



## SPECTATOR GUIDE

### U.S. Paralympics Cycling Open Cummings Research Park, Huntsville, Alabama April 17-18, 2021

#### **Come Cheer for our Paralympic Cyclists!**

The Huntsville/Madison County community is excited to host U.S. Paralympics Cycling on Saturday and Sunday, April 17-18, 2021 in Cummings Research Park.

The U.S. Paralympics Cycling Open presented by Toyota, is one of four domestic cycling events and the second opportunity for Para-cyclists to qualify for the Summer Paralympics in Tokyo this summer. This is also the return to competitive racing for these outstanding athletes who have not competed in over a year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In fact, this event has taken on more importance in the qualifying circuit as other international qualifying events have been cancelled due to the pandemic. We expect approximately 100 Para athletes to visit Huntsville.

The athletes will compete in three different types of road cycling events including the men's and women's road race, individual time trial, and handcycling team relay. Learn more about U.S. Paralympics Cycling here: [USParaCycling.org](https://USParaCycling.org)

**This guide serves as an FAQ. It provides information on how and where you can watch the action during race weekend.**

**Link to:**

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## **Do I need tickets?**

No! The public is invited, and this is a free event. The events will happen rain or shine. Bring the family, pack a cooler, bring chairs and a blanket, and come watch along the outside ring of Explorer Boulevard, the loop of Cummings Research Park West. In this document, you'll find information about the course maps, event schedule and types of cycling races in contention as well as some of the athletes who are planning to compete here. We also have information on where to park, including accessible parking and viewing areas.

Even though Alabama's mask mandate will be lifted by race weekend, attendees are encouraged to follow current CDC guidelines. We will have signs posted along the course encouraging families to maintain social distancing.

## **Road Closures & How to Access the Race Course**

Please plan ahead on where you're going to park and how you'll get there.

**Explorer Boulevard will be closed to traffic starting at 6 a.m. Saturday and 6 a.m. Sunday. This is the main 'ring' for the course where you can see the racers.**

We suggest using these roads to come in:

**Enterprise Way** (coming from University Drive)

**Discovery Drive** (from Enterprise)

**Voyager Way**

**Jan Davis Drive**

We don't suggest using Bradford Drive, Farrow Road or Pegasus Drive, unless you arrive before 6 a.m. You will NOT be allowed to drive on Explorer once the course closes. At that point, Huntsville Police will redirect drivers trying to enter from these roads.

We've created this [interactive map](#) to help you plan your route (click on the map image below for a much more detailed map.)



## Parking

We are grateful to companies in Cummings Research Park who have offered their properties for public parking on race weekend.

### 1. Accessible Parking & Viewing



**LogiCore's parking lot is reserved for people who need wheelchair access to the course.** This business is located at 345 Voyager Way NW, Huntsville, AL 35806. This location has full access to sidewalks that lead to viewing of the course. Signs will be posted at the business showing that this lot is reserved for accessible parking ONLY, and this lot will also be staffed to ensure it remains open for those who need wheelchair access to an accessible viewing area. Others not needing this access will be directed to alternative lots.

We will also have an ADA restroom located at the accessible viewing area.



[Visit the full map](#) and zoom in to this area and click on the details we've added to help you plan your visit.

## 2. General Parking

There are three main parking areas that provide the closest access to the race. You may walk to course from the parking area. Do not park on any of the main roads leading to Explorer Blvd.

If entering the Park from [Jan Davis Drive](#), the following companies have offered their parking lots:

- [Sangoma](#) (445 Jan Davis Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Collins Aerospace](#) (on Google it's listed as Rockwell Collins - 420 Jan Davis Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)

If entering from [Voyager Way](#), you may park at these locations:

- [ASRC Federal/Aviagen/Yorktown Systems Group](#) (350 Voyager Way, Huntsville AL 35806 – and Google lists ASRC Federal as Analytical Services Inc)
- [TSC \(Technology Service Corporation\)](#) (310 Voyager Way NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Bridge Street Town Center](#) (park in the lot behind Cinemark movie theatre – you'll need to walk from there, northwest, to SAIC (6725 Odyssey Drive NW) to access viewing on Explorer) – we have detailed this route on the [interactive map](#) with a [green line](#)

