

8 - COURSE DESCRIPTION ~ 2011

This chapter gives a brief description of the topography of each leg, including the mileage and ranked in difficulty from 1 (most difficult) to 20 (least difficult).

Leg 1 5.4 Miles Difficulty 12

474' Start Finish at 474' Flat with slight declines then at 4-mile point a gradual incline until 4.5 mile then .8 mile downhill.

Leg 2 4.0 Miles Difficulty 16

474' Start Finish 470' The first mile is slight downhill. The next 3.0 miles are flat.

Leg 3 4.2 Miles Difficulty 8

470' Start 1m 590, 2m 746, 3m 935, 4m 1137, F 1168' This is a strenuous climb. Combine with any wind and heat can be very tough. Begins the climb up Ibex Pass.

Leg 4 5.1 Miles Difficulty 6

1168' Start 1m 1403, 2m 1650, 3m 1912 3.5 2090, 4m 1970, 5m 1886. This leg continues the climb to Ibex pass. There are 3.5 miles of steep uphill before reaching the top at 2,090 feet. The last 1.6 miles are all downhill.

Leg 5 6.1 Miles Difficulty 20

1186' Start 1m 1774, 2m 1636, 3m 1530, 4m 1434, 5m 1376, 6.1m 1319. The entire leg is downhill although the last couple of miles begin to flatten out. The runner awaiting the handoff must be alert. Visibility of the approaching runner is limited by curves.

Leg 6 6.1 Miles Difficulty 9

1319' Start 1m 1340, 2m 1396, 3m 1399, 4m 1426, 5m 1482, 6.1 1528. This leg is fairly flat with the last 3 miles of rolling hills ending just before the town of Shoshone. At 1.7 miles, a road enters from the right stay on Highway 127.

Leg 7 6.2 Miles Difficulty 3

1528' Start 1m 1560, 2m 1624, 3m 1870, 4m 2159, 4.7m 2390, 5m 2345, 6.2m 2143. Fairly flat until 1.5 miles where the uphill begins. The gradual incline soon becomes a very arduous hill, topping out at 4.7 mile mark. The leg finishes with 1.5 miles of downhill. The leg begins about .7 miles south of the intersection of Highway 127, and SR 178 at Shoshone. Turn right onto SR 178.

Leg 8 6.6 Miles Difficulty 5

2143' Start 1m 2111, 2m 2143, 3m 2211, 4m 2274, 5m 2376, 6m 2566, .6m 2664. This leg begins at Chicago Valley Road with one mile of a slight downhill. Then a continuous slight climb that begins to get steeper at the 3 mile point. It climbs steadily and becomes even more difficult the last 1.6 miles.

Leg 9 7.5 Miles Difficulty 7

2664' Start 1m 2730, 2m 2850, 3m 2816, 4m 2706, 5m 2587, 6m 2476, 7m 2494, .5m 2536. This leg starts with .5m downhill then .5m uphill. The remainder of the leg is along a gradual descent. The leg finishes with a very short uphill to the handoff .3 mile past Cal/Nev Stateline.

Leg 10 5.8 Miles Difficulty 15

2436' Start 1m 2518, 2m 2533, 3m 2554, 4m 2564, 5m 2585, .8m 2606. This leg is slight uphill. It takes the runner into the friendly community of Pahrum Nevada.

Leg 11 5.3 Miles Difficulty 13

2606' Start 1m 2650, 2m 2710, 3m 2720, 4m 2741, 5m 2750, .4m 2766. This leg is a slight uphill. At 1.6 miles after the handoff the runner will make a right turn onto Nevada Highway 160. ~Caution~ The next 40 miles of the course are characterized by very fast traffic!

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Leg 12 4.6 Miles Difficulty 14

2766' Start 1m 2780, 2m 2775, 3m 2870, 4m 3009, .6m 3076. This is a short but steady uphill.

Leg 13 7.0 Miles Difficulty 2

3076' Start 1m 3155, 2m 3265, 3m 3368, 4m 3429, 5m 3442, 6m 3426, 7m 3370. This leg begins with a long steady incline of 5 miles. The leg then levels off with a gentle decline for the last 2 miles. Beginning with this leg the runner and the FV will use the paved shoulder lane.

Parking for support vehicles is on the Tecopa Road, south of Highway 160.

Leg 14 10.7 Miles Difficulty 1

3370' Start 1m 3326, 2m 3342, 3m 3377, 4m 3476, 5m 3602, 6m 3703, 7m 3772, 8m 3820, 9m 3930, 10m 4088, .7m 4215. This leg begins with 1 mile slight downhill and then the runner begins a steady climb toward Mountain Springs Summit. The second 5 miles is difficult due to the elevation. Stage finishes at Sandy Valley Road

Leg 15 5.5 Miles Difficulty 4

4215' Start 1m 4376, 2m 4562, 3m 4730, 4m 4940, 5.5m 5300. This leg provides one of the most difficult challenges of the race with 5.5 miles of tough, continuous uphill running. At 4.5 miles into the run, it gets steeper. The leg ends just short of the summit at 5495 feet.

Leg 16 6.7 Miles Difficulty 11

5300' Start at .7 miles, the runner climbs to the summit at 5495', 1m 5420, 2m 5164, 3m 4805, 4m 4496, 5m 4186, 6m 3921, .7m 3760. Very fast, very steep downhill! Watch for Cattle crossing grate at 2.5 miles!

Leg 17 7.3 Miles Difficulty 10

3760' Start 1m 3557, 2m 3395, 3m 3250, 4m 3130, 5m 3020, 6m 2940, 7.3m 2842. The entire leg is one long continuous descent until the runner reaches Fort Apache Road, here they will be assisted in making a left turn to the exchange point 500 feet ahead. Watch for Cattle crossing grate at 2.5 miles!

Leg 18 5.7 Miles Difficulty 17

2842' Start 1m 2828, 2m 2735, 3m 2628, 4m 2578, 5m 2610, .7m 2640. This leg is flat for .4 miles and then becomes a slight incline for .2 miles. At the 1.0 mile point the leg begins a gradual downhill for 2.8 miles and then is slightly inclined for the remainder of the leg.

Leg 19 5.6 Miles Difficulty 19

2640' Start 1m 2666, 2m 2694, 3m 2587, 4m 2454, 5m 2344, .7m 2315. This leg begins with a slight incline over the 215 Freeway. After a short decline the runner will begin a slight incline until they reach the Desert Inn road. The runner and FV will then turn right and enter a coned off traffic lane. The remainder of the leg is slightly downhill.

Leg 20 4.6 Miles Difficulty 18

2315' Start 1m 2212, 2m 2148, 3m 2125, 4m 2040. This leg is flat to downhill for the first 2.0 miles, then a slight incline over the 15 Freeway. The leg then descends and passes under Las Vegas Blvd. It then inclines slightly to Paradise Road intersection where the runner and FV will be assisted in making a left. On Paradise, the runner shall use the coned off traffic lane .4 miles to the Finish Line inside the Hilton Convention Room. The FV will drive to the designated drop off area and drop of their assistant and then continue on to the parking area. NO PARKING at the DROP OFF POINT,