

# Quicksilver Endurance Runs 100K & 50K 2024 Runner's Guide

**Version 2024.1 (1/15/24)** Initial release. Revert to Pre-2023 course. Update course ribbon colors.  
**Version 2024.2 (4/14/24)** Added details for pacer waiver and bib pick up.



Welcome Ultra Runners!

Thank you for choosing to participate in the 40th Annual Quicksilver Endurance Runs, put on by the Quicksilver Running Club of San Jose. Whether you are joining us for your first ultramarathon or your hundredth, aiming to qualify for the Western States 100, or simply challenging your perceptions of what you are capable of accomplishing, we are happy to welcome you to what we think is the best trail run and post event festivity around! Please read and familiarize yourself with this entire Runner's Guide as you prepare for your event. You will find information for both the 100K and 50K runs.

Our very best always,

Stuart Taylor & Loren Lewis, Race Directors  
and the Quicksilver Running Club

## Thank You to our Sponsors and Supporters

We are privileged to receive support in the form of donations, discounts, and assistance from the companies and organizations listed below. Please help us show our gratitude by supporting them in return.



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# **About the Quicksilver Running Club**

## **Mission Statement**

The Quicksilver Running Club (QRC) was established to promote physical well-being and friendships through running. Additionally, it has a purpose that reaches beyond the club, into our community, to promote healthy kids through trail running and trail advocacy by expanding the accessibility of trails.

Over the years the QSRC has continued to promote physical well-being and friendships through running for all, while supporting Almaden Quicksilver County Park with trail maintenance from our runner/volunteer base. Additionally, the QRC has given over \$100,000 to various local charities from the proceeds of the annual running events we host.

## **How the QRC and Quicksilver Endurance Runs Got Started**

The Quicksilver Running Club was originally known as the Fleet Feet Running Club, formed in the late 1970s by Ted Schmidt, the owner of the Fleet Feet Running store in nearby Princeton Plaza. Jim Thiering, the founder of the Almaden Valley Athletic Club that started in 1976, worked with Ted, “and the Quicksilver club started to take off...” The first QRC 50 mile race was directed by Ted Schmidt in 1983. It started in Calero Park and finished in Quicksilver County Park with only four finishers. In 1984 the race start moved to Quicksilver Park and doubled in size, with nine finishers total.

## **QRC’s Western States Involvement**

The Quicksilver Running Club has been associated with the Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run since 1978 and became the hosting club for the Duncan Canyon Aid Station in 1985. This tradition continues today with more than 40 people helping annually. Steve Lorenz, a QRC member since 1980, was the Duncan Canyon Aid Station Captain for twenty years, and was awarded the “Western States Friend of the Trail Award” for his volunteering. For the last several years, QRC’s own Kristina Irvin has taken over management responsibility for the Duncan Canyon Aid Station, in addition to being the aid station coordinator for the Quicksilver Endurance Runs. So, if you see Kristina on race day, feverishly filling water jugs or dispatching aid station supplies to remote areas, please be sure to give her a smile and a “thank you!”

## Important Dates and Times

Last day to register or switch from 100K to 50K	Saturday, May 4, 11:59PM
Packet pickup (optional, but highly encouraged)	Friday, May 10, 3:00 - 7:00PM
Race day:	Saturday, May 11
100K check-in table opens	3:30AM
100K race start*	4:30AM*
50K check-in table opens	5:30AM
<i>(Civil Twilight)</i>	<i>(6:00AM)</i>
50K race start*	7:00AM*
Mid-race cutoffs	See Aid Station Charts for intermediate cutoff times
<i>(Civil Twilight)</i>	<i>(8:40PM)</i>
100K WS qualifying cutoff	9:30PM (17 hours)
100K final cutoff	9:30PM (17 hours)
Finish line festivities close	10:00PM

\* No early start option.

## Where to Go

### **Friday Packet Pickup**

Sports Basement – Campbell  
1875 S. Bascom Ave (Pruneyard Shopping Center)  
Campbell, CA 95008

### **Start and Finish of the Race**

Almaden Quicksilver County Park  
Hacienda Entrance  
21785 Almaden Road  
San Jose, CA 95120  
<https://goo.gl/maps/3y9EBjEvHzWvhVay9>

### **Casa Grande Overflow Parking**

New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum  
21350 Almaden Rd  
San Jose, CA 95120  
<https://goo.gl/maps/Dgv1cMEgDFTbZTiVA>

### **Directions to the Start/Finish**

Find your way to Hwy. 85 and exit at Almaden Expressway. Go south on Almaden Expressway to O'Grady/Almaden Road. Turn Right on Almaden Road. Pass Mockingbird Lane and drive another 2+ miles through a quiet residential

neighborhood to the Hacienda Entrance to Quicksilver Park. The entrance will be on your right.

**Parking:** While we consider ourselves extremely fortunate to have increased our permit size to allow more runners, we now strongly encourage you to carpool to the event! Please proceed through the first small lot (reserved race day for regular park users) into the large dirt lot and follow the instructions of the parking attendants. They'll be wearing ultra-reflective vests and holding flags and/or light sabers – you can't miss them (but please don't hit them)!

Recently the county has been working on an environmental restoration project that is possibly going to restrict our use of the usual Hacienda overflow parking area. This means that we will likely need to use the overflow parking area at Casa Grande (New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum) located half a mile back on Almaden Rd. **Please allow enough time to walk the half mile to the start.** We are hoping to fit all the 100k runners into the Hacienda parking lot. If we can't however, **please be considerate of the residential neighborhood and keep your noise to a minimum as you walk to the start area.** Parking is a sensitive subject with the county park officials that issue our permit. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated!

## Packet Pickup

Runners or their designated accomplices can pick up their swag bags and bib numbers on Friday afternoon at the Sports Basement (address below). Alternatively, runners can get their bib numbers on Saturday morning before the race and their swag bags after the race at the finish area. If you decide to pick up your bib number on Friday, you **do not** need to check in at the check-in table on Saturday morning.