If entering from [Enterprise Way](#), you'll turn left on [Discovery Drive](#) to access parking at these businesses:

- [Intrepid](#) (next to 615 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Delta Research](#) (access through Intrepid's lot to the North)
- [S3](#) (615 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Yulista](#) (631 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Kord Technologies](#) (635 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Lakeside Office Center](#) (Pull in at 620 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)
- [Quantum Research](#) (pull in at 991 Discovery Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35806)

[Dynetics](#) is also allowing people to park in their lot. Use Enterprise Way to turn right into the parking lot where the road meets Discovery. Dynetics' address is 1002 Explorer Blvd NW (you'll need to turn in from Enterprise.)

## **Viewing**

The athletes will race along Explorer Boulevard, but most of the sidewalks are on the *interior* of Explorer. **Please note you won't be allowed to cross the road once the course closes each morning at 6 a.m.** We suggest you position along the grass on the exterior of Explorer Blvd. There's plenty of room for everyone to space out!

General spectators are allowed to watch along the course, but not at the Start and Finish area, which is in front of Columbia High School. Barricades will be placed there. This is due to several reasons including the safety of the cyclists and strict COVID-19 protocols. Please stay at the previously specified locations along the course. We will offer a live stream of the Start/Finish line here: <http://youtube.com/c/huntsvillealabamausa>

Police and course marshals will be located along the route, and their role is to keep the cyclists safe. If they advise you to move back, please mind them.

Also, please leave no trace, only footprints. When you leave your spot, please take all of your belongings and trash with you. Trash receptacles will not be provided.

## **Restrooms**

We will have portable restrooms available for public use at a few spots along the course:

**The Point at Lake 4** (just west of Explorer & Voyager Way at the accessible viewing area in front of Logicore – this restroom is wheelchair accessible)

**Intrepid** – (next to 615 Discovery Drive NW)

**Dynetics** (at the intersection of Explorer & Mark C Smith)

## What's on the Schedule Each Day

After the course closes each morning before the race, cyclists will warm up on the course one hour before race start.

The official start of each day will include presentation of the colors by Columbia High School's JROTC and the National Anthem at the Start/Finish area. We plan to broadcast this on the YouTube live stream: <https://youtube.com/c/huntsvillealabamausa>

