RUNNER GUIDE

2026 San Jose Trail Challenge - 10k, Half Marathon, 50K (updated 9/10/26)

Start/Finish: Sanborn County Park - Saratoga, CA

All times expressed on this guide are shown on local time zone - Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

Start Time: Sunday, September 27th - 7:00 am | **Official Finish Time:** Sunday, September 27th - 5:00 pm

Welcome to the sixth edition of the San Jose Trail Challenge! We are excited to have you racing with us and for you to see the stunning course we have installed for you this year.

Your safety is our first and highest priority. Please review this document in full to ensure your full understanding and compliance to the rules and policies as specified.

Race Weekend Schedule

Saturday 9/26	10:00am - 2:00pm	***Early Packet Pickup at Sports Basement Campbell.*** ***1875 S Bascom Ave Suite 240, Campbell, CA 95008***
	2:30pm	***Community Shake Out Run Sports Basement Campbell.*** ***1875 S Bascom Ave Suite 240, Campbell, CA 95008***
Sunday 9/27	5:30am 50km and Half Marathon racer parking at Sanborn County Park, 16055 Sanborn Rd, Saratoga, CA 95070	***Sanborn County Park Kiosk opens to 50km and Half Marathon Runners ONLY. Be prepared to pay $6.00 cash per vehicle. Exact change please!***
	9:30am 10km racer parking at West Valley College, Parking Lot 5 14000 Fruitvale Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070	***10km RUNNERS First Shuttle Departs from West Valley College (all 10km racers must ride shuttle) This is absolutely no 10km racer parking at Sanborn County Park.***
	50k: 6:00am-6:45am HM: 7:00am-8:45am 10k: 9:00am-10:45am	***Race Day Packet Pickup***

	50k: 7:00am HM: 9:00am 10k: 11:00am and 11:30am	***Start Times***
	12:00pm	***Half Marathon Awards***
	1:30pm	***10k Awards***
	5:00pm	***Course Closed***

*Note: 50k overall awards ceremony will be conducted as soon as the top three men and women have finished. 50k age group award recipients may pick up awards from the timing tent, as the age group podiums will be too spread out to conduct an awards ceremony.

Race Packet Pick-up & Registration

Early packet pickup will be available on Saturday before the race from 10:00am to 2:00pm at Sports Basement's Campbell location at 1875 S Bascom Ave Suite 240, Campbell, CA 95008

We highly recommend attending the Saturday packet pickup to avoid long lines on race morning, plus, Sport Basement will have a discount coupon to use in store for all attendees!

Requirements:

- ID/ Passport, with name matching your registration
- Race packets must be picked up by the runner

Race packet includes:

- **Runner BIB** is mandatory for all race distances.
- **Chip Timing Tag and holding wristband** mandatory for all race distances.
- **Swag:** Sponsors discounts, product samples

If you are unable to pick up your race packet on Friday, your race packet will be available at the Start Line ***(Sanborn County Park)*** up to 15 minutes before your start time. Please consider arriving early to avoid delays and queuing. *THERE IS NO PARKING AT THE VENUE. PLEASE RIDE THE SHUTTLE. SEE SHUTTLE SECTION FOR DETAILS*

If there are still spots available, on-site registration will be available during packet pickup on Saturday and Sunday.

Parking and Shuttles

50k and Half Marathon Parking

50k and Half Marathon racers will park at **Sanborn County Park, 16055 Sanborn Rd, Saratoga, CA 95070**

10km Racer Parking

All 10km racers are required to ride the shuttle to the start.

There will be an off-site dedicated parking lot and shuttles to the start/finish area for all 10km racers.

The 10km racer parking location is at **West Valley College, Parking Lot 5, 14000 Fruitvale Ave, Saratoga, CA 95070**.

Use this Google Map link for the specific location of Parking Lot 5: Lot 5 Location

10km Racers are NOT allowed to park at Sanborn County Park.

From the parking area, it is a 15 minute shuttle ride to the start. Please allow ample time for parking, a short wait for a shuttle, and the ride to the start. We recommend arriving at the parking lot 90 minutes prior to your race start time.

All racers are required to use the shuttle to reach the start/finish area, or to arrange to be dropped off in a personal vehicle or taxi/Uber. The parking lot at the start/finish area is unavailable for race participants, and Park Police will be stationed at the entrance of the park to turn participants around. The offsite parking location is a short, 15 minute shuttle from the start/finish area, but if you arrive late and attempt to park at the start/finish area, you will be redirected to the offsite lot and risk missing your start time.

The first shuttle will depart West Valley College at **9:30am** and the last shuttle will depart at **10:45am**. After the race shuttles will drive from the finish area back to the parking lot on a rolling schedule.

Course Information - ***UPDATED 9/10/2026***

- COURSE IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATIONS LEADING TO RACE DATE -
- COURSE IS SUBJECT TO LAND AGENCY PERMIT APPROVAL -

Sanborn County Park is home to well-groomed but steep and challenging trails, making it a great challenge for runners of all abilities.