Option 1:     The day before the race (3pm to 7pm)  
                  Sports Basement – Campbell  
                  1875 S. Bascom Ave (Pruneyard Shopping Center)  
                  Campbell, CA 95008  
                  (408) 899-5783

Option 2:     Race Day:  
                  100K – Check-in Table opens at 3:30am  
                  50K – Check-in Table opens at 5:30am

## Race Day Info

### **100K**

Start time: **4:30am**. You are required to have a light source to start. Runners can drop off light sources at the Woods Rd. Aid Station where they will be returned to the finish. **Please label your light source with your name and bib number to help ensure its return to the correct owner.**

Elevation gain: 13,000+ feet

Time Limit: 17 hours (All official finishers qualify for the Western States 100M race)

### **50K**

Start time: **7:00am**

Elevation gain: 6,000+ feet

Time Limit: need to reach mile 22.4 by 4pm.

### **Aid Stations, Cutoffs, and Pacers**

There are 8 different Aid Stations for the 100K, and 5 different Aid Stations for the 50K. Some of the Aid Stations are visited twice. All of the Aid Stations will feature water, energy drink, gels, and chews, in addition to a variety of other typical aid station fare (soda, potato chips, fresh fruit, PB&J sandwiches, trail mix, etc.). Most of the Aid Stations should also have ice. The Woods Road Aid Station **will have limited ice** due to its remote location. This means that ice for water bottle and hydration packs is ok, but please don't use the ice for filling your hats, sleeves, or undergarments.

We obviously hope that everybody finishes, and that nobody has to drop out mid-race. If race day is just not your day this time, please be mindful that extraction from Woods Road Aid Station may take substantial time due to its remote location and difficult access by vehicles. If you must drop, please do so near a paved road with cell phone access. Take good care of yourself!

**We are a cupless race, so please carry a collapsible cup or use your hydration flask/bottle at aid stations.**

### **100K Aid Station Chart:**

100K - Aid Stations	Mile	Next AS	Drop Bag	Crew Access	Pacer Pickup	Cutoff	Cutoff Pace
Start - Hacienda	0	6.1	Yes	Yes	No	-	
Hicks Road - 1	6.1	6.4	No	No	No	-	
Woods Road - 1	12.5	5.4	No	No	No	-	
Lexington	17.9	7.9	No	Yes	No	-	
Kennedy Road	25.8	5.5	Yes	Yes	No	11:30am	16:17 min/M
Woods Road -2	31.3	6.5	No	No	No	-	
Hicks Road - 2	37.8	3.6	No	Yes	No	-	
Hacienda	41.4	3.1	Yes	Yes	Yes	3:30pm	15:57 min/M
Mockingbird - 1	44.5	3.9	No	Yes	Yes	4:30pm	16:11 min/M
Bull Run - 1	48.4	5.7	No	Yes, by foot	No	-	
McAbee	54.1	4.9	No	Yes, by foot	Yes	7:00pm	16:05 min/M
Bull Run - 2	59	3	No	Yes, by foot	No	-	
Finish - Hacienda	62	-	Yes	Yes	-	9:30pm	16:27 min/M

### **100K Cutoffs and Pacers:**

We've analyzed split times from previous years' races and determined cutoff times to keep you on track to finish within the final race cutoff. You must leave the Aid Stations by the cutoff time in order to continue. **Any runner who refuses to leave the course after missing a cutoff may be denied entry to the race in future years.** We've never had to do this, so please don't be the first.

Pacers are allowed to join a runner only at the aid stations indicated in the Aid Station Chart above. For additional pacer rules please see the Rules and Etiquette section of this Runner's Guide.

### **50K Aid Station Chart:**

50K - Aid Stations	Mile	Next AS	Drop Bag	Crew Access	Pacer Pickup	Cutoff
Start - Hacienda	0	6.1	Yes	Yes	No	-
Hicks Road	6.1	3.6	No	No	No	-
Hacienda	9.7	3.1	Yes	Yes	No	-
Mockingbird	12.8	3.9	No	Yes	No	-
Bull Run - 1	16.7	5.7	No	Yes, by foot	No	-
McAbee	22.4	4.9	No	Yes, by foot	After 3:00pm	4:00pm
Bull Run - 2	27.3	3	No	Yes, by foot	No	-
Finish - Hacienda	30.3	-	Yes	Yes	-	-

Note: Only 1 drop bag allowed (accessed twice at mile 9.7 and the finish).



