



2020 Racer Handbook

Turtle River Pursuit– February 15th & 16th, 2020
Claire d’Loon 5K Classic Tour – February 15th, 2020

Registration and Bib Pickup

On-Line Registration: On-line registration open until race day

Friday Night 5-8 pm:

In-person registration and bib pickup will be held at the Liberty Way Tap House on highway US 51 in Mercer.

[2040 Saarnio Road, Mercer, WI 54547](#)

Saturday 8-9:45 am

Bib pickup and day of race registration will be held at the MECCA Chalet.

[4686N Fierick Road, Mercer, WI 54547](#)

Sunday 8-9:45 am

Bib pickup for the Freestyle leg teammate racers of the Turtle River Pursuit at the MECCA Chalet.

General Information

Awards and Awards Ceremony

The Awards Ceremony will begin promptly on Sunday at 12:30 pm at the Mercer Community Center located at 2648 Margaret Street, Mercer, WI

A complimentary chili buffet will be provided for skiers and volunteers during the awards ceremony. A \$5 donation is requested for non-participants.

Awards will be given for the following:

Turtle River Pursuit Individual (combined times)

1st, 2nd, and 3rd overall awards for men and women

1st place age category awards for men and women: 19 & under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80 up

Turtle River Pursuit Team (combine times)

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place overall awards

no gender or age category awards

Claire d' Loon 5K Classic Tour

1st, 2nd and 3rd overall awards for men and women

no age category awards

Bag Drop, Changing Room, Toilet and Wax Benches

Bag storage and wax benches will be located in the heated MECCA Maintenance Shed. A changing room is located in the MECCA Chalet. A heated vault toilet and porta potties will be available at the MECCA chalet.

Bibs

Each racer will be provided a single bib. Individual racers for the Turtle River Pursuit will use the same bib for both the Saturday and Sunday events. It is your responsibility to hold on to it. Team racers for the Turtle River Pursuit will each be provided a bib. Individual racers for the Claire d'Loon 5K Classic Tour will each be provided a bib. If your bib is misplaced or damaged, please head to the Registration/Information table for a replacement.

Emergency Management

Ski Patrollers will be roving the course during all races. Mercer EMS will be stationed at the MECCA Chalet.

The course will be "swept" at the end of each race. There will be no aid stations along the course however during the TRP, there will be a monitoring station with a bonfire at Intersection "L", located just west of the bridge crossing.

Extreme Weather: race delay or cancellation policy

In the event of extreme weather conditions, check the Turtle River Pursuit website at www.TurtleRiverPursuit.com or our [Facebook](#) page beginning Thursday morning, February 13th, for information on course conditions and race cancellation or delayed start times.

Finish Times

Racers will be emailed their official finish time on Saturday and Sunday after the races. Turtle River Pursuit racers will also receive their Sunday start times in this email.

Food

Food and refreshments will be served at the MECCA Chalet on both days.

Racer Start Times

For the Turtle River Pursuit and the Claire d'Loon Classic Tour all Saturday start times will be provided at bib pickup. The starting line for both events is in the hemlock grove behind the MECCA Chalet. Racers will be released out of two gates at 15 second intervals. If you miss your start time, notify the timing assistants at the starting line.

Racers will be emailed their Sunday starting times after the Saturday race. Times will also be posted in the MECCA Chalet at 9 am Sunday.

Course

Turtle River Pursuit 11K Classic Leg – Saturday, February 15, 10:00 am

The entire race course, with the exception of the bridge crossing, will have two tracks set. Trails not used for the race will be blocked off with pine boughs. There will be "K" markers at every kilometer and there will be meter markers (500, 250, 100) in the last kilometer counting down to the finish line. There are four snowmobile crossings that will be monitored during the race and snowmobile traffic will be stopped as racers approach. The race course is generally flat with intermittent rolling hills and the degree of difficulty is easy to moderate.

Claire d'Loon 5K Classic Tour – Saturday, February 15, 10:30 am

The Claire d'Loon 5K Classic Tour will start by following the Turtle River Pursuit (TRP) race course for the first 1K and then branch off using trails on the eastside of the bridge crossing. The entire course will have two tracks set. Trails not used for the race will be blocked off with pine boughs. There will be "K" markers at every kilometer and there will be meter markers (500, 250, 100) in the last kilometer counting down to the finish line. There are two snowmobile crossings that will be monitored during the race and snowmobile traffic will be stopped as racers approach. The tour course is generally flat with intermittent rolling hills and the degree of difficulty is easy to moderate.

Turtle River Pursuit 11K Freestyle Leg – Sunday, February 16, 10:00 am

Sunday racers can ski any discipline they like. The entire course will be groomed for skate and and classical skiing. Trails not used for the race will be blocked off with pine boughs. There will be "K" markers at every kilometer and there will be meter markers (500, 250, 100) in the last

kilometer counting down to the finish line. There are four snowmobile crossings that will be monitored during the race and snowmobile traffic will be stopped as racers approach. The race course is generally flat with intermittent rolling hills and the degree of difficulty is easy to moderate.

Miscellaneous

Course Etiquette

Passing: Be vocal while passing and alert skiers that you pass. Pass quickly. When being passed by a faster skier move out of the track and double pole if possible to allow the faster racer to pass. If in the tracks and you hear "Track!" behind you, move out of the tracks to allow the faster racer to pass, then move back into the tracks. If you want to pass someone in the tracks, either yell "Track!" or move out of the tracks and overtake the racer in front of you.

Dropouts

Racers who are not able to complete the course for whatever reason should inform either a roving ski patroller or the race course sweeper. If necessary, arrangements will be made to transport the racer back to the start/finish line.

Lost & Found

Lost & Found is at the MECCA Chalet until Sunday at 1 pm. Please email info@turtleriverpursuit.com with a description to report any lost item. If found, we will gladly reunite you with your item in person or by mail.

Parking

Racers and volunteer parking will be at the Town of Mercer Wastewater Treatment Facility located just past (west) the MECCA Chalet. Follow the signs from the intersection of US 51 and Beachway Drive.

Photography

Professional photographers will be along the race course. Photos will be available for download on the TRP website and a Google photos link will be emailed to all racers. Racers and spectators are also encouraged to take photos and share on social media.

Spectators

Spectators will have access to both the start and finish line areas as well as a section of the race course leading to the finish line that runs along the parking area. Spectators that would like to cheer on the racers at about the midway point of the course in the TRP Race can access the location by skiing the Bluebird Trail to the Bluebird and Osprey Intersection "N". To access the Bluebird Trail use the MECCA Little Turtle Flowage Trailhead located off of Joe's Shack Road.