Situated on the eastern slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains and home to giant coastal redwood groves, the park is shaded and relatively temperate even in the hotter months, making it a local favorite for hikers, runners, and mountain bikers. Racers can expect big climbs and descents with good footing on flowy singletrack trails through dense forest.

You can navigate the interactive race maps at our official website here.

The 10K course will see a net gain/loss of 1,805'
The Half Marathon course will see a net gain/loss of 3,017'
The 50K course will see a net gain/loss of 6,344'

Aid Stations and Cutoffs ***UPDATED 9/10/26***

Our goal with our intermediate cutoff times is to allow runners to stay on the course as long as possible. Note that the pace required to make it to the finish line cutoff is faster than the pace required to beat the prior cutoffs. Beating the cutoff for one of the early aid stations is not an indication that you are on pace to beat the overall cutoff.

Aid	50k Distance	HM Distance	10k Distance	Cutoff	Crew
Start	0	0	0	-	Yes
Skyline Out	3.2	3.2	3.2	-	No
Reservoir Out	6.7	6.7	-	-	No
Reservoir Back	8.5	-	-	-	No
Skyline Back	12.1	10.2	-	-	No
Start/Finish	15.3	-	-	-	Yes
Skyline Out	18.6	-	-	-	No
Reservoir Out	22.1	-	-	-	No
Reservoir Back	24.0	-	-	3:30pm	No
Skyline Back	27.5	-	-	4:30pm	No
Finish	31.2	13.6	6.6	5:00pm	Yes

Aid Station Offerings

Aid stations will provide a variety of nutrition options, including water, Hyk Energy electrolytes, sodas, Chargel energy gels, salty snacks (chips), bars, fruit (bananas and oranges), nuts, and candy.

Mandatory Equipment

- **Bib number** must be visible from the front during the entire race. Staff along the race course MUST be able to read the number clearly.
- **Chip timing tag** must be worn for the duration of the race.
- **One 500ml (17 oz) water carrying vessel (50k only)**

Recommended Equipment

Some additional gear to consider:

- Water bottle, waist pack, soft flask holder or backpack with hydration system. Participants must carry and dispose of their trash at aid stations. ***Any runners caught littering will be subject to immediate disqualification.***
- Waterproof breathable warm gloves. Early morning temperatures can reach the low 40s
- Breathable warm jacket to protect you from low temperatures
- Tights with high Lycra content. Aside from protection from the cooler temperatures, tights will keep you free from poison oak along the course.
- Running shoes with rugged traction
- Trekking poles are allowed.
- Short running gaiters to keep debris out is a great way to prevent blisters
- Multifunctional neck gaiter or buff which can double as a head cover during cooler temps
- Sunscreen
- Running hat and/or visor
- Eyewear: keep in mind that the race course goes through dark forest areas and sunny open lands so proper eyewear is recommended
- A spare change of clothing in your drop bags
- Warm and dry clothes at the start/finish bag check

Drop Policy

If it turns out not to be your day and you are unable to complete the race, ***you may drop at the nearest aid station by surrendering your race bib to the aid station captain.*** Transportation will be provided to transfer you back to the finish line.

We have taken extensive measures to account for all runners that are on course and those dropped from the race. Course Marshals or any other staff/volunteer members are ***NOT*** authorized to record any dropped participants.

****** DO NOT exit the course without notifying our staff if you decided to drop. Failure to do so may result in dispatching search and rescue personnel to locate you. You will be responsible for such expenses. ******

Crew

Crew for 50k runners may spectate and offer assistance to their runners only in the start/finish transition area between laps on the 50k course. No other aid stations are accessible by crew. All crew are required to take the shuttle from the offsite parking location (see Parking and Shuttles section). There will be no onsite parking allowed for racers or spectators/crew

Bag Check/Drop Bags

There are no on-course drop bags. There will be a transition area between laps for 50k runners, and they are welcome to leave items in that transition area for access mid-race. There will also be a bag check location at the start/finish area where all racers can leave items to be picked up after the race.

Clean Race Policy

Our race will take place in two beautiful parks. One of the key factors for success is maintaining the magnificent scenery surrounding the race. Local residents, tourists and all users are responsible for preserving this place. For this reason, ***littering along the race course is grounds for immediate disqualification***. **NO EXCEPTION.** It is our responsibility to have a clean race.

Trash and recycling receptacles are available at all aid stations.

Contact Information

Our team is here to ensure you have the best race experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please use our website, https://www.spartantrail.com/san-jose/, or contact us by email trail@spartan.com.

RUNNER GUIDE

SPARTAN TRAIL SHAKE-OUT RUN

HOSTED BY THE SPARTAN TRAIL TEAM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
Gather 2:30 PM • Run starts 3:00 PM

SPORTS BASEMENT
1875 S Bascom Ave, Ste 240
Campbell, CA 95008

5KM DISTANCE • ALL PACES
Public invited • No fee

RSVP FREE
Scan to join the run

SCAN TO RSVP

Hyk Energy is the official hydration sponsor of Spartan Trail

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CAFFEINE FREE | GLUTEN FREE | NO ARTIFICIAL SWEETENERS | NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVORS | NO ARTIFICIAL COLORS | PLANT BASED

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