

Tommyknockers Tale

June 2026 Edition



We try to keep this short, sweet and entertaining. If there is anything in here that you need more information on or are curious about, just reach out to us at dale@hardrock100.com. This will be the last edition of the Tommyknockers Tale for this year. Starting June 15th, we will pivot to our Monday Memo, which will keep you up to date as we get closer to July 10th.

Here's your pre Hardrock checklist:

- ___ Filled out my runner [bio](#)
- ___ Reviewed the [runners manual](#) and got answers to my questions
- ___ Reviewed the [7 Principles of Leave No Trace](#), so I'll be eligible for SWAG at Thursday's Runners Briefing
- ___ Turned in my [service requirement](#) form by 6/22 so I don't lose my spot in this year's Hardrock
- ___ Reviewed the [Camp Hardrock](#) schedule to see what events I/we want to do and which ones we have to do

This Month's Zoom



If you have questions or would like more info on the Hardrock course, you're in luck this month. Join us on June 11th 6 pm MDT as Chris Twiggs welcomes Hardrock Course Director Brett Sublett and Trail Work Coordinator Trevor Peterson to our zoom sessions. If you have a question for our guests, you can leave it [here](#). Join us on [zoom](#) or check out the session on our [YouTube channel](#)

June Course Report

From HRH Trail Work Coordinator and Ouray resident, Trevor Peterson, "High Country basins are still holding snow, but as the sun angle gets higher, anticipate rapidly changing snow conditions."

From our Board VP & Snow Conditions Connoisseur David Coblentz: No surprise: the 2025-2026 snow year ended (on June 1 this year) with a second-lowest snowfall total in Silverton of about 85". While parallels are being drawn with the extremely dry 2002 snow year (the last time Hardrock was cancelled due wildfires in the vicinity), there has been enough rain in May to mitigate the fire danger (at least so far). Now that the snow year is over, all eyes are turning to the building El Niño scenario and what it means for Hardrock 2026 and beyond.



A reminder: El Niño is a periodic warming of water in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean that impacts global weather patterns for months. In terms of the eastern Pacific and Southwestern US, a strong El Niño typically correlates with an active Eastern Pacific hurricane season which can contribute a significant increase in moisture to the SW monsoon season. This sets the stage, in principle, for a potentially wet Hardrock 2026. Looking ahead to the 2026-2027 snow season: the strong subtropical jet stream, which brings storms from the Pacific into the Southwest, may result in above average snowfall which could impact Hardrock 2027. Lots to look forward to. As with all correlations, none of these predictions are guaranteed!



Hardrock Livestream Fire up your computers and TVs! We are proud to let you know that once again [Mountain Outpost](#) will be live streaming Hardrock. Links will be posted on our social media sites as well as our website closer to run week.

Crewing Hardrock

Just a couple of reminders of important and/or new pieces for you and your crews:

1. **Hwy 550 at S. Mineral Creek** - At the direction of the Colorado State Patrol, spectators, crews and media are not allowed to gather at the road & South Mineral Creek crossing along US Highway 550 northwest of Silverton.
2. **Chapman Gulch** - if your crew plans to meet you at Chapman, they will need to park in the designated lot in Ophir and walk into Chapman Gulch (+/- 2 miles). NO parking and/or stopping on Ophir Pass Road.
3. **Grouse Gulch**- **As hopefully already know, we are moving back to Grouse Gulch after 4 years at Animas Forks.** Crews will be staged at the parking lot across from Eureka Campground until your satellite tracker shows you clearing Oh! Point (approximately mile 53), at which time your crew will be released to meet you at the Grouse Gulch aid station.
4. **Telluride** - As requested by the town, Hardrock crews may no longer park in the Town Park lot. Use public parking at the Silverjack and Carhenge lots; there is also a short-term unload zone at the end of Pacific St *For details on all these & more, see the [Runners Manual](#)*



Camping Hardrock

As of this writing there are still a few spaces available for [camping](#) at Kendall Mountain Rec Center in Silverton. Space for Sprinter/RV/Trailer set up is full but there are still limited spaces for car/truck camping. Permits and spaces will be issued on a first come, first served basis till full.

Course Orientation Hikes

As you begin to plan your adventure to the San Juans, we would like to invite you to join us on our course orientation hikes starting at the end of June. These hikes are designed to allow you to see the Hardrock course up close and personal and will be led by veteran Hardrock runners. See the [Camp Hardrock](#) schedule for a bit more info and the schedule.



RHUBARB PIE!!! The world famous Silverton Library Rhubarb Pie Fundraiser is BACK! If you're a fan of both amazing pie and public libraries (which conservatively covers about 99% of the world's population) and will be in Silverton by July 3, GET ON IT. You can order your pies [here](#).

Fido at Hardrock

We know that many of you will want to share your Hardrock experience with your favorite 4 legged friend. Here are the [guidelines](#) for making that experience enjoyable for everybody!





Sharing the San Juans

Believe it or not, there will be people recreating in the San Juans who aren't there to be a part of Hardrock. We know, it's crazy! Please be good ambassadors of our event and of our sport and see this as an opportunity to share the Hardrock story with the jeeps, OHVs, ATVs and others who you and your crews will encounter on the roads during Hardrock. PLEASE respect their right to recreate in their own way.

Where do I eat and shop?

There are plenty of shopping and dining options in the San Juans, we'd like to share a [list](#) of those businesses who have let us know they are especially excited to see you! Please let them know you are part of Hardrock and that you appreciate their support and encouragement!



Pacer/Runner Matchmaking

Need a Pacer? Make sure to let us know by filling out the [Pacer-Runner Matchmaker Spreadsheet](#) to help find you your perfect trail partner!



Hardrock FM

We all have those special songs we like to listen to while running or get us psyched to run, why not share them with the Hardrock community? We invite you to share/add your favorite running and trail songs this year. Let us know your favorites [here](#) and then we'll be sure to add those songs to our playlist.

Taking care of the future Hardrockers

Silverton Family Learning Center is accepting drop-ins on July 9th and 10th from 8a-4p for Hardrock participants and visitors. Daily rate for infants (6 weeks-13 months) is \$120. Daily rate for toddlers (13 months-36 months) is \$100. Daily rate for ages 3-5 years is \$80. Please reach out to [Holly or Bekah](#) with questions or to reserve a spot by June 26th.



Silverton PEAK Summer Programming has programming July 6-9 for students who have completed kindergarten through 5th grade. Full day is 9a-3p and \$50; half days available at \$25. Registration is due by May 29th. Inquiries after 5/29 are welcome, but spots may be limited. Reach out to [Mrs. B](#) at with questions. [Registration](#)