

# OFFICIAL 2023 ATHLETE GUIDE



## OVERVIEW

This is the inaugural Durango Derby, where we showcase the unique access and trail systems right out the back door. We hope to make it a mainstay of the Durango and the national mountain bike calendar by providing a safe fun event for all participants.

We have to thank the legacy of the City of Durango, Durango Trails and all involved in the development of the trail systems since the inaugural MTB World Champs were held back in 1990. We also have to give a huge shoutout to all of the volunteers, sponsors and all of you riders for participating.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday September 22<sup>nd</sup>

4 - 8pm: Packet Pickup Party - [Ska Brewing](#)

7pm: MANDATORY Rider Meeting - [Ska Brewing](#)

### Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>

All saturday events happening at (unless otherwise noted):

[Durango Mesa Park](#)  
[2000 Ewing Mesa Road.](#)

[Durango, CO 81301](#)

**6 - 7:45am:** Packet Pickup

**8am:** Durango Derby Start

**12 - 5pm:** Post Race Celebration

**2pm:** Durango DEVO Jr Fun Race

**3pm:** Durango Derby Award Podiums

**6pm:** Venue Closes

**7 - 11pm:** Derby Post Race Party - Location TBD

## **PARKING**

**Durango Mesa** - There is parking at the Main Venue at Durango Mesa Park, but we also encourage all to ride to the venue. We will have ample racks and just in case bring a lock.

There will be parking volunteers that will guide people into two main gravel lots and into organized spaces.

We will also have a team pit parking area for those who need a little more space like tents, awnings, trailers, etc and will be first come, first serve Friday 1-3pm and Saturday 6-8am, however there is ***no overnight camping at Durango Mesa Park***.

All tents/structures must be securely weighted/staked (40lb weights for each leg).

See the venue map on the last page for parking info.

**Stage Starts/Finishes** - There is very, very limited parking at the stage starts and finishes so please do not drive. These areas must be kept clear for emergency access. If riders have support folks, please have them ride to trailheads by following the team rider transfer routes from the Mesa (see team transfer routes), or park on a nearby street and ride over to the trailhead.

## **SPECTATORS**

As the stages are all on singletrack there are really no spectator areas on the routes other than at start and finish lines. It is possible to access the course from other trailheads but please do not go on course. The best spectating will be at the main Durango Mesa venue.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Durango Mesa Park (link) is an 1800 acre property within Durango City Limits that has an agenda of creating venues for a large variety of outdoor experiences and infrastructure, including what will be the largest municipal bike park in the US. There are predetermined routes for team riders to get to and from the start/finishes of the stages that are easily accessed from the venue. Durango Mesa Park is **PRIVATE PROPERTY** when not used for an event so please respect and enjoy. There is **NO CAMPING** at the race venue, please check out [visitdurango.com](http://visitdurango.com) for nearby camping information.

All of the trails you will be riding have been established throughout many years by the combined efforts of Durango Trails, the City of Durango, the BLM and our amazing community of volunteers that have built them. Please stay on the established trails at all times, keep your skids to a minimum and leave only lines.

## RACER INFORMATION

**Solo Riders** - Plan for a very challenging day on the bike and bring plenty of fuel, water and your favorite trail tools.

- We will have a clothing drop at the finish of Stage 1 / Aid Station #1
- We will have a bin for drop bags that will be taken to Aid Station #2
  - Drop bags can be dropped at the registration tent the morning of the race.

**2 and 4 Person Teams** - Team riders that are doing stages 2, 3, and 4 should start from the race venue and follow the below routes to the start of their respective stage. Each rider will complete their stage and the neutral transfer to the start of the next stage. You will then pass your team timing chip to the next rider and they will begin their stage.

Please allow 25-30 minutes to ride the transfer from the race venue to your stage so you can be at the start of your stage when your teammate arrives.

Team riders transferring to and from Stages 2, 3 and 4 please be aware when traveling on the Meadow Trail and Horse Gulch Rd that riders racing Stage 4 may be on course.

