:40am - Buses arrive and runners load up

5:40am- All drop bags must be in the designated area for delivery to aid stations

5:40am- Buses will depart for start at Freeman Road Trailhead.

6:45am - Buses arrive at the start at Freeman Road Trailhead

7:30am - 50 mile and 50K races begin.

## **Packet Pickup and Check in:**

Friday, January 24 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m packet pickup will take place at Summit Hut (Oro Valley). Summit Hut is located in the Oracle Crossings Shopping Center (Suffolk and Oracle) at 7745 N Oracle Rd, 85704.

We very strongly encourage all runners to pick up their packets at packet pickup on Friday before the race. Race morning will be very hectic so picking up your packet ahead of time will make things easier for everyone.

Saturday, January 25, 2020 (race morning) from 5:00-5:30 packet pickup will take place at Oracle State Park in the race staging area. Volunteers and signs will provide clear directions to the staging area from the parking areas.

If you are being dropped off at Freeman Road and have not been to packet pickup you may pick up your bib at the start line. Please plan on being at the start no later than

6:45am to do this. Your race shirt will be waiting for you at the finish line. It is up to you to make sure you get this when you finish. We will not be mailing these.

Even if you picked up your packet on Friday you **MUST** check in at the packet pickup table race morning so that we have an accurate list of runners on the trail for safety purposes. If you are dropped off at the Freeman Road start you must check in with race officials before starting the race. We will be checking you in and out of aid stations and if you drop at any point you must inform an aid station worker before you leave the course! This is extremely important. If you leave the course without telling anyone, we will assume you are still on the course and will come looking for you. We will contact search and rescue if we are still unable to locate you.

## **Driving Directions to Oracle State Park Staging Area:**

Oracle State Park (OSP) is located at 3820 Wildlife Dr., Oracle AZ 85623

### **From Tucson (via Highway 77):**

Take Highway 77 (Oracle Road) north. Continue on Highway 77 as it curves east at Oracle Junction. Turn right off Highway 77 at the Oracle turnoff. Follow the road through Oracle (American Avenue) 2.3 miles to Mt. Lemmon Road. Turn right on Mt. Lemmon Road. Follow it 1.1 miles to the park entrance. The park is located on the left (north) side of Mt. Lemmon Road.

### **From Phoenix Area (via Highway 79)**

Take Highway 79 south (79 passes through Florence). At the junction with Highway 77 turn left (east). Turn right off Highway 77 at the Oracle turnoff. Follow the road through Oracle (America Avenue) 2.3 miles to Mt. Lemmon Road. Turn right on Mt. Lemmon Road. Follow it 1.1 miles to the park entrance. The park is located on the left (north) side of Mt. Lemmon Road.

## **Parking:**

Parking is limited so please CARPOOL, CARPOOL, CARPOOL!

Parking for the event is along the main road within Oracle State Park. Volunteers will be on site to direct you. Please follow their directions. A short walk will take you to the Group Use Area for registration, bus boarding and various start line information. All events finish at the Group Use Site.

## **Transportation to the Start:**

We will provide bus transportation for all registered 50M and 50K runners from the Group Use Area in Oracle State Park to the start line at Freeman Road Trailhead. We encourage all runners to take advantage of this service since there will be no parking at the start nor transport back to the start after the race. Buses will arrive and begin loading at 5:30am and will depart at 5:40am for the the start. Please be sure you have left any drop bags you may have in the appropriate designated area. Remember, you can leave a drop bag with your warm pre race clothes at the start and it will be returned to the finish area for you.

There will be no parking provided at the start of the 50 mile and 50k events. Nor will we provide transportation back to the start after the race. You may have your crew drop you off at the start of the 50M and 50K on the Freeman Road trailhead but cars may not be parked there. No Exceptions!

### Directions to Freeman Road Trailhead north of Oracle on the AZT

Travel to the Freeman Road Trailhead requires traveling on a dirt road. Freeman Road is regularly maintained and usually easily traveled but conditions can change drastically without notice due to weather or other unforeseen events. This being said, if you opt to be dropped off at the start please give yourself plenty of extra driving time and drive with care.

From Oracle, drive north on Hwy 77 to the town of Dudleyville. Turn left (west) on Dudleyville Road to the center of the community and locate San Pedro Road. Head west on San Pedro Road, where the road soon turns to dirt. Cross the San Pedro River (usually dry or very shallow\*\*) and then turn north at intersection and follow road north along the river (Camino Rio Road) for 0.5 mile. Turn left (west) on Freeman Road. Cross railroad tracks and continue for approximately 12 miles to the west. Freeman Road Trailhead will be on your right.