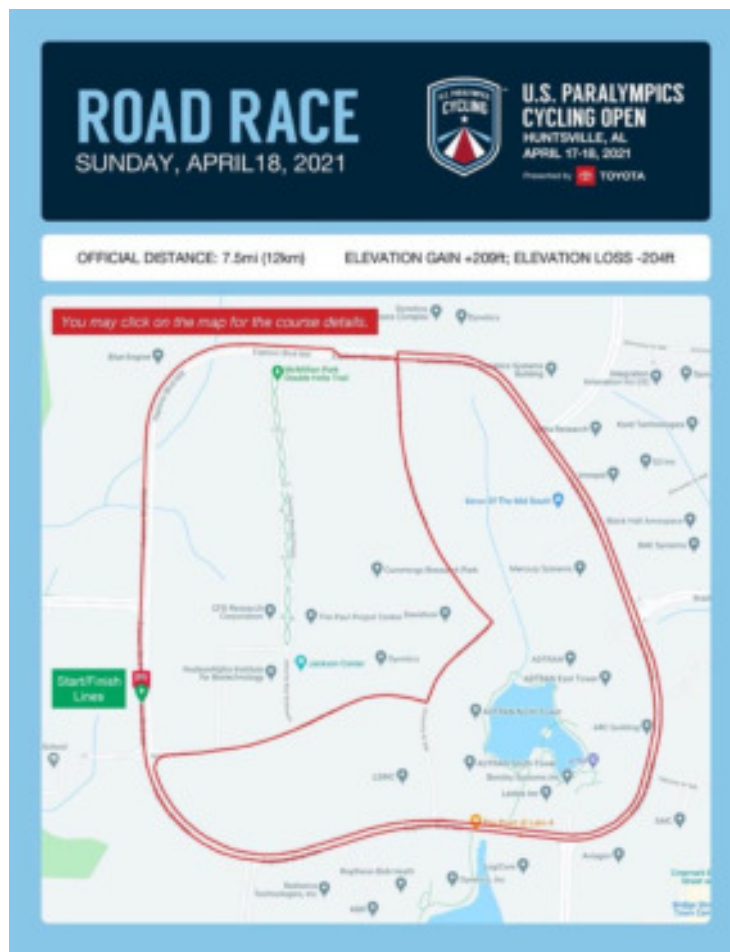
### **Saturday, April 17**

This first day of competition is slated for individual time trials – athletes race against the clock individually to earn their best time possible. Racing starts at 9 a.m. and runs until about 3 p.m. The course starts at Columbia High School and follows a 15-kilometer lap around the Park, including into the campus of HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology, and up and around the McMillian Park Double Helix Trail, exiting back and eventually ending at the high school for the finish line. Athletes in some categories complete one lap, and others will complete two.



## Sunday, April 18

The second day of competition will be dedicated to road races, and the course is 12.1 kilometers. Depending on the category and classification, Para-cyclists will complete between two and seven laps. These events also start and finish at Columbia High School, using all of Explorer Boulevard as well as Moquin, Discovery, and Mark C Smith Drives. Sunday's races start at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude by 4:30 p.m.





## Types of Races You'll See

This isn't just a regular cycling race on two-wheeled bikes. You'll see a variety of Para-cyclists in this event:

- **Handcycle athletes** compete using an arm-powered or arm trunk power hand bike where a recumbent position is mandatory. In another type of handcycling, athletes compete from a kneeling position. You will see both types at the Huntsville event. In the event schedule – these are classified as H1, H2, H3, H4 and H5.
- **Tricycle athletes** are unable to ride a bicycle due to lack of balance and/or restriction in pedaling due to spasticity/dystonia. Severe locomotor dysfunction can be mixed pattern (athetosis/dystonia/spasticity and/or ataxia) of unilateral or bilateral involvement. In the event schedule – these are classified with the letter T.
- **Cycling** races are classified with C1-C5, and these athletes compete with a standard bicycle.
- **Tandem Cycling** is classified with the letter B. Tandem events have an able-bodied pilot in the front, and a stoker in the back who has some degree of visual impairment. The stoker provides the power and speed while the pilot's main job is to steer.
- **Exhibition** – The Paralyzed Veterans of America Racing team will send 20 athletes to Huntsville for the event. These athletes will stay on Redstone Arsenal and compete in recumbent exhibition races both days.



# U.S. PARALYMPICS CYCLING OPEN

Presented by  TOYOTA

HUNTSVILLE, AL  
APRIL 17-18, 2021

## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, 17 APRIL, 2021

9:00	M	T2 / H1 / T1	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
	W	T2	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
	M/W	Recumbent (Exhibition)	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
10:00	M	H3	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
	W	H5 / H4 / H3	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
11:00	M	H5 / H4	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
11:30	Awards Ceremonies				
12:00	M	C1	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
	W	C5 / C4 / C3	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 1 lap	15.0 km
12:50	M	B / C5/ C4 /C3	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 2 laps	30.0 km
	W	B	Individual Time Trial	15 km x 2 laps	30.0 km
14:40 - 15:30	Awards Ceremonies				

### SUNDAY, 18 APRIL, 2021

8:30	M	T1 / H1	Road Race	12.1 km x 2 laps	24.2 km
8:32	M	T2	Road Race	12.1 km x 3 laps	36.3 km
8:32	W	T2	Road Race	12.1 km x 3 laps	36.3 km
8:34	M/W	Recumbent (Exhibition)	Road Race	12.1 km x 3 laps	36.3 km
10:00	M	C1 / C3	Road Race	12.1 km x 5 laps	60.5 km
10:00	W	C3 / C4 / C5	Road Race	12.1 km x 5 laps	60.5 km
12:00 - 12:30	Awards Ceremonies				
12:30	M	H3	Road Race	12.1 km x 4 laps	48.4 km
12:32	M	H4 / H5	Road Race	12.1 km x 4 laps	48.4 km
12:34	W	H3 / H4 / H5	Road Race	12.1 km x 4 laps	48.4 km
14:00 - 14:30	Awards Ceremonies				
14:30	M	B	Road Race	12.1 km x 6 laps	72.6 km
14:30	W	B	Road Race	12.1 km x 6 laps	72.6 km
14:32	M	C4 / C5	Road Race	12.1 km x 6 laps	72.6 km
16:30 - 17:00	Awards Ceremonies				

[This video](#) describes the types of races you'll see:



(Continued on next page)

## Show Your Support!



The athletes are very excited about coming to Huntsville. This is their return to competitive racing, since events were cancelled in 2020 due to the pandemic. Let's give them a big Rocket City welcome!