[Venue to Stage 2 Start](#)

[Venue to Stage 3 Start](#)

[Venue to Stage 4 Start](#)

Two person team riders and all team riders who have finished their stages are recommended to follow the designated transfer routes as closely as possible, however we have not built routes for all the possible combinations of transfers. Here are location pins of key locations that can be used to help navigate to stage starts and back to the race venue.

[Race Venue - Durango Mesa Park](#)

[Start - Stage 2](#)

[Start - Stage 3](#)

[Start - Stage 4](#)

**Neutral Aid Stations** - There will be a neutral aid station located near the finish of each stage. All aid stations will be stocked with water, Tailwind Hydration Products, Fresh Fruit and other snack items from Natural Grocers, and Embark Maple products.

Portable bathrooms will also be located at the end of each stage at each Aid Station. Please wait to do your business at the provided portable bathrooms out of respect for our community and other trail users.

**Timing Chips and Number Plates** - All solo riders will receive a wristband timing chip that must be worn on your right hand wrist during the competition. Each team will receive one wristband timing chip that is to be exchanged between each stage to the rider doing the next stage. All riders will have their own number plates that are needed for backup scoring, etc.

**IMPORTANT TIMING CHIP INFO:**

- Solo rider, and Team Stage 1 riders ***MUST ACTIVATE THEIR TIMING CHIPS BEFORE ENTERING THE START / FINISH CORRAL.***
- ***TIMING CHIPS MUST BE WORN ON YOUR RIGHT WRIST***
  - If you use a GPS watch, that watch must either be transferred to your left wrist, or removed.
- After you cross the finish line of Stage 4, you are ***REQUIRED TO DOWNLOAD YOUR CHIP AND RETURN IT AT THE TIMING TENT.***
  - You will be corralled directly to the timing tent at the finish.
  - Lost timing chips will result in disqualification and a ***\$150 fee.***

**First Aid** - There will be small human first aid kits at the end of each stage in case anyone has a minor crash they would like to clean up.

**Emergency Medical** - If you come upon a rider during the race that has crashed, please stop and check to make sure they are OK. If the down rider requires medical attention please stay with that rider and send the next rider on course to the next course marshall to get medical assistance. There is an on-call emergency response team that will be contacted for emergency assistance.

**Bike Repair** - There will be a Stan's Bike First Aid at the end of each stage stocked with some of the things you may need to get your rig rolling again. We don't have on-course neutral bike support otherwise, so make sure your rig is race ready.

If you damage your bike or miss the stage time cut off and are unable to finish, please remember to give your timing chip to a stage start or finish official.



**Cell Phones** - All team riders should carry their cell phones in case the prior stage rider encounters problems, they can notify the next rider and the rest of the team. It's also not a bad idea to share your locations with each other so you can keep an eye on each other.

All other riders are encouraged to bring their phones in case of emergency.

**Stage and Transfer Windows** - The Derby covers a lot of ground and has many moving parts to make it a challenging and enjoyable event for all. With that said we can only keep the courses open for so long, so please keep moving forward so you don't miss a time cutoff.

The stages will be open and ready for the fastest riders to start as soon as they complete the prior stage and transfer and will remain open for a predetermined window of time. We have accounted for 20 minute transfer windows which should be more than enough time to grab some fuel from the aid station and complete the transfer.

If a rider misses the stage start time cutoff, then the start marshal will collect their timing chip and they will be directed back to the Main Venue at Durango Mesa Park. Racers and teams must complete all four stages to get an official result.