\*\* In the event of heavy rains/flooding in advance of the event, it's possible that crossing the San Pedro River will not be advised. If this is the case, then follow these directions to the Freeman Road Trailhead.

From the intersection of Hwys 77 and 79 (Oracle Junction), drive north on Hwy 79 toward Florence. At milepost 111.8, turn right/east on Freeman Road (dirt). After 14 miles, continue past Barkerville Road which joins from the left (north). At approximately 15.5 miles, notice the sign for Willow Springs Road entering from the right (south), but bear left and continue on Freeman Road. Note Haydon Ranch road on the left (north) at approximately milepost 16.8. You will see the Arizona Trail Trailhead at milepost 19.5. Continue another 4.5 miles (milepost 23.5) to the dirt road (on the right/south) that enters Dodson Wash.

If coming from the north/ Phoenix area take highway 79 south from Florence. At Mile-post 111.8 turn left/east on Freeman Road and follow the directions above.

### **50 Mile Relay Participants - Special Notes:**

- Either member of a 50 Mile Relay team can pick up both packets.
- On event morning, the first member of the team may either get their own ride up to the start or take the buses up from OSP.
- The first member of the team will start with the rest of the 50 Mile and 50K runners and will run to the Tiger Mine Aid Station at mile 27.4.
- The second team member should drive a vehicle to the Tiger Mine Aid Station and be prepared to take over for their teammate after they complete their leg.
- The first team member should drive the vehicle back to OSP to await the finish of their teammate.
- The second team member will complete the 50 Mile course and should follow all of the signs for the 50 Mile course accordingly.

### **Race and Park Rules:**

- Rule number one. Have fun, take in the views, smile, and be kind to those you meet along the way.
- There will be **NO** pacers allowed for either race unless they are registered participants.
- You must stay on course at all times. If you leave the course for any reason (including taking a wrong turn) you must return to the course at the same point at which you left it. Failure to do so will be grounds for immediate disqualification.
- Bib numbers must be worn on the **front** of the body and be **FULLY visible** at all times. Some find pinning the number to their shorts is best when layers of clothes may be put on and off throughout the day.
- **Littering of any kind is prohibited. Leave no trace.** Please respect the natural beauty of these trails and help to ensure our continued use of them by disposing of trash at aid stations.
- Pets are not allowed on the race course, and are not allowed on most trails within OSP. Pets are welcome around the finish line but must be leashed at all times.
- Each runner **MUST** check in **AND** out of all aid stations with designated personnel.

- If you are unable to finish the race you **MUST** immediately notify the appropriate race personnel at an aid station or finish line as quickly as possible **BEFORE** you leave the course!.
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- The Arizona Trail is open to other trail users during the race. You may meet hikers, horses or mountain bikes during the day. Please share the trail and be courteous to those you meet along the way.
- Crew members must follow all race rules and may only meet their runner at designated crew access points. Crew access is permitted at Tiger Mine Rd aid station and Kanally Wash aid station **ONLY**.
- Runners are responsible for the actions of their crew.
- **Cutoff times will be strictly enforced. Runners MUST depart an aid station BEFORE the cutoff time.** This is for your safety and for that of our many volunteers.
- Aid station captains have the authority to act on the behalf of the AZT Oracle Rumble race management.
- The race director has the final say in all decisions.

### **Restroom and Trail Etiquette:**

There will be porta potties at the start of the 50 Miler and 50K at the Freeman Road trailhead, Tiger Mine aid station and Kannally Wash. At all other Aid Stations for the 50 Mile and 50K, there will be small portable toilets for use. Nature potty is always an option but you **MUST** pack out your toilet paper (**yes we're serious**). Do not leave any trash on the trail. We want to make sure we have minimal impact on the AZT and the trail corridor. Anyone caught littering will be automatically disqualified. We will provide small plastic bags at packet pickup and have extras at each aid station so that you can pack out your toilet paper to the next aid station.

### **Course:**

This is southwestern desert trail running at its finest. All listed distances are approximate. We do promise you boundless natural beauty, a challenging well-marked course, and supportive volunteers along the way. There will be highly runnable surfaces and some moderately technical terrain. Expect lots of single track, some sandy washes and many rocks. Pay attention to the trail as you run, be safe, and take time to enjoy the wide open vistas all that is around you. Smile.

