



24K Marathon Course Description

Not that you will remember all of this, but we wanted to provide you with a narrative of the course to help you get prepared for the third running of the **Wolf Tracks Rendezvous 24K Ski Half-Marathon**.

The race will start outside the chalet in the ski school area. With 5-6 classic lanes, it's a straight start of 50+ meters to a hard left around the big pine tree sends you out on **Base Loop** in a 50-meter untracked scramble zone. Two classic tracks will lead striders to the first climb about .5K into the race, reducing to a single track for the rest of the race beginning halfway up that hill. Continue on **Base Loop** to **Nose Dive Alley** (minus the dive). At the end of **Nose Dive** you'll continue straight ahead, up and down a moderate hill, flowing directly onto **Yukon Trail**.

Nothing too crazy on the 2.5K **Yukon Trail**, except the nice views of Yukon Swamp. After Yukon, you'll turn right onto **X-C Express**. Your first 5K marker is posted next to the flowing headwaters of Yukon Creek. X-C Express widens and takes you another Km to a short 0.9K detour on **Mellow Meadow**. After you exit **Mellow Meadow**, another short stretch on the wide **X-C Express** will bring you to the **1st Aid Station (7.5K)** with water (white/clear cups) & **energy drink (red cups)**.

From here, you'll come to the start of a 10K+ stretch on **Nekoosa** and **Wolf Tracks**. Enjoy these two trails if you're primarily a skater, as these two trails are only groomed for classical skiing the rest of the year. About 1K into the **Wolf Tracks** trail, there will be a 150-meter two-way section that is now as wide as X-C Express. **Wolf Tracks** is a fairly easy skiing trail with long flat sections, a long gradual grind of an uphill, and some rollers. Those who aren't in too much of a hurry may very likely see real wolf tracks as members of the North Willow Wolf Pack are seen out here quite often.

Exit **Wolf Tracks** with a sharp right, take **Nekoosa** a few hundred meters, and you'll be at the **2nd Aid Station (18K)** with food and energy gel. A short trip back down **X-C Express** will bring you right to the very fun **Steeple Chase**. Be careful of the last downhill with a hard left on this trail. A right-hand turn and a few easy kilometers down the flat, wide **Nepco's Cruise**, past the cozy Tea House, will bring you to a combination elevator shaft and wall. This is where the 42K Marathoners will join you as they finish River Run.

From there, it's quick compound downhill on **Nepco's Cruise** to the **2K-To-Go** mark. Take a breather on the 1K rolling **Sleigh Ride**, and shift into top gear for a final down-sloping or flat Km on **Silver Strider**. Enter the stadium from along the parking lot, and sprint up to the finish line outside the Chalet.