**Stage 1 - Mass Start 8am**

**Transfer 1** - 20 minutes (leisure pace 12 minutes)

**Stage 2 - Start Open: 8:50am to 10:30am**

**Transfer 2** - 20 minutes (leisure pace 10 minutes)

**Stage 3 - Start Open: 9:25am-11:40am**

**Transfer 3** - 20 minutes (leisure pace 15 minutes)

**Stage 4 - Start Open: 10:20am-1:45pm**

**MASS START STAGING**

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**START LINE**

**PRO SOLO**

**AMATEUR SOLO**

**TWO PERSON TEAM**

**FOUR PERSON TEAM**

## COURSE AND TRANSFER INFORMATION

Solo riders are encouraged to download the complete route that includes all transfers here:

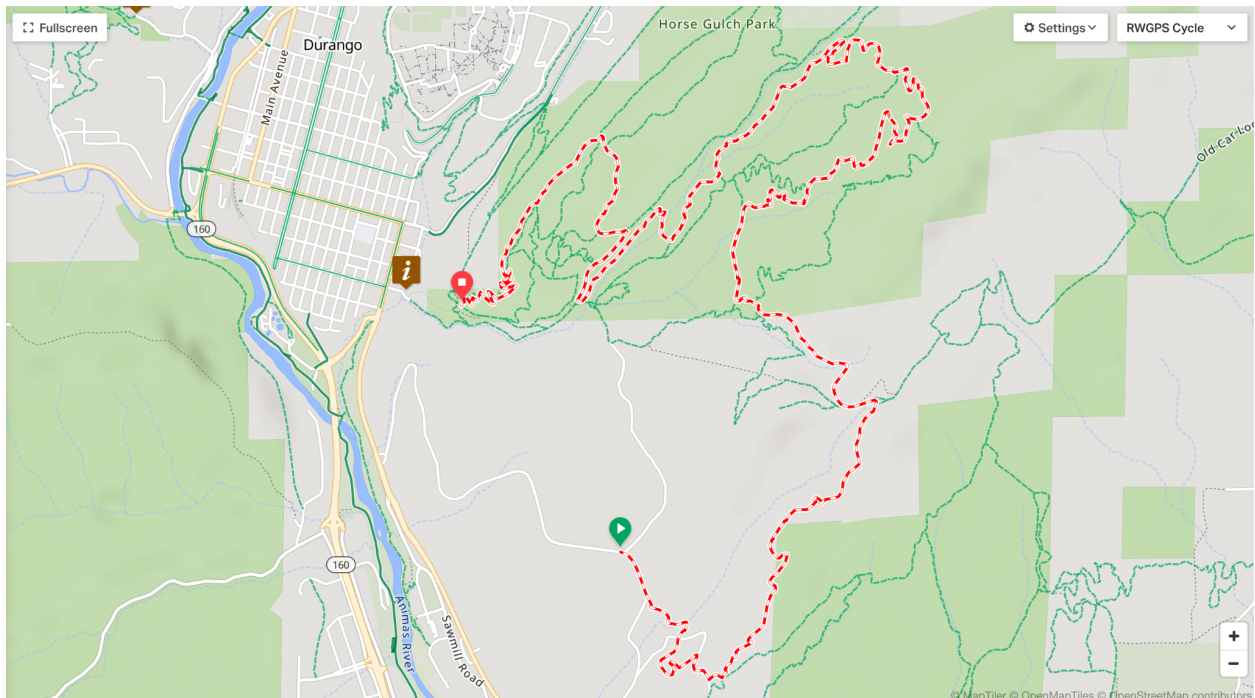
### **Durango Derby Complete Route including transfers 2023:**

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/44333175>

The timed stages will all be closed off by course tape but please be aware there is a chance racers could encounter other users that have crossed the tape and are on course.

The untimed transfers are on City streets and riders will be required to follow rules of the road, stop at all signs and lights and keep as much to the right as possible. Please ride respectfully and defensively, cars will always win in a collision.

### **Maxxis Stage 1 - Durango Mesa Park to Half Ridge Trailhead**



From the start riders will go up the trail used for the CO HS State Champs race to left to climb Crites to the top of Telegraph. From there it's right down Send It to a few rights to do the classic Meadow, Staci's, Mike's and Cuchillo Loop with the added bonus of turning right on Drop Over then left dropping down Cap's. It's then right up Horse Gulch Rd to left on Rocky Rd to climb to the top of the Ridge at black dirt then down the Ridge and onto Half-Ridge to finish the stage.