The 50 mile and 50k races will both start at the Freeman Road Trailhead and will share the first 28.9 miles of trail all the way to the Cherry Valley Wash on the east side of the culvert crossing beneath AZ Highway 77.

The race begins in the parking area of the Freeman Road Trailhead. Runners will take a quick left out of the parking area and head east on Freeman Road for about 1/4 mile before crossing a cattle guard. Just beyond the cattle guard you will intersect with the Arizona Trail, taking a right onto a small double track road. From here runners will make their way south covering the entire well marked Black Hills passage of the Arizona Trail. Your journey will twist and turn its way south by first making its way around Antelope Peak as you push onward toward the mighty Catalina Mountains in the distance. You will traverse ridges, sandy washes and unique rock formations running mostly on single track trails. You can expect to see cattle tanks, windmills and probably a cow or two along the way. There are many cattle gates along the route. Our hope is that our bike patrol will get out ahead of you to open these up and our sweeps will close them when they pass through at the tail end of the field.

After about 7.8 miles the trail will enter Putnam Wash. Bee Hive Well Aid Station (mile 8.2) is just ahead. A windmill marks the spot where you will find a stocked aid station and portable toilet.

Leaving Bee Hive well and enjoy the last of the overall 12 mile downhill section of the course. From there it will take a bit of climbing to get to Mt. View Aid Station (mile 15.4) where you will find a well-stocked aid station, portable toilet and your first drop bags.

Onward to Tiger Mine aid station at Mile 27.7. A bit more steady climb is followed by some sweet single track cruising. Then the trail begins a series of dips in and out of some medium and large washes. Another gradual climb will finally bring you into the aid station. Tiger Mine aid station will be the first spot along the course where you can see your crew. You will also find a well-stocked aid station, drop bags and porta potties here.

Upon reaching Tiger Mine aid station you will have completed the Black Hills passage of the Arizona Trail.

\*50 Mile Relay teams will exchange runners at the Tiger Mine Aid Station

You will now be on the Oracle Passage of the AZT. And, you will get a break from single track trail as you make your way downhill for about 1.5 miles along the grated dirt surface of Tiger Mine Road. Please stay to the right side of the road. Be cautious, this is a public road. After 1.5 miles the trail will turn right off of Tiger Mine Road just **BEFORE** reaching the highway. Look for a clearly marked gate to your right. **Do not cross the cattle guard and join the highway.** You will run into a wash and pass beneath the highway in a wide cement culvert. **Beware of bolts sticking down from the culvert ceiling above you.** Coming out of the culvert the wash comes to a 'T'. Here 50 mile and 50k runners will part ways, 50 milers turning left and 50K runners turning right. **50 milers who wish to drop to the 50k must make the decision at this point.**

## 50 Mile:

Turn left and continue down a short distance down Cherry Valley Wash and turn right on the Arizona Trail. You will be on the AZT for another almost 15 miles.

On your way through OSP to the Kannally Wash aid station (mile 32) you will be traversing 1.6 miles of brand new recently completed single track trail. Enjoy. At Kannally Wash you will find another well-stocked aid station, drop bags, a porta pottie and maybe your own personal cheering section. Please consider leaving this aid station with your headlamp/flashlight no matter what time of day.

Leaving Kannally Wash on the Arizona Trail you will go about 2.3 miles before passing through a gate and leaving OSP. Just 1/2 mile ahead you will come to the paved Webb Road. **Please look both ways and cross cautiously.** The trail continues right across the road and 1.5 miles of very runnable single track leads you to another paved road crossing at Mt. Lemmon Rd. **Please look both ways and cross cautiously.** A few more twists and turns and you will be at the American Flag Trailhead and the end of AZT Passage #13.

Catch your breath. The next 1.5 miles to the High Jinks aid station (mile 38) will twist and turn their way up to the highest point of the race course on sometimes narrow switchbacks. You will find the short spur into the aid station well marked and at the end of it you will find another well-stocked aid station, awesome volunteers and a portable toilet. Those stone buildings you see just above you make up High Jinks Ranch, now a National Historic Site, once owned by Buffalo Bill Cody.

Time to turn around and head back to Kannally Wash Aid Station. The 6 miles back should feel a bit easier since you now get to enjoy a bit of downhill and some awesome views to the north. Please use caution as you cross the paved roads on your way back.

