

Hawley Kiln snowshoe race information

If you are pretty sure you are coming to the race in Hawley Saturday, could you email me so I can let Tom McCrumm at South Face Farm know something of a head count for meal planning. While you visit Tom's Sugarhouse, remember to Thank him for organizing the trail clearing on the route we are using Saturday. I know that Martin and Bill Glendon were out there in January with Tom, as well as many others.

edtrnews@yahoo.com

4.5 mile course, about 500' of climb and descent (not bad for one of our races)

Note: Be advised that the Hawley Kiln parking lot is a cold, windy place. Plan accordingly. Once running in the woods it will be a lot warmer than standing around in the parking lot however.

Application can be found here, it is \$15 for the race and the brunch after at South Face Farm. If you only wish to race, it is a mere \$5.00. If the only thing holding anyone back from getting to this race is the entry fee, send me an email privately and we'll figure something out. We realize that times are a real struggle for many lately.

<http://www.runwmac.com/snowshoes/hkk.html>

Directions to get to the race are located from that link also. The landmarks were checked years ago, so use these as a general idea. Also on that page will be results and pictures from years past. This is the 12th year of a Hawley Kiln Snowshoe Race.

If you are going to enjoy the after race brunch information on South Face Farm can be found here, check the link it is interesting:

<http://www.southfacefarm.com/>

Please arrive at the firestation (HAWLEY F.D. IS LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF EAST HAWLEY ROAD AND ASHFIELD ROAD, HAWLEY, MA) early. Check in starts at 8:15 am, an early arrival gets everyone decent parking as later in the day snowmobiles may start to show up. Our race will start at 9:30 am.

Some good news, there will be a porta-pot available, but not at the start finish area. When you check in, you will be given a ticket for the brunch at South Face Farm for after the race. Directions to South Face Farm are on the ticket. Once you check in, and if you wish to use a porta-pot, use these directions to travel 3-miles to South Face Farm and use the porta-pot there. So plan on arriving early! If this seems foolish to you, stop on the way in and use one of the restrooms at any of the general stores etc along the route in. This is the best we can do.

Here are the directions ahead of time to the portapot –

From the East Hawley Firehouse to South Face Farm Sugarhouse

Exit the firehouse parking lot, take a left and an immediate right, going up the gravel road next to the small cemetery across from the front of the firehouse.

At 1.3 miles, bear right at the first intersection.

After another 1.3 miles go straight through a 4-way intersection back onto a paved road.

The sugarhouse is down another mile on the right, just downhill past a red/yellow/green mailbox on the right side of the road.

Race Description – we have used pink/orange ribbon and the yellow/black arrows. Mile Markers will be in place also, every half mile along the course from mile 1.0

0.0 to 0.7 miles: Wide groomed road (Kiln Road on DCR Map). Gradual climb in the middle to thin things out. At 0.7 miles, at the crest of the hill, there is a right turn into the woods onto single track. It is well marked with ribbon. Turn right, Do not turn left here!

0.7 to 1.9 miles: Single track trail through woods, mostly flat and this will be difficult for passing as the snow outside the track can be deep. A moderately steep downhill section about one mile in will allow for passing. This trail exits onto a snow packed road (Penobscot Road on DCR map), where all runners turn right. Immediately after exiting the single track, the course turns left after 50 ft. on the road, onto single track trail again. **Please pay attention as this turn comes up very quickly! Remember, right on road and an almost immediate left back into the woods.**

1.9 to 3.0 miles: Rolling single track without much room for passing. Trail is marked with ribbons, though they are sometimes far apart.

3.0 to 3.5 miles: You exit the single track just after 3-miles, onto South Road. This is snowmobile road, and you turn left (east - follow ribbon). You follow South Road for a tenth mile or so, and at the intersection with Penobscot Road you turn left (north). Follow Penobscot (Snowmobile Road) for another three or four tenths mile and at 3.5 miles you will turn right into the woods on single track trail.

3.5 to 3.8 miles. Uphill single track trail, returning you to the initial road (Kiln Road) the race started on. At this point, turn right. DO NOT go straight across or else you will repeat the whole section above.

3.8 to 4.5 miles: Downhill on wide groomed road back to the start/finish.

You will need to run with your head up occasionally. Do not fall into the trap of looking down at your feet the entire time. And don't stare directly into the back of the person in front of you. Either of these techniques will get you off course sooner or later, this race or another.

For those of us who mark these courses year after year, when we run a strange race for the first time, you would notice (if you were with us) that when we approach an intersection our heads turn with the arrows and ribbon, then we look the opposite way just in case, and then back with the ribbon or arrows to re-verify. If you practice this at every intersection you come to, it will start to happen automatically for you. And this is a good thing.

The woods are really beautiful. and it is a big forest, about 10,000 acres. if anyone finds themselves feeling sort of "lost", remember to turn around and backtrack til you find a ribbon.

Any questions, shoot me an email. Thanks
Ed

edtrnews@yahoo.com