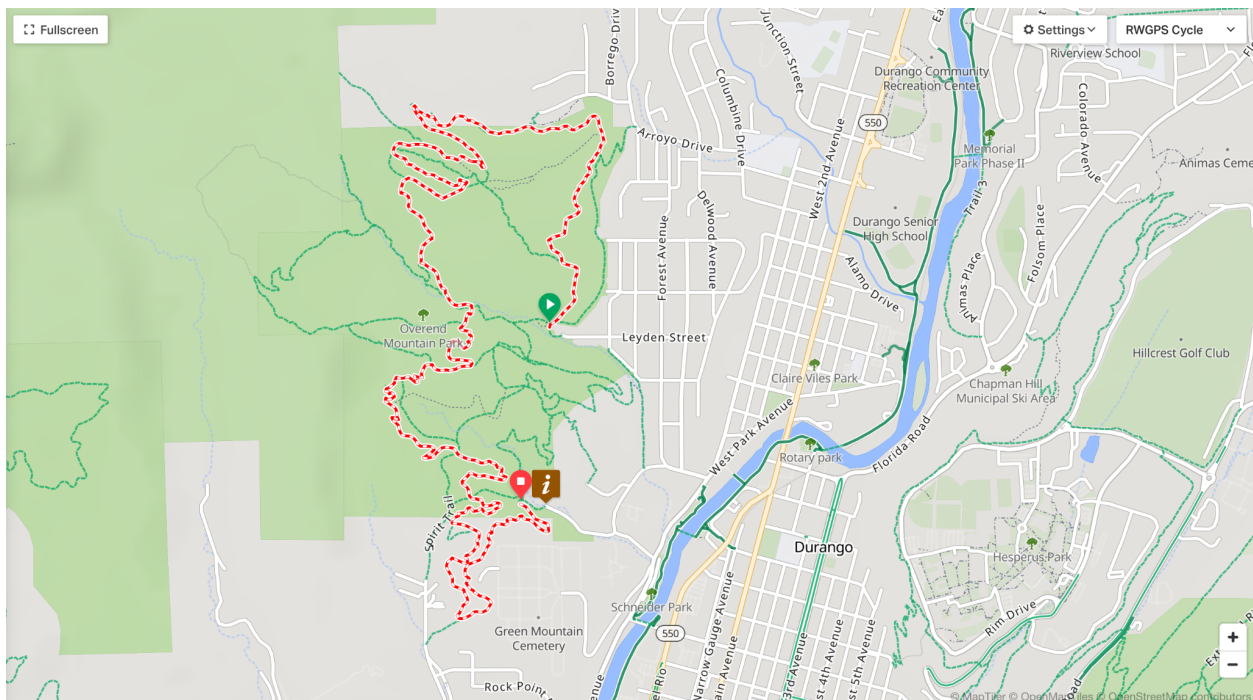
## [Stage 1 Route](#)

**Transfer #1** - Follow DD stencils on the ground at all pavement turns.

From the finish near the bottom of Half Ridge keep straight across Zip Line and then left to descend the quarry and Horse Gulch Rd. West on E 3rd St., right (N) on E 6th Ave, left (W) on E 9th St crossing Main Ave and HWY 550. After crossing the river turn right (N) on Roosa Ave, left on El Paso St, right on Forest Ave, left on Kearney St and left on Leyden St to the Overend Mountain Park trailhead and the start of Stage 2.

## [Transfer #1 Route](#)

### Easy Coffee Roasters Stage 2 - Overend Mountain Park



Stage 2 heads straight up the first half of Ned's Hill (yeah that Ned), right on Englehart's around to left to climb Hidden Valley, right on Graben's at the top, left on Graben's Interior (Gravity Cavity), right on Graben's to left down the infamous Star Wars, left on Perins Gulch, right to climb up 8 Bells, right on Brown's Ridge to left on Hogs Foot, right across road to Spirit all the way around to finish at Ella Vita.