Back through the Kannally aid station (mile 44) a second time will see you now heading off on some of the OSP trails. You will leave the aid station running down the Kannally Wash on the Windmill Loop Trail. You will run for a bit on a spur trail on the right that runs alongside of the wash. About a mile after leaving the aid station you will leave the wash for good and head uphill on the Windmill Loop Trail. This 2 mile trail will take you up and over a ridge before bringing you back to the other side. You reach a junction with the Powerline Trail where you take a route down to a 4 way trail junction. Here you will turn right back onto the Arizona Trail. Another 1.2 miles will bring you back next to Route 77 and the Cherry Valley Wash. You will be in the wash for roughly 1 mile then turn left onto the Mariposa Trail for just over one mile. Another left onto the Bellota Trail and you can probably hear the finish line. You will pop out at a parking area and hang a sharp left down to the finish line.



**For a map of the 50mile course:**

[http://www.aztrail.org/oracle\\_rumble/documents/OracleRumble50M\\_Map.pdf](http://www.aztrail.org/oracle_rumble/documents/OracleRumble50M_Map.pdf)

**For information on the AZT trail passages you will run:**

[http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass\\_14.html](http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass_14.html)

[http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass\\_13.html](http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass_13.html)

[http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass\\_12.html](http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass_12.html)

**50KM:**

After crossing beneath Route 77 at about mile 29, you will enter Cherry Valley Wash and follow the signs marked 50K to the right. After about one mile you will turn left onto the Mariposa Trail. Another mile and you will turn left onto the Bellota Trail. You are close now. The trail will pop out at a parking area and you will make a sharp left down to the finish line at the staging area!

**For a map of the 50KM course:**

[http://www.aztrail.org/oracle\\_rumble/documents/OracleRumble50K\\_Map.pdf](http://www.aztrail.org/oracle_rumble/documents/OracleRumble50K_Map.pdf)

**For information on the AZT trail passage you will run:**

[http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass\\_14.html](http://www.aztrail.org/passages/pass_14.html)

**Course Markings:**

Most of both the 50 mile and 50 kilometer races will be run on the Arizona Trail. The mostly single track trail is obvious and marked with carbonite Arizona Trail markers and rock cairns.

The entire course will also be marked with orange surveyor ribbon and yellow pin flags with the race logo printed on them. All intersections will be marked clearly and you should see a confidence marker about every 1/2 mile or so.



For the 50 mile course beyond Kannally Wash Aid Station (mile 32) to the finish line, the course will be marked with reflective ribbons and markers in addition to pin flags.

Also, you can check out the great Arizona Trail app for your Apple or Android phones. This is a great navigational tool.

<https://aztrail.org/explore/maps/mobile-app/>

## **Aid Stations:**

There will be six well-stocked aid stations for the 50 mile and three for the 50k providing for your needs during the race. Each aid station will be staffed by experienced and cheerful volunteers who have given their time to help ensure that you have a safe and successful day. Please thank these generous folks along the way!

**\*\*New this year we are adding a water cache at Tucson Wash to break up the long stretch between the Mountain View and Tiger Mine aid stations.**

**\*\*We have gone cupless. Cups will not be provided at our aid stations. Please carry a drinking vessel with you if you plan to partake of drinks along the course. We will have flexible collapsible HydraPak SpeedCups featuring the AZT logo available for purchase at packet pickup for \$3.00.**

## 50 Mile:

| Aid Station Locations         | Total Mileage | Segment Mileage | Drop Bags  | Crew Access |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| Start (Freeman Rd. Trailhead) | 0             | 0               | See note 1 | See note 2  |
| Beehive Well                  | 8.2           | 8.2             | No         | No          |
| Mountain View                 | 15.4          | 7.2             | Yes        | See note 4  |
| Tucson Wash (Water Only)      | 23.1          | 7.7             | No         | See note 4  |
| Tiger Mine Trailhead          | 27.7          | 4.6             | Yes        | Yes         |
| Kannally Wash 1 Southbound    | 32            | 4.3             | Yes        | See note 3  |
| High Jinks Ranch (Turnaround) | 38            | 6               | No         | No          |
| Kannally Wash 2 Northbound    | 44            | 6               | Yes        | See note 3  |
| Finish - OSP                  | 51.2          | 7.2             | Yes        | Yes         |
|                               |               |                 |            |             |

**Note 1-** Keep your warm clothes on for the ride to the start. We will get them back to the finish line for you. Please put them in a secure clearly marked bag and place them in the designated area.