### **50K Cutoff & Pacers:**

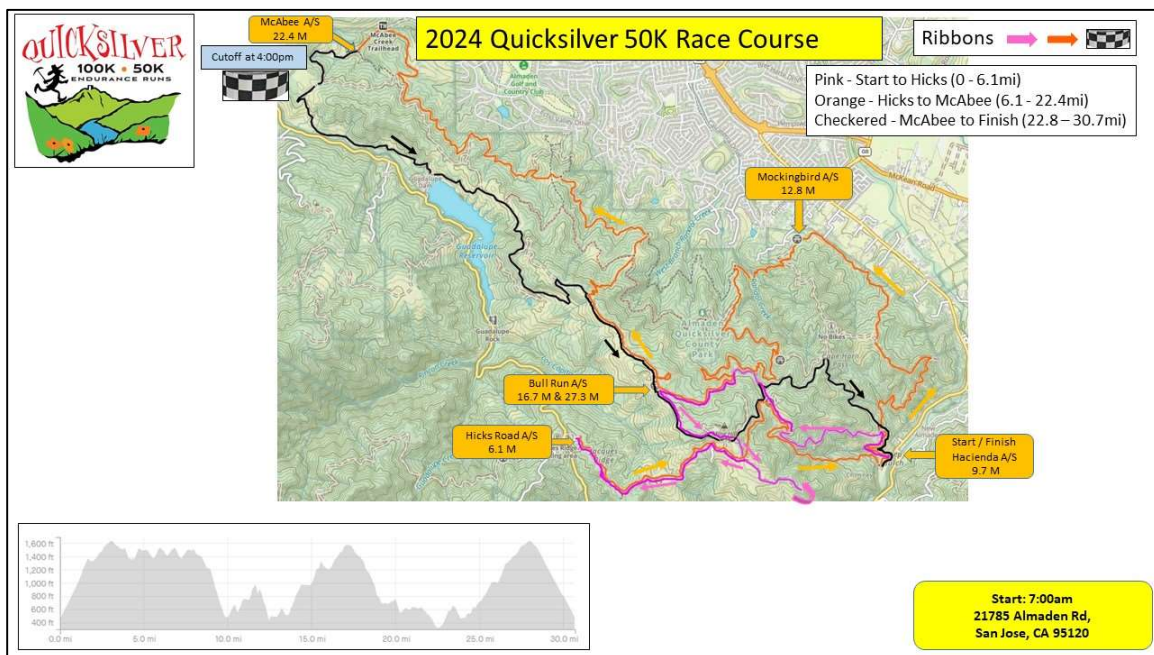
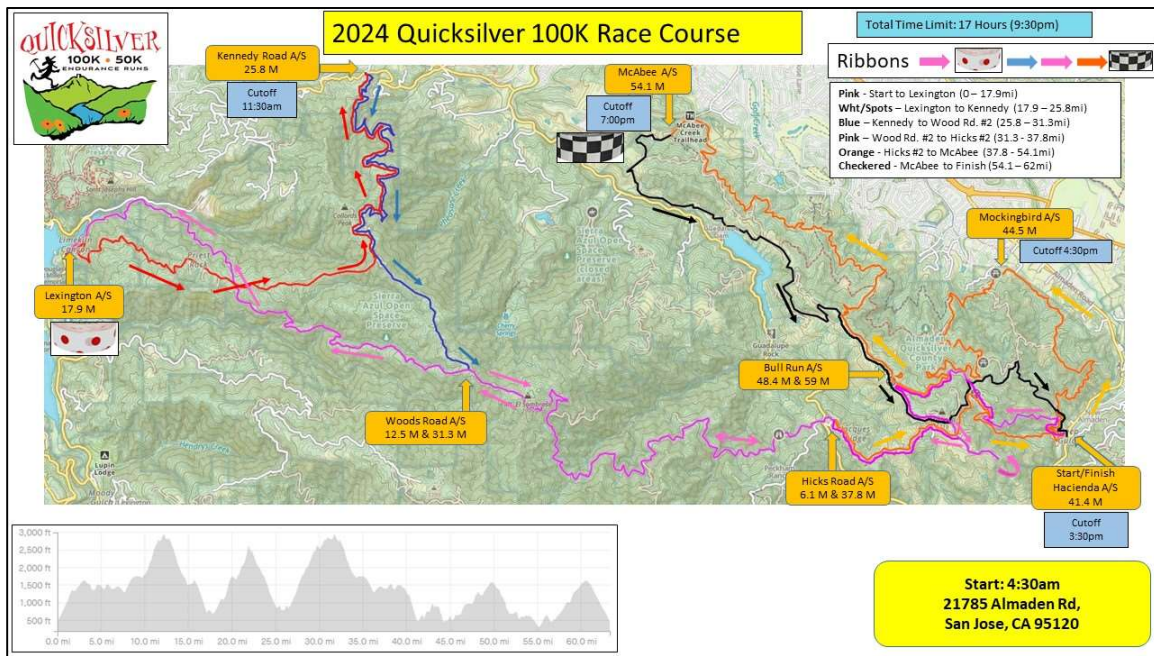
We have only one cutoff for the 50K, at the McAbee A/S. You must leave the Aid Station by the cutoff time (4:00pm) in order to continue. **Any runner who refuses to leave the course after missing a cutoff may be refused entry to the race in future years.** We've never had to do this, so please don't be the first.

50K runners are allowed to have a pacer, but only from the McAbee Aid Station and only if you are leaving the McAbee A/S after 3:00pm. You and your pacer **MUST** have a headlamp when you leave. For additional pacer rules please see the Rules and Etiquette section of this Runner's Guide.

### **Drop Bags**

1. Please have your drop bags clearly labeled with your bib number and the aid station to which you would like it transported.
2. Please bring drop bags to the starting location on race day and leave them in the appropriate areas indicated by destination aid station.
3. Please keep your drop bags to a size no larger than two shoe boxes.
4. Aid stations will have two areas for drop bags – incoming and outgoing. On your final visit to an aid station, please place your drop bag in the outgoing pile. Drop bags will be returned intermittently to the finish line where they can be retrieved.
5. We do our best to promptly return all drop bags in splendid condition, however we do not guarantee or promise it.
6. After the race, please remember to pick up your drop bag and **confirm that the drop bag you pick up is yours!** Many drop bags look alike and mix-ups can and do happen!
7. Please don't place valuables (like car keys, wallets, cell phones, etc.) in your drop bags. We will do our best to secure all drop bags, but we can't be held responsible for any loss or damages.

# Maps



Strava Routes and GPX files can be found on our race web site here:

<https://www.quicksilver-running.com/races>

## Course Markings

Course markings for both the 100K and 50K events will be on the trail with colored ribbons. Please refer to the map to review colors. It looks a lot more complicated than it is. Aid Station Captains, course monitors, and volunteers will have signage to remind you where to go. We also use signage with arrows to differentiate between the 100K and 50K courses.

