

Mountain Athletes' Guide

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IRONHIKE

Endurance Productions

IronHike Endurance Series

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

[Mohawk Mountain Ski Area](#)

[46 Great Hollow Road](#)

[Cornwall, CT US 06753](#)

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Contents

[Welcome](#)

[Schedule](#)

[Packing List](#)

[Mandatory](#)

[Prohibited](#)

[Services](#)

[Food](#)

[Course](#)

[Course Rules](#)

[Sponsors](#)

[Causes](#)

[Resources](#)

[Questions](#)



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Welcome

Welcome again to Mohawk Mountain for the final IronHike Endurance Series of the year!

Since our inaugural event in the fall of 2023, it has been our honor to provide a venue where you can push your limits to heal, transform, and inspire. What started as just an idea has now grown to 174 total signups from over 30 states in the U.S. and Canada.

We have watched our tribe grow, bringing together Mountain Athletes from across the country and beyond. To all our returning tribe and the veterans and first responders who make this group so special, we are truly honored to have you with us.

Our network of sponsors and partners has expanded, helping us strengthen the event and foster new connections. To support you year-round, we now offer recorded coaching sessions, tribe community calls, podcasts, and blogs that share the inspiring stories of our mountain athletes.

This year, we're keeping the energy building with the staggered-start and all-finish format. We'll have a local food truck on-site again, and we'll celebrate your achievements with awards and recognition at the end of the series on Sunday.

This experience is about creating lasting memories, changing your story, and conquering your summit. See you at the bell!



John Kolker, Founder



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Schedule

QuickView Event Schedule

- **Olympus Mons & Answer the Bell Ultra - Full** → Check-in: Wed, Oct 1, 5-8 PM | Start: Midnight, Thu, Oct 2
Finish: Noon, Sun, Oct 5
- **Everest** → Check-in: Thu, Oct 2, 8-11 AM | Start: Noon, Thu, Oct 2
Finish: Noon, Sun, Oct 5
- **Denali** → Check-in: Fri, Oct 3, 8-11 AM | Start: Noon, Fri, Oct 3
Finish: Noon, Sun, Oct 5
- **Kuwohi** → Check-in: Sat, Oct 4, 8-11 AM | Start: Noon, Sat, Oct 4
Finish: Midnight, Sat, Oct 4
- **Double Kuwohi & Answer the Bell Ultra - Basic** → Check-in: Sat, Oct 4, 8-11 AM | Start: Noon, Sat, Oct 4
Finish: Noon, Sun, Oct 5

Full Schedule of Activities

Wednesday, Oct 1:

- 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM – Check-in & Tent Setup for Olympus Mons Mountain Athletes.
- 11:30 PM – To the Bell.
- 11:40 PM – Mandatory Safety Briefing.
- Midnight – Olympus Mons IronHikers Away!

Thursday, Oct 2:

- 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM – Check-in & Tent Setup for Everest Mountain Athletes.
- 11:30 AM – To the Bell.
- 11:40 AM – Mandatory Safety Briefing.
- Noon – Everest IronHikers Away!



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM – Food4Friends Food Truck on site.

Friday, Oct 3:

- 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM – Check-in & Tent Setup for Denali Mountain Athletes.
- 11:30 AM – To the Bell.
- 11:40 AM – Mandatory Safety Briefing.
- Noon – Denali IronHikers Away!
- TBD - Food4Friends Food Truck on site.

Saturday, Oct 4:

- 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM – Food4Friends Food Truck on site.
- 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM – Check-in & Tent Setup for Kuwohi and Double Kuwohi Mountain Athletes.
- 11:15 AM – Group Photo at the Bell for all Mountain Athletes, Cadre, and family.
- 11:30 AM – To the Bell.
- 11:40 AM – Mandatory Safety Briefing.
- Noon – Kuwohi and Double Kuwohi IronHikers Away!
- TBD - Food4Friends Food Truck on site.
- Midnight – Kuwohi time limit reached.

Sunday, Oct 5:

- TBD - Food4Friends Food Truck on site.
- Noon – All events except single Kuwohi time limit reached.
- 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM – Event closing and award ceremony.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Packing List

Trekking and endurance sports are highly personal experiences, and you likely have a good idea of what works for you. However, based on past events, we strongly recommend the following:

Footwear & Apparel

- Extra Socks – Overdo it here! Many athletes had chewed-up feet last season. Bring 2–3 extra pairs of wool socks per day.
- No Cotton Socks – Opt for moisture-wicking materials like Darn Tough brand.
- Footwear – Good trail runners, hiking boots, or sturdy running shoes with solid tread.
- Quick-Dry Clothing – Includes:
 - Short & long-sleeve shirts
 - Windbreaker
 - Neck buff
 - Shorts or hiking pants
 - Undergarments (no cotton)
 - Light gloves
 - Hat or beanie
 - Warmer jacket