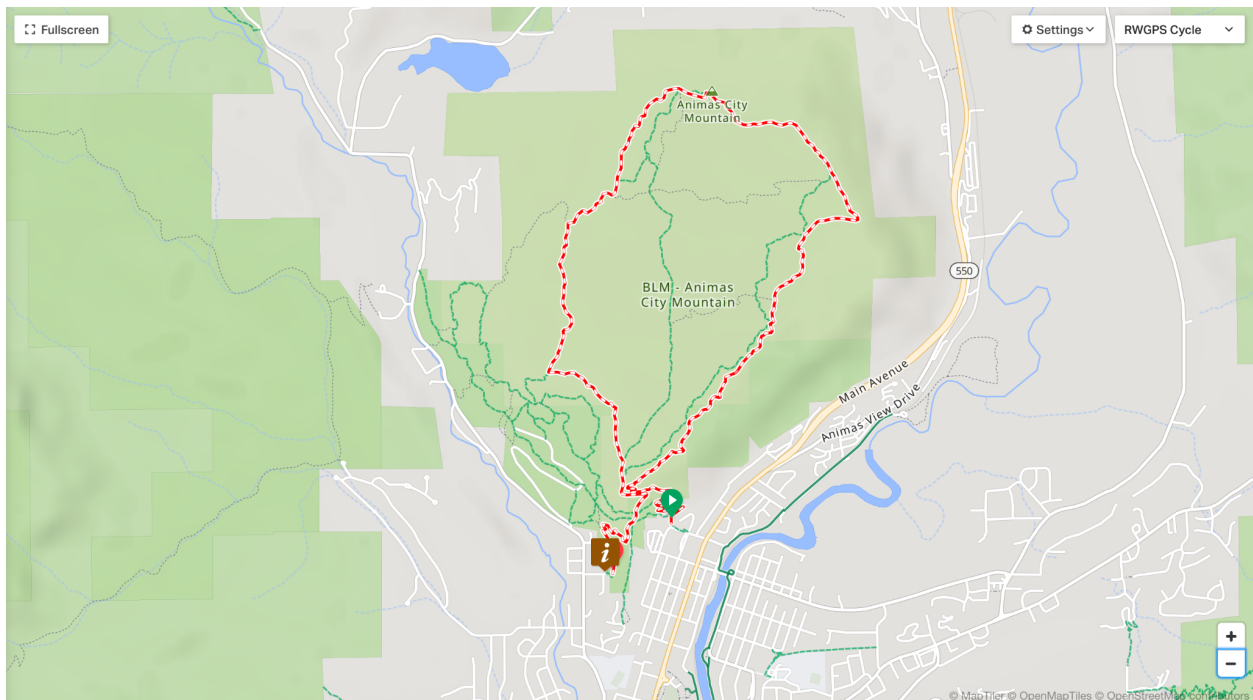
## [Stage 2 Route](#)

**Transfer #2** - Follow DD stencils on the ground at all pavement turns.

From the stage 2 finish keep right onto Ella Vita Ct., left at the stop sign to Avenida Del Sol and straight onto El Paso St, left onto W Park Ave to left on W 2nd Ave, right on W 28th St, left at alley, left on W 29th St, right on W 3rd Ave, left on W 30th St, right on W 4th Ave to Animas Mtn trailhead.

### [Transfer #2 Route](#)

## Sanitas Cycles Stage 3 - Animas Mountain



Stage 3 starts out headed up the Animas Mountain trail from the start, right on Lupine and climbs the east side of the mountain with great views at the top. Riders then keep right onto Lupine to a left on Lupine, across the cliffs over Sailing Hawks, right down Animas Mountain trail to the saddle and then right down Birket Trail to finish.