### 100K

Pink w/Glow Sticks - Start to Lexington A/S (0 - 17.9mi)

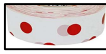

Wht/Spots - Lexington A/S to Kennedy A/S (17.9 - 25.8mi)

Blue - Kennedy A/S to Wood Rd. #2 A/S (25.8 - 31.3mi)

Pink - Wood Rd. #2 A/S to Hicks #2 A/S (31.3 - 37.8mi)

Orange - Hicks #2A/S to McAbee A/S (37.8 - 54.1mi)

Checkered w/ Glow Sticks - McAbee A/S to Finish (54.1 - 62mi)

**Pink** → **Dots**  → **Blue** → **Pink** →  
**Orange** → **Checkered Flag**   
**Wrong Way**

### 50K

Pink - Start to Hicks A/S (0 - 6.1mi)

Orange - Hicks A/S to McAbee A/S (6.1 - 22.4mi)

Checkered w/ Glow Sticks - McAbee A/S to Finish (22.8 - 30.7mi)

**Pink** → **Orange** → **Checkered Flag**   
**Wrong Way**

1. Both races will start by following the pink course markings. 100K runners will have the benefit of glow sticks during the dark morning hours. 50K runners will have the benefit of daylight. There will also be course monitors to point you the right way.
2. After reaching the Hicks Rd. #1 Aid Station, the 100K runners will continue to follow pink ribbons up to and past the Wood Rd. aid station all the way to the Lexington aid station. 50K runners can ignore the following steps (#3-5) and skip to step #6.
3. Leaving the Lexington aid station, runners will follow white ribbons with red polka dots all the way back up the mountain, turn left, and all the way down to the Kennedy Aid Station.

4. Leaving the Kennedy aid station, runners will turn around and retracing their step back up the mountain following blue ribbons all the way to the Wood Rd. #2 aid station.
5. From the Woods Rd. aid station runners will again retrace their steps following pink ribbons all the way down the mountain back to the Hicks Rd. #2 Aid Station and Quicksilver Park.
6. Departing the Hicks Rd. Aid Station back towards Quicksilver Park, all runners will follow orange ribbons until the McAbee aid station. From there, runners will follow black and white checkered ribbons and glow sticks to the finish.

## Rules and Etiquette

1. Bib numbers must be worn on runner's front side so they are visible to aid station personnel.
2. No aid may be given more than 100 feet outside of aid stations, except at the Hacienda Aid Station, where runners may visit their car.
3. Hiking poles are only allowed in the Sierra Azul portion of the 100K course (Hicks Rd. #1 to Hicks Rd. #2). You can leave them with your drop bag when you return to Hacienda. Hiking pole use is not allowed in the 50K.
4. Cutting the course is not allowed. **Bib numbers will be recorded at out-and-back turn-arounds.** Sometimes accidents happen, but intentional violators will be disqualified and banned from any future Quicksilver events.
5. Littering is illegal on or off trails. Please keep your trash with you until you reach the next aid station. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.
6. Please be courteous towards all hikers, cyclists, equestrians, and any other park goers. Although we do have a permit for the event, we still must share the trails with everyone else, and our ability to continue hosting this event is contingent upon us all getting along.
7. If you are at the back of the race and make a stop off the trail, leave a pack or water bottle on the trail so the sweeps know they should wait for you.
8. No dogs or other animals (leashed or otherwise) may accompany runners. This is a stipulation of our event insurance. Violators will be disqualified.

## Rules for Pacers

1. **New for 2024:** Pacers must sign a waiver, and receive a pacer bib before pacing their runner. This can be done at the Sports Basement bib pick up on Friday, or on race day at the Hacienda Start/Finish area or the McAbee aid station. Runners can pick up their pacer's bib if they bring the pacer's signed waiver. The waiver can be found here: <https://www.quicksilver-running.com/s/pacer-waiver-2024.pdf>
2. Runners can have multiple pacers, but only one at a time.
3. Pacers may refuel at the aid stations.
4. Pacers must follow all rules that the official runners must follow.
5. Pacers may not "mule" (carry) food, beverage, or supplies for their runners.
6. Pacers may only join runners at locations indicated in the Aid Station Charts in this document.

## **Rules for Crew**

1. Please refer to the Aid Station Charts in this document for a list of which aid stations allow crew support. Please note that parking is limited at many of the aid stations, and consider carpooling with other crews heading to the same place.
2. Crews must follow instructions from all parking monitors, aid station personnel, and volunteers with the event.
3. Crews may not provide support for their runners outside of 100 feet from designated aid stations.
4. If your runner is dropping from the race and is unable to inform a race official themselves, then please take the responsibility to notify a nearby aid station captain for them. Failure to notify a race official of a dropping runner can result in the runner being assumed to be missing and search and rescue being called into action.

## **Awards and Raffle**

1. Special prizes for both the 50K and 100K will be awarded to the top three males and females overall.
2. Age group medals for both the 50K and 100K will be awarded to the top three males and females in each age division: 29 and under, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, 50 to 59, 60 and over.
3. All finishers will receive a finisher award.
4. Depending on availability, raffle prizes may be awarded to randomly selected runners. Winners will be selected by random draw of bib numbers at the finish line. We will display a poster board with the list of winners, so be sure to check the board for your number to see if you've won something. Prizes will include gift cards, running gear, and other goodies from our generous sponsors.

## **Dropping Out**

We keep track of all runners, so if something should happen that makes it necessary for you to drop out of the race, **GO TO THE SCORING TABLE AT THE FINISH LINE** to let us know you have dropped. We do not have reliable means (besides limited cellular phone coverage) of getting information from the aid stations, so it is your responsibility to let us know at the finish line that you have dropped. If we call search and rescue because we don't know where you are, you will likely get a huge bill from the county for the search.

We obviously hope everybody finishes, and nobody has to drop. If race day is not your day, please be mindful that extraction from Woods Road Aid Station due to its remote location and difficult access by vehicles. If you must drop, please do so near a paved road with cell phone access. Take good care of yourself!