**Note 2-** Crew may drop off runner but **NOT** stay and park. Buses provided to the start from within OSP.

**Note 3-** Crew will be able to access the Kannally Wash aid station on foot from the race staging area. This will entail a roughly 1 mile hike along a dirt road each way. This access point will be clearly marked at the staging area and can be easily navigated.

**Note 4-** There is no crew access at this very remote aid station.

## 50 Kilometer:

| Aid Station Locations          | Total Mileage | Segment Mileage | Drop Bags  | Crew Access |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| Start (Freeman Road Trailhead) | 0             | 0               | See note 1 | See note 2  |
| Beehive Well                   | 8.2           | 8.2             | No         | No          |
| Mountain View                  | 15.4          | 7.2             | Yes        | See note 3  |
| Tucson Wash (Water Only)       | 23.1          | 7.7             | No         | See note 3  |
| Tiger Mine Trailhead           | 27.7          | 4.6             | Yes        | Yes         |
| Finish - OSP                   | 32.2          | 4.5             | Yes        | Yes         |
|                                |               |                 |            |             |

**Note 1-** Keep your warm clothes on for the ride to the start. We will get them back to the finish line for you. Please put them in a secure clearly marked bag and place them in the designated area.

**Note 2-** Crew may drop off runner but **NOT** stay and park. Buses provided to the start. from within OSP.

**Note 3-** There is no crew access at this very remote aid station.

### Aid station food:

You can expect to find these staples at all of our aid stations:

Fruit, PB&J sandwiches, avocado, bean burrito wraps, boiled potatoes, M&Ms (plain and peanut), cookies, potato chips, pretzels, pickles, Coke, ginger ale, Mt Dew, water and Tailwind.

At Tiger Mine, Kannally Wash and High Jinks you can expect to find these additional foods:

Chicken noodle soup, ham/turkey cheese wraps, bacon and vegetarian broth.

\*\*If you have special dietary needs put those items in your drop bags and or carry them with you.

## **Crew/Spectator Driving Directions to Aid Stations:**

There is only one aid station, Tiger Mine Road Trailhead, that can be accessed by crew vehicles outside of Oracle State Park. Please drive slowly and cautiously on Tiger Mine Road as you will be sharing this roadway with the runners and other vehicles.

From the east entrance to the town of Oracle, drive 0.8 miles east on AZ 77 to mile marker 105 and turn left (north) onto Tiger Mine Road. After 1.5 miles on this road, you'll see an unmistakable Arizona Trail gateway on the left (north) side of the road. Parking is available on either side of the road.

Crew will be able to access the Kannally Wash aid station (mile 32 & 44) on foot from the race staging area. This will entail a roughly 1 mile hike along a dirt road each way. This access point will be clearly marked and easily navigated. We highly encourage you to go out to cheer on your 50 miler.

## **Drop Bags:**

- All drop bags **MUST** be compact, securely tied and labeled clearly with the runner's name, desired aid station and bib number. **PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR OTHER EXTRANEIOUS INFORMATION ON YOUR DROP BAG.**
- Drop bags will be transported by race personnel to three designated aid stations on the course, Mountain View (MV)(mile 15.4), Tiger Mine (TM)(27.7) and Kannally Wash (KW)(mile 32 and mile 44). There will be a clearly marked area in which to leave these at the staging area in OSP before boarding the buses.
- We will also take drop bags from the start line back to the finish line on race morning. So keep your warm clothes on for the ride to the start. We will get them back to the finish line for you. Please put them in a secure clearly marked bag.
- If you are being dropped off at the Freeman Road Trailhead by your crew and are bypassing packet pick up we will not be able to get your drop bags to the aid stations for you. The only way they will get to our remote aid stations is if you leave them at packet pick up on Friday or at our race staging area in Oracle State Park on race morning.
- Drop bags can either be left at Friday packet pickup or at the designated area by 5:40am race morning before you board the buses. Please place your drop bags in the appropriate pile so they arrive at the correct aid station on race day.
- Sunset will be at 5:49pm. **You are required to have a headlamp in your drop bag at the Kannally Wash aid station (mile 32 & 44).** Aid Station workers may require you

to leave the Kannally Wash aid station with your headlamp either on your way southbound or northbound depending upon the time in which you arrive at the aid station.