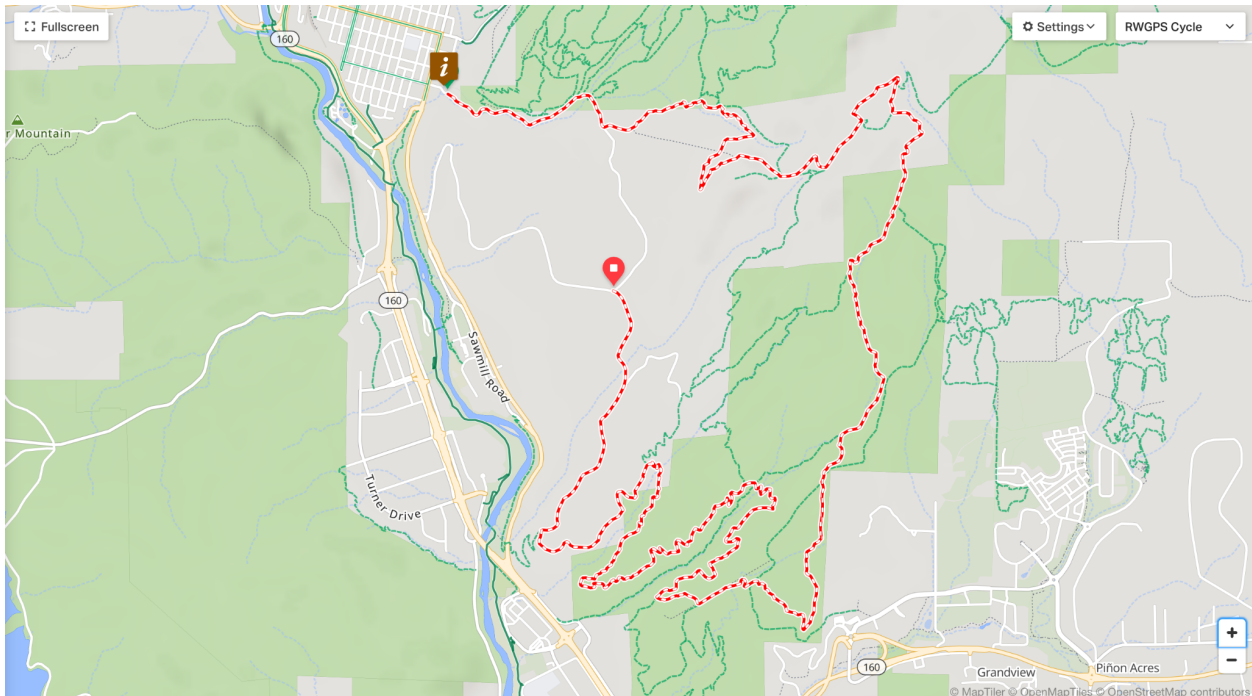
### [Stage 3 Route](#)

**Transfer 3** - Follow DD stencils on the ground at all pavement turns.

From stage 3 finish straight on Birket St to left on Junction St turning into 25th St and right on W 2nd Ave, right on W Park Ave, left on W 3rd Ave, straight onto Roosa Ave, left onto 9th St, crossing HWY 550 and Main Ave to right on E 6th Ave, left on 3rd St to Horse Gulch trailhead.