Essential Gear

- Day Pack, Running Vest, or Belt – To carry water bottle, bladder, cell phone, snacks, Summit Tokens, etc.
- Headsets, Headphones, Earbuds, AirPods, etc.
- Rain Gear – We are an All-Weather Event Series, so pack accordingly:
 - Breathable, lightweight rain jacket with a hood
 - Umbrella – The course is exposed and open, so an umbrella can be useful.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

- Trekking Poles – Any type works. Some sections of the course are steeper than others.
- Wristwatch – Helps track lap pace.
- Sunglasses & Sunblock
- Cell Phone – Encouraged for safety while on the course.
 - Go live & post on social media to share your experience.
 - Use #ironhike #ironhikemohawk or see our Instagram @ironhike_productions for more hashtags.
 - Charging Brick or Car Charger

Tent & Sleep System

- We do allow RVs, Campers, and hammocking. There are no hook-ups. Please see the Cadre when you arrive about the setup.
- Tent & Sleep System – For tenting Mountain Athletes & spectators.
- Sleep Pad & Sleeping Bag
- Preventative First Aid – Essential items for blister prevention, foot care, body glide, etc.
- A limited number of Mylar blankets will be available in case of chills during or after trekking.

Recommended Gear

- Trekking Poles – Improves endurance and stability.
- Bib Belt – Must be worn over gear. Provided free if needed.
- Lawn Chair(s) – Useful for breaks and downtime.
- Change of Socks (Min: 3 Pairs) – Wet terrain likely. Bring extras.
- Pockets, Pockets, Pockets – Summit Tokens must be stored for each ascent/descent.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Mandatory

- Reusable, Refillable Water Vessel – No single-use hydration bottles, cans, or cartons.
- Headlamp or Other Portable Affixed Trail Light – Must be on from dusk to dawn. No flashlights or phone lights. Options include chest-mounted lamps, pole-mounted lights, etc.
- Valid ID – Required for check-in. No exceptions.
- Waivers – Everyone must be under a waiver.
 - Mountain Athletes, Cadre, and Volunteers: Electronic waiver.
- All individuals on-site will wear wristbands—there are three types:
 - Mountain Athlete Wristbands – Grants access to the course and event participation.
 - Cadre Wristbands – For official event staff and volunteer support.
 - Spectator Wristbands – Grants access to the spectator area and venue facilities.

Prohibited

- No Non-Mountain Athletes on Course – Only registered participants, Cadre, and staff are permitted.
- Speakers – Music allowed via headphones or earbuds only.
- Alcohol – No alcohol permitted on venue grounds. Nearby restaurants and bars are available for post-event celebrations.
- Smoking (of any substance) – IronHike is a smoke-free environment.
- Open Fires – No grills, barbecues, or personal fire pits. A small fire pit will be maintained at Base by the Event Cadre.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Services

- Course – A well-marked, well-maintained, and monitored trek up the Mohawk Ski Trail.
- Base Area – A designated space for spectators, rest, resupply, coffee, snacks, and a food truck.
- Restrooms – One portable latrine at Base and one at Summit.
- Water Supply – Available at the Summit Support Station and a potable outdoor spigot behind the Base area, outside the lodge.
- Outdoor Shower – May be available upon request for athlete use.
- Parking – Free parking for all athletes and attendees.
- Tent City – Group tenting available just off the course and at Base (athletes must bring their own tent).
- Safety & Medical Patrol – On-site personnel ensuring athlete safety and response support.
- Event Cadre – A full team of IronHike and Mohawk personnel is available for assistance throughout the event.
- Lighting – Provided at Base and Summit for night trekking (headlamps are still required on the course after dusk and before dawn).
- Water & Nutrition – Includes water, electrolyte drink mix, energy gels, and Tosi snacks.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Food

- We will provide endurance snacks, fuel gels, and electrolyte drink mix from our sponsors.
- A food truck will be on site, offering hot meals for purchase from Food4Friends, starting Friday.
- We recommend that you also bring your favorites.
- Coolers are allowed and should be stored at base, in your pop-up, or in your car.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Course



You will be trekking (running or hiking) up the Mohawk ski slope. The course will be well marked and is about as steep as a flight of stairs that goes on for over half a mile.

Trail Name: Mohawk
Elevation Gain per Lap: 595'
Ascent Miles per Lap: 0.625
Descent Miles per Lap: 0.625
Total Miles per Lap: 1.250

You will summit and descend over and over again against the clock. We will have an Event clock visible from the turnaround point at the Base.