We encourage you to make posters and hold them up as racers go by. Wear patriotic colors as you root for the Para-cyclists too! If you're having an event with your company, wear your company shirts and post your support on social media with the hashtags **#Huntsville2021** and **#Paracycling** and tag us:

[Facebook.com/HuntsvilleAlabama](https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleAlabama)

[Instagram.com/hsvchamber](https://www.instagram.com/hsvchamber)

[Twitter.com/huntsvillealcoc](https://twitter.com/huntsvillealcoc)

[Facebook.com/CRPHSV](https://www.facebook.com/CRPHSV)

[Instagram.com/crphsv](https://www.instagram.com/crphsv)

[Twitter.com/CRPHSV](https://twitter.com/CRPHSV)

[Facebook.com/UsParalympicsCycling](https://www.facebook.com/UsParalympicsCycling)

[Instagram.com/usparacycling](https://www.instagram.com/usparacycling)

[Twitter.com/USParaCycling](https://twitter.com/USParaCycling)

## Athletes To Watch

The Para-cyclists you'll see have incredible backgrounds. Many have overcome remarkable odds to compete. Some were born with a disability while others may have been injured years later. In fact, many are veterans who suffered an injury during their time in the service.

**Jennifer Schuble** competes in four cycling events, including time trial, road race, pursuit and team sprint. She is a current resident of Homewood, Alabama, and is a three-time Paralympian (2008, 2012, 2016) and five-time Paralympic medalist (1 gold, 3 silvers, 1 bronze). Schuble, 44, has a military background. While attending the United States Military Academy at West Point to become a commissions officer, Schuble was a varsity athlete in three separate sports. During hand-to-hand combat class, she sustained a traumatic brain injury. She sustained an additional TBI later in a car wreck, and in 2004, she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. This led her to the Lakeshore Foundation, a Paralympic training site in Birmingham, Alabama, where she was encouraged to get into cycling and started in 2007. In 2008, she won a gold medal and set a world record in the 500-meter time trial at the Paralympic Games Beijing 2008. She was the first female in the world to compete in team sprint as Team USA was only country to do it. At London 2012, she was the first woman to medal as a part of team sprint. When she is not competing, she works as an industrial engineer.



**Oz Sanchez** is one of the top handcyclists in the world and competes in the time trial and road race events. Sanchez is a three-time Paralympian (2008, 2012, 2016) and a six-time Paralympic medalist (2 golds, 1 silvers, 3 bronzes). Sanchez grew up in Los Angeles and spent six years as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. He became a part of the Special Forces unit, deploying twice to the Middle East. In 2001, while in the process of transferring to the Navy to become a Navy SEAL, Sanchez was involved in a motorcycle accident that injured his spinal cord. He started handcycling competitively five years after the accident. He was a 2012 ESPY nominee in the Best Male Athlete with a Disability category. He graduated from San Diego State University in 2006 with a degree in Business Administration and was named the 2009 San Diego Hall of Champions Athlete of the Year. His story is featured in the 2009 documentary Unbeaten.



**Ryan Boyle** is a tricyclist, competing in the time trial and road race events. Boyle competed in his first Paralympic Games in 2016 where he won silver in the road time trial in Rio. In October of 2003, Boyle acquired a traumatic brain injury while riding a Big Wheel where he was hit and dragged by a pick-up truck causing him to immediately go into a coma. Emergency brain surgery was performed to save Boyle's life, but he lost a portion of the back of his brain. At the age of 10, he had to learn to how to breath, swallow, talk, eat, stand, sit and walk all over again. Boyle wrote his own book titled, *"When the Lights go Out: A Boy Given a Second Chance,"* when he was a freshman in high school. He is a resident athlete at the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and attended the University of Colorado - Colorado Springs.