### [Transfer #3 Route](#)

## Ska Brewing Stage 4 - Horse Gulch Trailhead to Durango Mesa Park

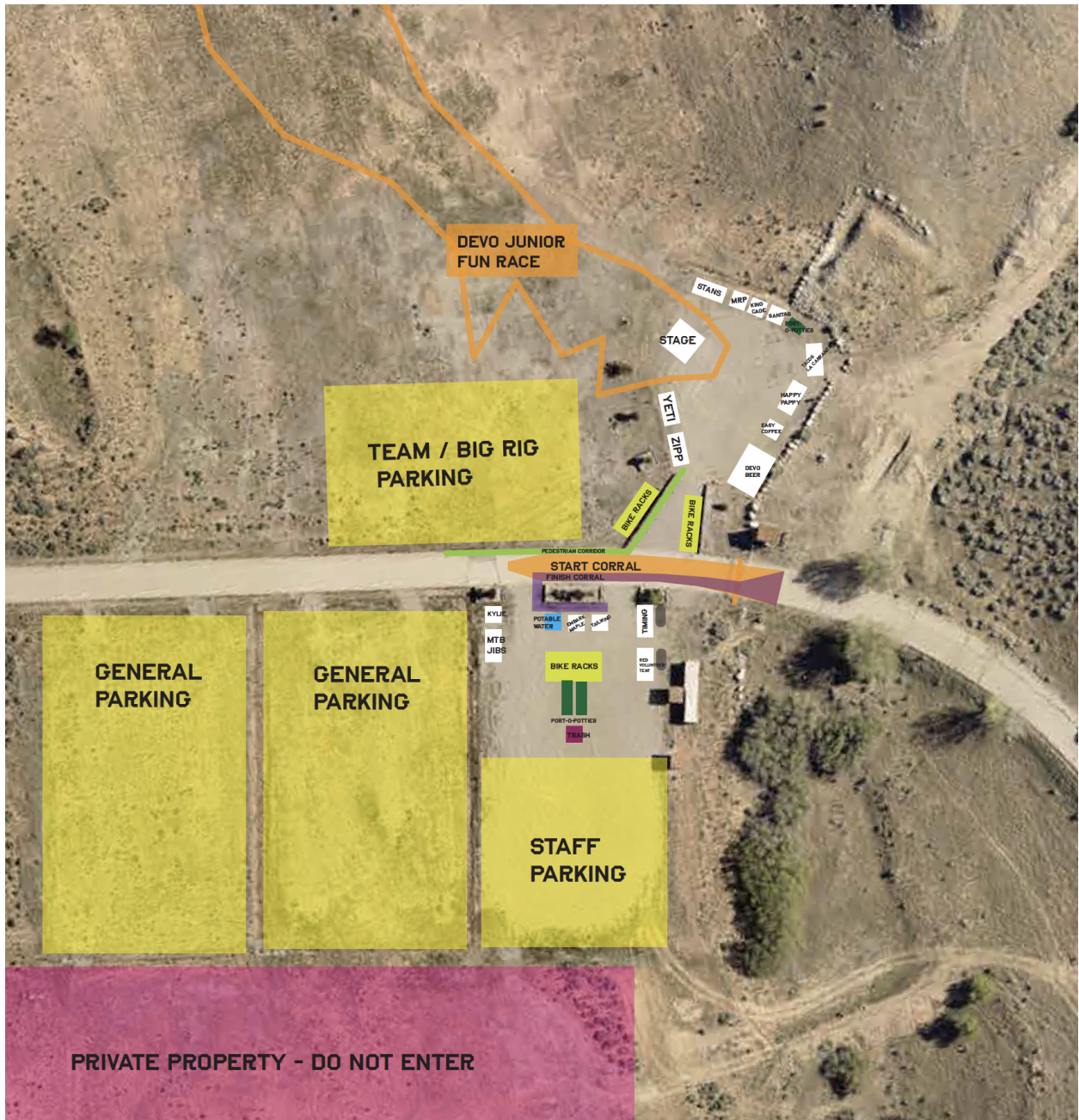


Stage 4 starts by taking on the classic climb to the top of Telegraph trail by climbing HG Rd to right on Telegraph. From the top keep left on Telegraph to left on Yellow Brick Rd, right on Sidewinder to left on Upper Cowboy, right on Big Canyon, left on Middle Cowboy to cross well road onto Cowboy proper, right on South Rim crossing Big Canyon and up to left on Carbon Junction, right onto Mesa two track and paved road back to main venue finish.

[Stage 4 Route](#)



# VENUE MAP



## CONTACT AND QUESTIONS

Please email us with questions [info@durangoderby.com](mailto:info@durangoderby.com)