## **In Case of Cancellation**

The Quicksilver Endurance Runs have never been cancelled on short notice, but this event is held on public land under the management of the County Park Authorities. In the event of an unforeseen emergency or natural disaster, the park officials will have the final say as to whether or not the event will take place as scheduled, be cancelled, or require a modification to the planned course route. Should this occur, race officials will work to ensure that runners are kept up to date about any changes. No refund will be given in case of race cancellation.

## Detailed Course Description

When creating the course, we took into consideration course beauty, historic features, elevation gain, crew accessibility, aid station optimization, and the overall interaction of the ultra runners during the event. The 100K boasts about 13,000 feet of elevation gain while the 50K has about 6,000 feet. As we've done since the days of the Quicksilver 50 mile endurance run, the 100K course utilizes the neighboring Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve that guides you higher and deeper into the Santa Cruz Mountains and into Los Gatos.

We've broken this course description down into Aid Station to Aid Station sized chunks. Some of these chunks will not apply to the 50K runners, and are noted below.

### Start (Hacienda) to Hicks Rd A/S

6.1 mi, climb 1,648ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564537>



All runners are required to have a light source at the start of the race. The course begins with a moderate climb up to English Camp, past the San Cristobal Mine to the top of the Mine Hill, before a short descent to and around the Hidalgo Cemetery. Most of the trail so far is on fire road and double track, so you won't have to worry about jockeying for position. After climbing back out of Hidalgo Cemetery, you will then head west towards Sierra Azul Open Space and your first Aid Station at Hicks Road.

(50K runners should skip ahead to the **Hicks Rd A/S to Hacienda A/S** section.)

### Hicks Rd A/S to Woods Rd A/S

6.4 mi, climb 1,894ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564564>



Upon leaving the Hicks Road Aid Station, you will cross Hicks Rd at a stop sign. A traffic monitor will help you cross the road and signs will warn oncoming traffic. You will then enter the Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve. Perched on top of the

mountain is the Mt. Umunhum “cube”, a remnant from the Almaden Air Force Station which operated from 1957 to 1980. Park officials won’t yet let us take the race up this popular summit, so we’ll tackle an adjacent summit instead. The race will take a fire road trail that rolls gently upwards for a couple of miles, before getting progressively steeper and rougher as you get closer to the summit of Mt. El Sombroso (3,000 ft). Shortly after reaching the summit, you will get a brief chance to take in an expansive view of the Silicon Valley, with views on a clear day of Mt Hamilton and sometimes Mt. Diablo or Mt. Tamalpais. After about half a mile of downhill rollers, you will arrive at the Woods Road Aid Station.

### **Woods Rd A/S to Lexington A/S**

5.4 mi, climb 365ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564586>



After all that climbing it might be tempting to linger for a while at the aid station, but once you grab a drink and a snack, it’s time to stash the climbing legs for a bit and get ready to descend. It’s about five and a half miles predominantly downhill, but don’t get fixated on the sweeping views. There are still plenty of trail gremlins waiting to grab a toe and send you airborne. At the end of the descent, you will reach the end of the trail and will take a left turn onto the asphalt for 0.3 mile around Lexington Reservoir to the Lexington Aid Station. This road can be popular with weekend warriors, so please run single file on the left shoulder of the road and be alert for cars and cyclists. There will be signs on the road to notify oncoming traffic.

### **Lexington A/S to Kennedy Rd A/S**

7.9 mi, climb 2,121ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564597>



Before leaving the Lexington Aid Station, please make sure that you have ample liquids and calories. The next stretch is long and strenuous! You will quickly find yourself climbing again, this time up the officially named Priest Rock Trail. You may want to say your prayers! Halfway up the climb you will encounter the unofficially named Dog Meat climb which gains about a thousand feet in a mile and a half. At the top of Dog Meat, you’ll reach a T in the trail, where you will turn left to descend 4 miles to the Kennedy Road Aid Station.



### **Kennedy Rd A/S to Woods Rd A/S**

5.5 mi, climb 2,348ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564610>



The Kennedy Road Aid Station is the first cutoff of the race, so please make sure that you leave the aid station by 11:30. Hopefully you enjoyed the descent, because now you need to turn around and head back up the mountain. It's a tough stretch, so please make sure that you carry enough fuel. Four miles after leaving the aid station you'll reach the previously encountered T-intersection at the top of Dog Meat, but this time you will continue straight ahead to the Kennedy Rollers. A further 1.5 miles of short and steep hills will bring you back to the Woods Road Aid Station.

### **Woods Rd A/S to Hicks Rd A/S**

6.5 mi, climb 456ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564627>



Leaving the Woods Road aid station, you've got a couple of short uphill before a big downhill back to the Hicks Road Aid Station and Quicksilver Park. There are some pretty loose and rocky sections of this downhill, so make sure that you mind your step.

(50K course description continues here.)

### **Hicks Rd A/S to Hacienda A/S**

3.6 mi, climb 270ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564643>

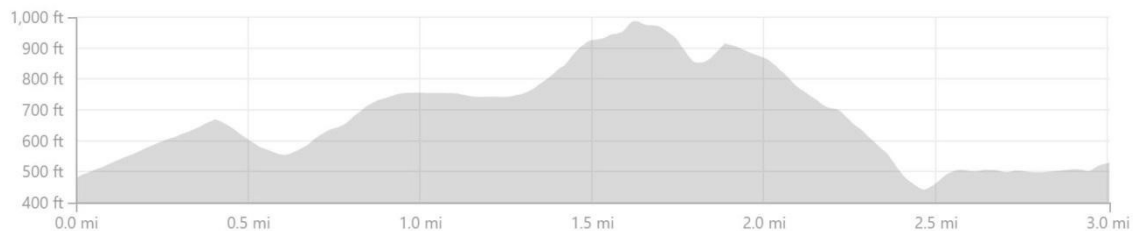


Leaving the Hicks Road Aid Station and re-entering Quicksilver Park, you will now have a chance to see some of the cool historic features that you may have missed in the early morning darkness. One of the more notable features is the old rotary furnace which was originally used to extract mercury (“quicksilver”) from the cinnabar (mercury-sulfide) rocks. After passing through English Camp, you will descend the steep and rocky Deep Gulch Trail back to the Hacienda parking area where the race started.