- The temperatures will drop quickly once the sun goes down. Make sure that you take this into account when planning for race day and pack some warm clothes in your drop bags.
- Do not leave valuable or fragile items in your drop bags.
- Drop bags will be returned to the finish line. And every effort will be made to get them back in a timely manner. Look for drop bags to arrive back to the same area that you left them before boarding the bus. Drop bags will not be mailed.
- Drop bags will be available for later pickup at Summit Hut following the race.
- We will have a signed area where you can leave a finish line drop bag if you would like to have something there for when you complete the race.

**\*\* Race management is not responsible for the loss or damage of any drop bags.**

## Race Cutoff Times:

### 50 Mile:

The 50 mile will have a 15 hour finishing time cut off with four cut offs at aid stations throughout the day. Remember you **MUST** leave an aid station **BEFORE** the cut off time or you will be pulled from the course.

| Aid Station Location       | Total Mileage | Cut Off Time | Total Run Time  |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Tiger Mine Trailhead       | 27.7          | 3:30pm       | 8 hours         |
| Kannally Wash 1 Southbound | 32            | 4:50pm       | 9 hours 20 min  |
| High Jinks                 | 38            | 6:30pm       | 11 hours        |
| Kannally Wash 2 Northbound | 44            | 8:20pm       | 12 hours 50 min |
| Finish - OSP               | 51.2          | 10:30pm      | 15 hours        |

## 50 Kilometer:

The 50K race will have only one cut off on the course with a 11 hour finish line cut off. All 50 kilometer runners must leave Tiger Mine Trailhead 4:00pm.

| Aid Station Location | Total Mileage | Cut Off Time | Total Run Time |
|----------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Tiger Mine Trailhead | 27.7          | 4:00pm       | 8 hours 30 min |
| Finish - OSP         | 32.2          | 6:30pm       | 11 hours       |

\* 50K runners that leave Tiger Mine Aid Station at or after 3:45 will be required to have a headlamp or flashlight.

## Dropping Out or Dropping Down in Distance:

If you are unable to finish the race you **MUST** immediately notify the appropriate race personnel at an aid station or finish line. **Do not leave the race without letting us know** as this may result in a great deal of time, energy and money spent searching for you to ensure you are safe and unharmed.

Runners may drop at any aid station along the course except Tucson Wash BUT IT IS VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED YOU DO NOT DROP PRIOR TO TIGER MINE. This is because the Bee Hive Well and Mt. View aid stations are very remote with extremely limited access. If you drop at either of these two aid stations you may very well have to wait until Bee Hive Well and Mountain View aid stations close down before being driven back to Oracle State Park.

If you decide to drop down from the 50M to the 50K prior to race day we can gladly accommodate you and switch your entry. If you decide to switch after starting the race you **MUST** do so once you cross under route 77 and into OSP where it will be very clearly marked that 50K runners must turn right and the 50M runners must turn left. If you do switch on the fly as described above you must inform the finish line captain and race timer of your decision immediately after crossing the finish line. Anyone dropping down to the shorter distance will not be eligible for the top finisher award.

Anyone who comes into OSP and turns left to continue on the 50M course is no longer eligible for a 50K finish.

## **Course Safety:**

Much of this course is very remote. That being said we are so grateful to the group of experienced trail and ultra runners who have offered their time to sweep every mile of our long courses. Each section of the course will be swept by a team of two who will stay behind the last runner making sure they safely make it to the next aid station.

Ham Radio operators will be at each aid station. They will be there to help us keep track of everyone out on this remote course. It is very important that you check in and out of each aid station so that this information can be passed on down the line.

No aid station will be closed until the very last runner gets there. Sweeps and ham radio volunteers will help ensure that we keep track of everyone. Even if you miss a cutoff we will be waiting for you at that next aid station. No matter what!

## **Weather and Terrain:**

In January, the average high temperature is 56 °F (13 °C) with a low of 35 °F (2 °C). At an altitude of 4,100 feet Oracle's vegetation consists of mostly emory oak (*Quercus emoryi*), desert spoon (*Dasyliirion wheeleri*), soaptree yucca (*Yucca elata*), prickly pear (*Opuntia*) and various grasses. There are no major ascents or descents in any of the courses but almost all of the trails are rolling.

## **Race Day - Daylight Hours:**

Sunrise: 7:23 am

Sunset: 5:49 pm

## **Awards:**

Every finisher will receive a unique horse shoe award for making it across the finish line!

There will only be special awards for the top 3 male and female finishers in each race. No age group awards.