



# 45th Mt. Graham Hill Climb

Arizona State Hill Climb Championship

**SEPTEMBER 22, 2024**

**Safford, Arizona 85546**

**HELD UNDER USA CYCLING EVENT PERMIT NUMBER 2024-9564**



**Sponsored and hosted by:  
AGGRESS RACING!**



Race Director:  
Edward "Nippy" Feldhake III  
5601 East Scarlett Street, Tucson, Arizona 85711  
(520) 747-2544  
[nippy-mr-smarty-pants@juno.com](mailto:nippy-mr-smarty-pants@juno.com)



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The 45th Mt. Graham Hill Climb will be a mass start event for the 20-mile and 10-mile distances with the pre-race get together in the parking area. The mass start will travel up hill on Arizona State Route 366 from mile post 151.

I am so proud to announce that Mt. Graham Hill Climb join in a partnership with AGGRESS RACING a long time cycling team based in Tucson, Arizona. President Donald Domcowski and I came to this wonderful agreement early in May 2024. Aggress Racing has been around since 2004. In the past they have supported the Colossal Cave Road Race and were the Sponsors/Promoter for the Arizona State Team Time Trial. Aggress Racing focus is to race as a team, utilizing team tactics to get our member the win. They ride in support of their designated racer, with each member in turn supported in the key event(s) of their choosing. We are aggressive when we race, but we behave in a courteous and sportsmanlike manner at all times. They also have team training rides that they utilize throughout the year.

### **WEB PAGE ADDRESS :**

<http://presteza.homestead.com/MtGrahamIndex.html>

### **REGISTRATION:**

**Registration will take place on [bikereg.com](http://bikereg.com)**

### **On-line registration web address :**

<https://www.bikereg.com/45th-mt-graham-hill-climb>

**ON-LINE Registration opens on June 15, 2024 and will closes on WEDNESDAY, September 18, 2024 at 10:00 PM Arizona Time!**

### **Mail in Registration**

1. Nippy Feldhake 5601 East Scarlett Street Tucson, Arizona 85711
2. Make checks out to Presteza Cycling Club! Phone (520) 747-2544

**20 MILE RACE WILL START AT 8:00 AM.**

**10 MILE RACE WILL START AT 8:10 AM.**

- Mt. Graham is located in the southeastern corner of Arizona. Mt. Graham draws riders each year to a spectacular event. The 20-mile road race starts @ mile post 115.1 across from the Federal prison (elevation 3,379 ft.) and winds up the "Swift Trail" (State Route 366) to the finish at mile post 135.1 near the Snow Flat camp ground (elevation 9,068). The 5,689 ft. climb travels through high desert grassland, oak woodlands, and alpine meadow to pine forest!
- Mt. Graham is the longest continuous bicycle race in Arizona in its 45th year & the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest elevation gain one-day race in the United States.



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## **FEES FOR 2024**

### **Before September 1, 2024**

1. Juniors \$ 40.00
2. All other Categories \$ 70.00 (Seniors Categories and Master)

### **After September 1, 2024**

1. Juniors \$ 45.00
2. All other Categories \$ 75.00 (Seniors Categories and Masters)

### **Day before Race at Best Western Hotel on September 21, 2024:**

1. Juniors categories \$ 50.00
2. All others Categories \$ 90.00 (Seniors Categories and Master)

### **RACE DAY September 22, 2024:**

1. Juniors categories \$ 60.00
2. All others Categories \$ 100.00 (Seniors Categories and Master)

### **Registration (Day Before) September 21, 2024:**

Registration will be in Safford at the Best Western Desert Inn Motel - Saturday 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.  
Address of the Best Western Desert Inn is 1391 Thatcher Blvd. Safford, Arizona.  
1-800-707-2336 or 928-428-0521.

### **Registration (Race Day): September 22, 2024**

Registration will be in **Mt. Graham International Observatory Safford Base Camp area**.  
From 7:00 AM to 7:30 AM. No real early birds. Let us get set up, please!