### **Hacienda A/S to Mockingbird A/S**

3.1 mi, climb 792ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564662>



As tempting as your car may be, it’s still too early to call it a day. You’ll leave the Hacienda Aid station the same way that you did at the start of the race. This time, after about a quarter of a mile, instead of turning left onto the English Camp Trail, you will turn right onto the Hacienda Trail where you will encounter a series of particularly steep uphill and downhill that we affectionately call the Hacienda Roller Coaster. Fortunately, it’s only about three miles to the next aid station.

### **Mockingbird A/S to Bull Run A/S**

3.9 mi, climb 1,326ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564674>



Leaving Mockingbird, you will be running on the finest single track trail in the park, the New Almaden Trail, which the Quicksilver Running Club has adopted and performs hundreds of volunteer hours annually maintaining. After a mile or so on the New Almaden Trail, you will turn left onto the Buena Vista Trail. Buena Vista is a moderately steep and rocky trail that climbs up to the smooth and flat Randal Trail where you’ll have a brief respite for about half a mile before making a switchback right turn onto the Day Tunnel Trail and right again onto the Great Eastern Trail. A short steep climb on the single track is followed by a right turn onto a steady but gentle fire road climb on the April Tunnel Trail past some cool mining relics and the

Mine Hill Trail which will take you to the Bull Run Aid Station, hosted by our sister club, the Stevens Creek Striders.

**A special thanks goes to our friends a few miles away: The Stevens Creek Striders.** We have been fortunate to have their commitment to manage this busy aid station at our event since the early 90's. This year they will again be hosting the Bull Run Aid Station. Be sure to thank them for their tireless support. **THEY ARE THE BEST!**

### **Bull Run A/S to McAbee A/S**

5.7 mi, climb 344ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564695>



STEVENS CREEK STRIDERS



Upon reaching the Bull Run Aid Station, you can look forward to an enthusiastic greeting from the volunteers and the knowledge that you won't have to ascend any higher. Both the 50K and the 100K visit this aid station twice, so you'll be sure to encounter some of your fellow runners. Please be careful to exit this aid station in the proper direction, as other runners may be at different points in their runs and heading in a different direction than you are. From your direction coming into the aid station, you will be turning right. We'll have signs on the trail, but please take a second to make sure that you don't get distracted by the rush. Once you leave the aid station, your next turn will be to the right for a short lollipop loop through the Catherine Tunnel. Unfortunately, the Catherine Tunnel isn't actually a tunnel any more, but there is a great view of the Almaden Valley. Leaving the lollipop loop, you'll turn right again to continue descending the Mine Hill Trail. After about 0.8 miles you'll turn right onto the Prospect #3 Trail for a steep single track descent terminating back at the New Almaden Trail after another 0.8 miles. Turn left on the New Almaden Trail to enjoy Quicksilver's finest single track for another 2.3 miles. There are a few side trails that you won't want to take, so please be on the lookout

for the correct course markings. At the end of the single track, you will reach a large fire road. Take a hard right to continue downhill on the Mine Hill Trail until it reaches a gravel road and some porta potties. Take a left on the gravel road and continue for about a quarter of a mile to the McAbee Aid Station.

### **McAbee A/S to Bull Run A/S**

4.9 mi, climb 1,445ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/17564710>

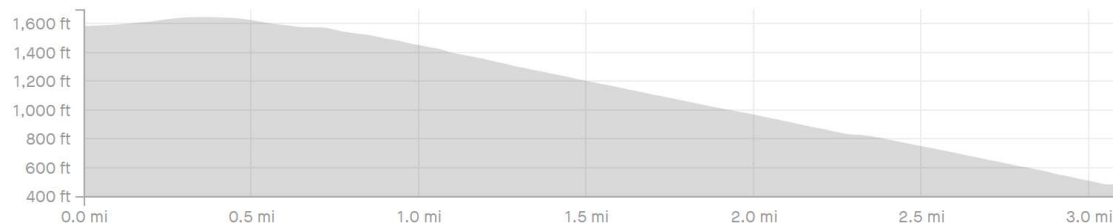


The McAbee entrance to Quicksilver Park is one of the most popular entrances. The close proximity to a residential neighborhood guarantees a steady stream of dog walkers, hikers, and nature spotters. This is also a good place to see you crew or pick up your pacer. The locals tend to arrive early in the mornings, so you shouldn't have any trouble finding space on the trail to pass. Shortly after leaving the McAbee Aid Station, you'll encounter a brief climb where you will continue straight before a short downhill and flat section. About 1.5 miles after the aid station, you will begin the long steady climb back up to the top of the hill while you overlook the Guadalupe Reservoir. About 3 miles after leaving the McAbee A/S, the Mine Hill Trail you are on will make a 180 degree left hand turn, but you will instead continue straight onto the Providencia Trail. Stay on the Providencia Trail for about 0.8 miles until it terminates with a short steep climb back to the Mine Hill Trail. Take a right on Mine Hill and continue straight for 1 mile, passing the Prospect #3 Trail on your left that you took earlier in the race, and arriving back at the Bull Run Aid Station for your final aid station visit.

### **Bull Run A/S to Hacienda (Finish)**

3.1 mi, climb 62ft

<https://www.strava.com/routes/2951505147925384014>



If you've made it this far, you're doing fantastic! It's just a mere 5K fun run to the finish! This time you will leave the Bull Run Aid Station by continuing in the direction you were heading before getting there. The trail changes from the Mine Hill Trail to the Castillero Trail. This is the same section of trail that you covered way back at mile 2.7. About 0.6 miles after leaving the aid station, continue on the Castillero Trail as it makes a sweeping turn to the left. After that, it's a brief downhill

back to English Camp, where you will take a left back to the Mine Hill Trail. Turn right on the Mine Hill Trail, and continue downhill for 2.1 miles all the way to Hacienda, CONGRATULATIONS! YOU'VE REACHED THE FINISH!

