

Dear Surly Brewing Co. Trail Loppet Participants,

Despite the challenges and tribulations of 2020, we hope your training has held a bright and steady ray of sunshine in your year's journey. We remain excited as ever to see you out on the trails on September 19. However, the past week has been a bumpy ride with planning with regard to guidelines being issued by the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board; they may still change further. We are grateful for their leadership and share their commitment to keeping all of us safe and healthy!

One thing that doesn't change is our commitment to making the Surly Brewing Co. Trail Loppet a grand exploration of the finest trails offered in Wirth Park. We have been striving for the best version possible. I'm grateful for an events team that digs deeper when things are tough rather than accepting a DNF -- much like the resilient endurance athletes we know and love in our community.

Our first iteration of the event had full distances with carefully planned courses, schedule and start/finish areas to ensure that everyone would be able to safely practice social distancing. Our second effort focused on several carefully orchestrated 5K courses where longer race participants would go from one to the next. Alas, despite our confidence in these plans, we are needing to adjust again.

**The current plan calls for one 5K and one 10K on separate courses.** So, essentially, no change for the 5K participants, and only a slight reduction of distance for the 7-Mile participants. The current plan is to move our currently registered 7-Mile and Half-Marathon runners to the 10K. And yes, we plan for this 10K to include a heavy dose of trail gravy, including what we consider the best of the best trails. The new details are not quite fleshed out but will soon be on the website, so keep an eye out there for fresh details. If you are currently registered in the Half-Marathon or the 7-Mile and would rather drop to the 5K distance rather than being automatically placed in the 10K, please contact [registration@loppet.org](mailto:registration@loppet.org) as soon as possible to make that change.

Please let us know if you have any questions about it. We'll be in touch if things change again and as details fall in place. If your friends and family aren't racing on the 19th, have them shoot us an email about volunteering to help us safely manage the double start/finish lines. Stay cool in this heat, and keep moving forward.

The Loppet Events Crew  
Paul, Andrea, Jackie, & Heidi