**Fees include USA Cycling \$5.99 surcharge for insurance! Promoter pays this fee to USA Cycling!**

### **USA Cycling Licenses**

1. All riders must have a USA Cycling License to be a participant in Mt. Graham Hill Climb
2. USA Cycling annual & one-day licenses will be on sale during registration (day before & race day!)
3. One-day USA Cycling license is either \$15.00 or \$35.00.
4. USA Cycling annual license will also be available at registration. Only annual licensed riders are eligible for State championship medals and State Jersey per USA Cycling rules.

**First rider's finishing time will be around 9:30 am. Last rider finishing time will be around 11:00 AM.  
Those riders choosing to ride down the mountain will return to the parking area around 12:00 noon!**

### **Riding Down-THE RACE IS UP THE MOUNTAIN NOT DOWN!!!**

You may ride your bikes down Mt. Graham however extreme care needs to be taken when riding down the mountain! Helmets are required. The race is up the mountain NOT DOWN! Riders wanting a ride in a vehicle down the mountain ask at the start before the race OR AT THE FINISH AREA!



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## **Race Day Parking!!!! (New for 2024)!!!**

Parking will now be in the Mt. Graham International Observatory Safford Base Camp area. The address is 1480 West State Route 366 Safford Arizona 85546. The parking area is on the right side of Sr 366 just across the road from the Main Entrance to the Federal Prison.

The parking area has no “goat heads” or weeds. There will be port-a-johns for everyone to use. The port-a-johns will be placed in the North-West corner in the second lot. The gate will be unlocked at 6:15 AM on Sunday so no reason to get there super early.

We will be sharing the lot with the Mt. Graham Observatory staff so we can not block any vehicle as they may have to go to the top of Mt. Graham. Volunteers will be directing you to where to park so please follow their directions. Not everyone can park in the first parking space next the entrance. If you are bringing a “trainer” to warm up on, we ask you to put the “trainer” behind your vehicle not on the side of the vehicle.

There will be a vehicle that will be able to take any clothes to the top. It will be near the entrance.

**ALL RACERS MUST BE IN THE PARKING AREA AT 7:45 AM SO THAT WE CAN HAVE THE FOLLOWING:** The national anthem and the prayer and “call up” of categories to line up in the parking lot. There will be a “neutral” start from the parking area to Mile Post 151.1 (the start).

The officials will be the lead vehicle for the race.

## **Host Hotel:**

Best Western Desert Inn  
1391 Thatcher Blvd. Safford, Arizona  
1-800-707-2336 or (928) 428-0521

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.03054.html?  
iata=00171880&ssob=BLBWI0004G&cid=BLBWI0004G:google:gmb:03054](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.03054.html?iata=00171880&ssob=BLBWI0004G&cid=BLBWI0004G:google:gmb:03054)

Ask for the Mt. Graham Hill Climb Special!

There are two Best Western motels in Safford. I use Best Western Desert Inn NOT Best Western Plus!

Breakfast served from 6 AM to 10 AM. Check with the front desk for more details!

**ROOM RATES:** \$ 90.00 + 14.05% tax for Mt. Graham Hill Climb!

Rooms have the one of the following One King or One Queen Bed or for Two Queen Beds!

LATE CHECK OUT for all riders is 1:00 PM. Just let the front desk know you are with the bike race!

## **Camping:**

ROPER STATE PARK: Park is 2 miles from start line. Amenities include showers, indoor toilets, RV hookups and ramadas. For rates, call (928) 428-6760. Follow brown colored state park signage off Hwy 191! Address 101 E. Roper Lake Road Safford, Arizona 85546.

Web page is <https://azstateparks.com/reserve/#!/park/21>



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### Other Camping! Camping on Mt. Graham!

There is camping on Mt. Graham! One is at milepost 124.5 at the US Forest Service Camp Ground Arcadia. The other is Snow Flats at milepost 135! The fee is \$20.00 per day per campsite. Web Page is <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rea/recarea/coronado/recarea/?recid=25576>

### Support

1. FREE food will be available at rest area past the finish line!
2. There will be a support vehicle provided by the event allowing all cyclists to take extra clothes & gear to the finish line! Racers are to place items in bags provided & label with name & race number then put the bag into the vehicle!