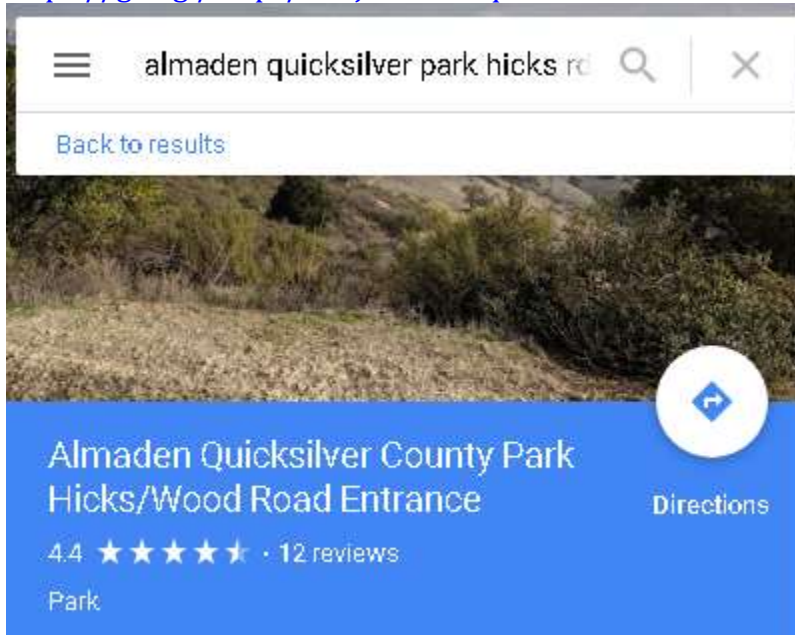
## Crew Driving Instructions

- Please see Aid Station Chart for Crew Accessible Aid Stations.
- Please drive safely on winding roads.
- **Please do not park illegally!** This is the park rangers' number one complaint and the biggest risk to receiving permits for future races. Rangers will issue parking tickets.

**The directions to the aid station can be pretty lengthy, and in reality most of you will just be following your GPS anyway, so here are quick links to where you're going and a brief note about each.**

### **Hicks Road Aid Station:**

<https://goo.gl/maps/872jcSB7r4DqZM5f8>



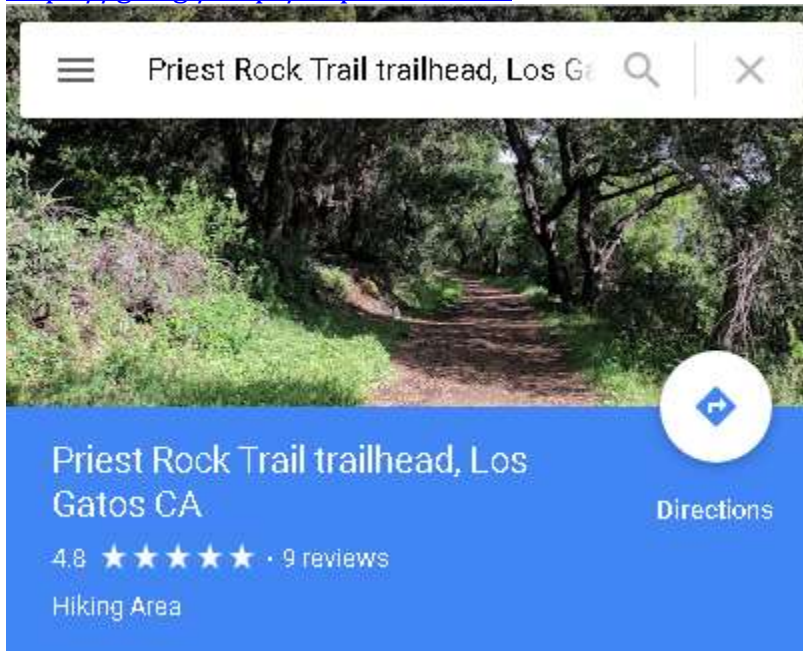
### **Notes:**

At the top of Hicks Road you will reach a junction with a stop sign. The Sierra Azul trailhead and parking area is to your left and the Hicks Road entrance to Quicksilver Park is to your right. You can park in either location. The aid station is at the far end of the Quicksilver Park parking lot.

**Woods Road Aid Station:** It may be called Woods Road, but it is a fire road with NO CAR ACCESS. However, if you are up for a strenuous hike or mountain bike ride, you may access it by foot. It's about 6.5 miles from Hicks Road or 5.5 miles from Kennedy Road or the Lexington A/S. Please refer to the Course Description section of this document or the turn-by-turn directions on the website for specific directions.

**Lexington Aid Station:**

<https://goo.gl/maps/TPpUxYCXXf82>

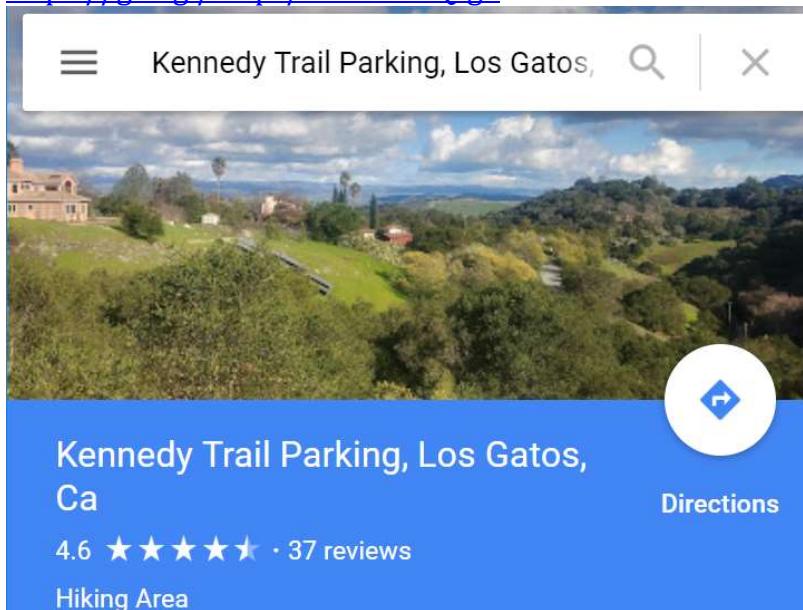


**Notes:**

Getting to the Lexington Aid Station is a bit of a long haul, but it's even longer for the runners, so you should have plenty of time if driving. As you are driving around the reservoir, PLEASE BE CAREFUL of runners and cyclists (and even the occasional equestrian) on the road.