**Will Groulx** is a six-time Paralympic medalist (2 golds, 2 silvers, 2 bronzes) and four-time Paralympian while competing in wheelchair rugby (2004, 2008, 2012) and cycling (2016). Looking to make his second cycling appearance at the Paralympic Games, Groulx competes in time trial and road racing in the H2 class. Groulx served in the United States Navy from 1995-2001 before a motorcycle accident left him paralyzed from the chest down. Seven months after the accident, Groulx discovered wheelchair rugby and was immediately interested. His Paralympic career began with making three U.S. Paralympic Teams before switching to handcycling. Prior to his injury, he served as a nuclear-trained electrician's mate and diver on a fast-track submarine stationed out of Norfolk, Virginia. Before joining the Navy, he attended the University of Tennessee on a volleyball scholarship. Groulx was nominated for an ESPY in the Best Male Athlete with a Disability category in 2009 and was named the U.S. Quad Rugby Association Athlete of the Year in 2010.



**Oksana Masters** competes in three sports: biathlon, cross country skiing, and road cycling. She is a four-time Paralympian (2012, 2014, 2016, 2018) and eight-time Paralympic medalist (2 gold, 3 silver, 3 bronze). Masters was born in Ukraine, with both of her legs damaged by in-utero radiation poisoning from the Chernobyl nuclear reactor incident. She was born with six toes on each foot, five webbed fingers on each hand and no thumbs. Her left leg was six inches shorter than her right and both were missing weight-bearing bones, and she was diagnosed with Tibia Hemimilla. After living in three orphanages, she was adopted at the age of seven. Over the course of seven years, she would have both legs amputated. At age 13, she began rowing. In 2011, she met her rowing partner Rob Jones, and in 2012 brought home a bronze medal from the Paralympic Games London 2012. She began skiing immediately after, training for 14 months leading up to the Paralympic Winter Games Sochi 2014. She would leave Russia with a silver and bronze medal. Due to a back injury after Sochi, she took up cycling as a recovery process and to help maintain her fitness. She qualified for the Paralympic Games Rio 2016 and finished just off the podium, fourth, in the road race. Just recently, Masters earned six gold medals at the Para Nordic World Cup which puts her total gold medal count at 50 for her skiing career. Masters lists her mom, Gay Masters, as her personal hero.



**Clara Brown** has been competing in the Paracycling world championship circuit for two years and has already won six medals (2 golds, 2 silvers, 2 bronzes) with hopes of competing in her first Paralympic Games. Brown competes in three events: individual pursuit, time trial and road race. The postponement from the COVID pandemic has allowed Brown the opportunity to try out for Tokyo, since she would have been unable to compete last year due to injury. Brown was an avid athlete competing as a competitive gymnast, runner and skier before sustaining an incomplete spinal cord injury at the C5/C6 level at age 12. After several years of physical rehabilitation, and some unexpected compounding injuries, Brown joined her high school rowing team as a coxswain. After rowing in high school and early college, she sought a competitive activity powered by her own means and purchased her first modified road bike her freshman year of college, which ignited her passion for bikes as a means of transportation and as a way to stay active. After graduating, she was hired at a bike touring company where one of her clients served on the USOPC's Paralympic Advisory Committee and encouraged her to race competitively. Brown was invited to a talent ID camp in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in June of 2018, and then proceeded to compete at the third Para-cycling road world cup in Baie Comeau, Quebec, in August of 2018, taking bronze in the road race.



Join us to cheer on the racers April 17-18, 2021 in Cummings Research Park! We are honored to host this exciting event in Huntsville, Alabama and look forward to your visit. Visit [cummingresearchpark.com/USParalympicsCycling](http://cummingresearchpark.com/USParalympicsCycling) and [hsvchamber.org/USParalympicsCycling](http://hsvchamber.org/USParalympicsCycling) for the latest information, and share our hashtags in your social media posts: [#Huntsville2021](https://twitter.com/Huntsville2021) and [#Paracycling](https://twitter.com/Paracycling)

### Local Event Sponsors