You will not be timed or tracked in any way electronically, as these are not races.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Course Rules

Please observe the following course rules at all times:

General

1. The Event Producer may change these rules at any time to ensure the safe and orderly flow of the event series.
2. ONLY registered Mountain Athletes, Cadre, Volunteers, and Mohawk Staff are permitted on the course.
3. All personnel on the course must wear the proper wristband for identification.
4. Foot traffic only—no bikes, scooters, or other vehicles.
5. No pets on the course—animals are not allowed on the trekking route at any time.

Trekking & Lap Completion

6. Mountain Athletes must run, power-hike, hike, or walk (defined as Trekking) from the Base turnaround to the Summit sign, using caution when passing others.
7. A lap (a “Summit”) consists of one trek up to the Summit sign and one descent back to the turnaround point.
8. After each lap, Mountain Athletes must deposit one Summit Token in the bucket at the Bell.
9. Mountain Athletes must NOT exit the course at any point except at the Base turnaround.

FlexRelay Rules

10. Each Mountain Athlete may deposit only one Summit Token per lap. Tokens must be carried through the full summit and descent before being deposited in the Bell Bucket—whether completing the lap alone, with a teammate, or as a full team, in any order.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

11. Teams may trek one after the other OR with some or all teammates together, but only one token per athlete per lap will count toward event completion.

Safety & Conduct

12. Longer breaks (more than a few minutes) must be taken OFF the course at Base after exiting at the turnaround point.
13. Prioritize safety, use common sense, and be courteous while trekking.
14. The Event Producer may remove any Mountain Athlete from the course for safety concerns, rule violations, or other necessary reasons.

Course Etiquette

15. No littering—trek it in, trek it out.
16. Do NOT touch or damage signage, clocks, flags, or course markers.
17. Avoid shining white light into other athletes' eyes when trekking at night.
18. Re-enter the course ONLY at the Base turnaround.
19. Use the portable latrines at Base and Summit—do NOT use the woods as a latrine.

IronHike Spirit

20. Have fun.
21. Don't quit before taking a long break, grabbing some snacks, and seeking encouragement from your tribe.
22. You got this.



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Sponsors

IronHike Endurance Productions is proud to partner with organizations that share our commitment to endurance, community, and athlete safety. These sponsors provide essential support, ensuring that every participant has the fuel, protection, and encouragement needed to push their limits.

Food4Friends - Nourishing Athletes with Wholesome Meals

Food4Friends brings fresh, high-quality meals to IronHike endurance events, ensuring athletes have access to delicious, energizing food when they need it most. Their commitment to community and locally sourced ingredients aligns perfectly with IronHike's mission to support endurance athletes through thoughtful nutrition and quality sustenance. Whether refueling after an intense trek or grabbing a pre-hike breakfast, Food4Friends keeps our athletes powered for the journey ahead.

 Visit Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/givebackbus/>

 Visit Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Food4Friends-61559387814290>

BRECK iD - Life-Saving Wearable ID

BRECK iD provides essential identification for athletes, ensuring safety in the event of an emergency. Their mission to promote adventure with peace of mind aligns perfectly with IronHike's commitment to athlete security and endurance challenges. Whether you're tackling a grueling endurance event or exploring remote trails, BRECK iD ensures that first responders have the critical information they need.  Visit <https://www.breckid.com>

Skratch Labs - Title Sponsor of IronHike Olympus Mons Ultra

Skratch Labs is the title sponsor of IronHike's most extreme endurance event, IronHike Olympus Mons Ultra - powered by Skratch Labs®. This grueling challenge spans 152.5 miles with 72,590 feet of elevation gain and loss, pushing athletes beyond the limits of traditional ultra-endurance events. Skratch Labs



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

provides hydration and fuel products designed to help athletes perform better without compromising gut health. Their commitment to clean, real-food ingredients aligns with IronHike's focus on endurance and well-being. Visit <https://www.skratchlabs.com> Learn more about IronHike Olympus Mons Ultra at <https://www.ironhike.com/olympus-mons-ultra>

Divi Tree – Exclusive Finisher Cookie Sponsor

Divi Tree is more than just a café—it's a creative hub where IronHike was imagined, planned, and brought to life. Their support as our exclusive coffee sponsor reflects IronHike's emphasis on community and shared experiences. Visit <https://www.divitree.com>

Tosi Snacks – Nutrient-Dense Fuel for Athletes

Tosi Snacks offers clean, simple, and nutrient-packed snacks that sustain athletes through intense endurance events. Their focus on high-quality ingredients supports IronHike's dedication to sustainable and effective nutrition. Tosi's crunchy, protein-packed bars provide long-lasting energy for endurance athletes pushing their limits. Visit <https://www.tosibar.com>

Pinnacle Foods – Wholesome, Small-Batch Meals

Pinnacle Foods provides fresh, preservative-free meals designed to fuel athletes through rigorous challenges. Their emphasis on quality nutrition complements IronHike's goal of sustaining endurance athletes with real, nourishing food. Pinnacle's meals are crafted with care, ensuring that every bite supports recovery and peak performance. Visit <https://www.pinnaclefoods.com>

Join the IronHike Sponsorship Family

IronHike offers multiple sponsorship opportunities, including in-kind partnerships, event naming rights, and co-branding options. If your organization shares our passion for endurance, transformation, and community-building, we invite you to grow with us.