**Kennedy Road A/S:**

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



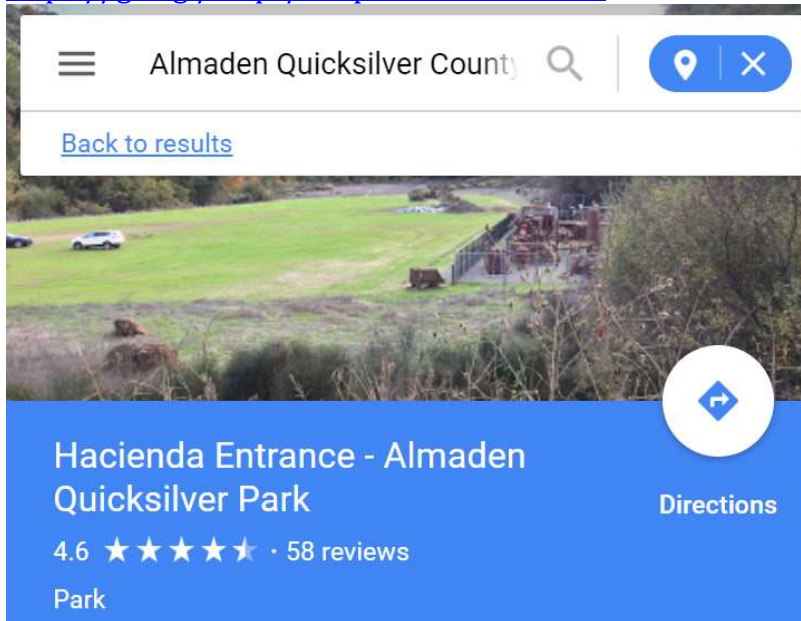
**Notes:**

When driving on Kennedy Road, PLEASE BE CAREFUL. It is moderately narrow, twisty, and popular with cyclists. There is a tiny dirt parking lot at the trailhead

which will probably be occupied by aid station volunteers. Please do not attempt to shoe-horn into the lot, even for a brief time, as you will be blocking the fire access gate, and this is frowned upon mightily. There is a substantial amount of curbside parking along Top of the Hill Road, which is just across the street from the trail head. This aid station is the first mid-race cutoff.

**Hacienda A/S:**

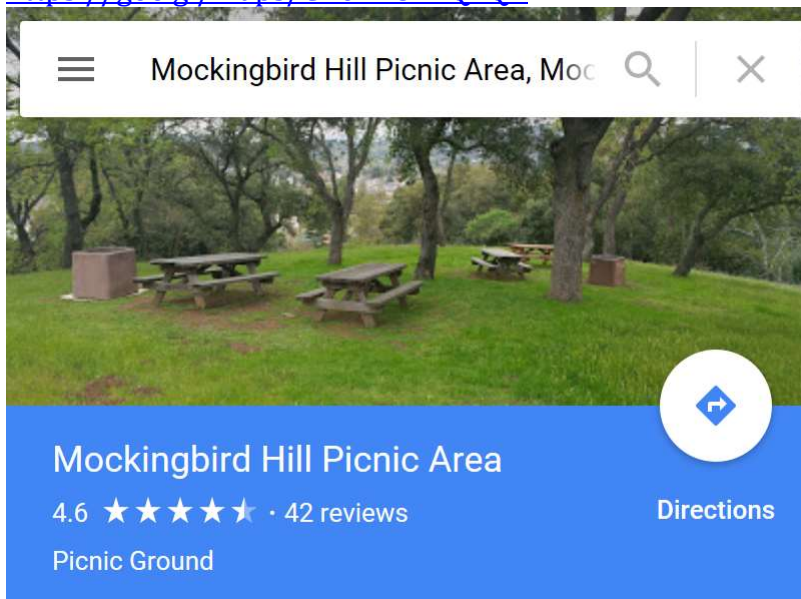
<https://goo.gl/maps/x84pdr3PcfCWmWwSA>



**Notes:** This is where the race started, and is also a mid-race time cut off.

**Mockingbird Lane A/S:**

<https://goo.gl/maps/CAeEEUYnQnQ2>



**Notes:**

There is a sizable paved parking lot at the Mockingbird entrance. If it's full, please

drive back down Mockingbird Hill Lane and park in the residential neighborhood nearby. **Please do not double park or park anywhere that is not marked as a parking spot.** The park rangers do patrol this area and have issued tickets in the past.

**McAbee A/S:**

<https://goo.gl/maps/bCon5XyXmxwydiaB6>



**Notes:**

The McAbee entrance to Quicksilver Park is one of the most popular entrances. The locals tend to arrive early in the mornings, so the crowds shouldn't be too bad when the runners are coming through. You should park in the residential neighborhood near the park entrance.

At the park entrance is a closed green gate to keep the cars out. Walk about a quarter mile past this gate to another gate, which is likely swung open. There are porta potties and a picnic bench there. Continue straight past the porta potties on the Senador Mine Trail for about a quarter mile to the aid station. This aid station is the final mid-race time cutoff.