Visit <https://www.ironhike.com/sponsors>



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Causes

At IronHike, endurance is more than just a physical challenge—it's a way to uplift communities, support meaningful causes, and inspire change. Our Mountain Athletes dedicate their treks to causes that matter, raising awareness and funds while pushing their limits.

2NDGO – Paul Laedke

Paul Laedke, a dedicated IronHike athlete, supports 2NDGO, an initiative focused on providing second chances and opportunities for individuals facing adversity. His endurance trek embodies resilience and transformation. [🔗 Learn more: https://www.ironhike.com/cause-2ndgo](https://www.ironhike.com/cause-2ndgo)

Team TWINspirational – Christine Hussey

Christine Hussey hikes for Team TWINspirational, a cause dedicated to empowering individuals through shared experiences and personal growth. Her Everest-level challenge symbolizes perseverance and unity. [🔗 Learn more: https://www.ironhike.com/cause-twinspirational](https://www.ironhike.com/cause-twinspirational)

St. Jude Children's Hospital – Dr. Scott Festa

Dr. Scott Festa the first Mountain Athlete to take on the Olympus Mons Event in 2023 and finish it in a second attempt in 2024, hiking 152 miles with 72,000 feet of elevation to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. His journey is a testament to endurance and generosity. [🔗 Learn more: https://www.ironhike.com/cause-st-jude](https://www.ironhike.com/cause-st-jude)

Do Good Pantry – Paul Sealy

Paul Sealy's trek supports Do Good Pantry, an initiative focused on providing food and resources to those in need. His Clingmans Dome challenge reflects the



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

spirit of giving and community support.  Learn more:

<https://www.ironhike.com/cause-do-good-pantry>

Dylan's Wings of Change - Ian Hockley

Ian Hockley hikes in support of Dylan's Wings of Change, a foundation dedicated to fostering inclusion and emotional intelligence in young people. His IronHike journey amplifies the foundation's mission.  Learn more:

<https://www.ironhike.com/cause-dylans-wings>

One Life to Love - Mary Rower

Mary Rower hikes for One Life to Love, an organization dedicated to providing care and education for children in need. Her IronHike journey embodies compassion and advocacy.  Learn more:

<https://www.ironhike.com/cause-one-life-to-love>

Join the Movement

Want to trek for a cause? IronHike welcomes athletes who wish to make a difference. During registration, you can select a cause, and we'll help you build a dedicated page to share your journey.

 Explore all causes and get involved: <https://www.ironhike.com/causes>



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Resources

- Nearest Convenience store - CITGO Cornwall Bridge, 607 Cornwall Bridge Rd, Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754 - Open daily from 6 am to 10 pm - closes at 9 pm on Sundays
- Nearest Market - Village Market and Gas - 59 Torrington Rd, Goshen, CT 06756 - Open daily 6 am to 8 pm
- Nearest Walmart - 970 Torrington St, Torrington, CT 06790 - Open daily from 6 am to 11 pm
- Nearest Hospital - Charlotte Hungerford Hospital - 540 Litchfield St, Torrington, CT 06790
- Nearest Airport - Bradley International Airport - 1 hr 4 min (44.5 miles)
- Major City Drive Times
 - Hartford, CT - 1 Hour
 - Springfield, MA - 1 Hour 16 Minutes
 - New York City, NY - 2 Hours 20 Minutes
 - Boston, MA - 2 Hours 35 Minutes
- Nearest Dollar General - 67 S Main St, Torrington, CT 06790 - Open daily from 8 am to 9 pm
- Nearest Pizza Delivery - Goshen Pizza - 860-491-2121- 59 Torrington Rd, Goshen, CT 06756 - Open daily 11 am to 10 pm 12 to 9 pm on Sundays
- Nearest Grocery Store - Stop & Shop - 211 High St, Torrington, CT 06790 - Open daily from 7 am to 10 pm - Closes at 9 pm on Sundays



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025

Questions

If you still have questions, reach out to us through any of the following:

Site

<https://www.ironhike.com/>

Facebook Corporate Page

<https://www.facebook.com/ironhikeproductions>

Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ironhikeatmohawkmountain>

Instagram Account

https://www.instagram.com/ironhike_productions/

Tiktok Account

<https://www.tiktok.com/@ironhike>



IronHike Endurance Series - Mohawk Mountain, Connecticut, USA

Thu October 2 - Sun October 5, 2025