### SPECIAL THANKS:

1. A very special thanks to the following, they make this race possible> All Nippy's family, Don Lash, Broadway Bikes, Aggress Racing, ADOT, Graham County Supervisors, Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), City of Safford, US Forest Service, Federal Prison, Eastern Arizona Courier, and former Mt. Graham race director Al Hopper, former webmaster Jay Schreiber and photographer Kathleen Drier!

### AWARDS

1. This is officially the Arizona State USA Cycling Hill Climb Championship Race. Each winner of all categories and age groups winner will receive the Arizona State Championship jersey. The race director pays for the jerseys.
2. USA Cycling State medals will be awarded to the first three cyclists in each category & age group for Arizona licensed cyclists. They are Gold, Silver & Bronze medals.
3. Per the USA Cycling rule book, only those riders that have an ANNUAL license are eligible for the state championship title! ONE-DAY LICENSE RIDERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR THE STATE JERSEY OR MEDAL!
4. Only Arizona State Annual licensed riders are eligible for the Arizona State Championship Jersey.
5. Break a Mt. Graham record and receive an "Official Mt. Graham Record"!
6. **AWARDS! They will be held at the Graham County General Services Building. The building is located at 921 Thatcher Blvd., Safford, Arizona 85546. The entrance to the room is in the behind the main building.**

### BIKE SHOPS SUPPORTING THIS RACE!

#### BROADWAY BIKES

140 S Sarnoff Drive  
Tucson, Arizona 85710  
(520) 296-7819

#### PIMA STREET BICYCLE

5247 East Pima Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85712  
(520) 326-4044





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	<u>CATEGORIES</u>	<u>DISTANCE</u>	
1.	Men's Pro	20 MILES	
2.	Senior Men Category 1	20 MILES	
3.	Senior Men Category 2	20 MILES	
4.	Under 23 (Espoires)	20 MILES	
5.	Senior Men Category 3	20 MILES	
6.	Senior Men Category 4	20 MILES	
7.	Senior Novice Men (Formally Cat 5)	20 MILES	
8.	Women's Pro	20 MILES	
9.	Senior Women Category 1	20 MILES	
10.	Senior Women Category 2	20 MILES	
11.	Senior Women Category 3	20 MILES	
12.	Senior Women Category 4	20 MILES	
13.	Senior Novice Women (Formally Cat 5)	20 MILES	
14.	Master Men 35 to 39	20 MILES	
15.	Master Men 40 to 44	20 MILES	
16.	Master Men 45 to 49	20 MILES	
17.	Master Men 50 to 54	20 MILES	
18.	Master Men 55 to 59	20 MILES	
19.	Master Men 60 to 64	10 OR 20 MILES	
20.	Master Men 65 to 69	10 OR 20 MILES	
21.	Master Men 70 to 74	10 OR 20 MILES	
22.	Master Men 75 + (into 5yr age group)	10 OR 20 MILES	
23.	Master Woman 35 to 39	20 MILES	
24.	Master Woman 40 to 44	20 MILES	
25.	Master Woman 45 to 49	20 MILES	
26.	Master Woman 50 to 54	10 OR 20 MILES	
27.	Master Woman 55 to 59	10 OR 20 MILES	
28.	Master Woman 60 to 64	10 OR 20 MILES	
29.	Master Woman 65 to 69	10 OR 20 MILES	
30.	Master Woman 70 + (into 5yr age group)	10 OR 20 MILES	
31.	All Tandem Men	20 MILES	
32.	All Tandem Mixed	20 MILES	
33.	All Tandem Women	20 MILES	
34.	Juniors 11 to 12 (Men or Woman)	10 MILES ONLY	See Note on Next Page
35.	Juniors 13 to 14 (Men or Woman)	10 MILES ONLY	See Note on Next Page
36.	Juniors 15 to 16 (Men or Woman)	10 MILES ONLY	See Note on Next Page
37.	Juniors 17 to 18 (Men or Woman)	10 OR 20 MILES	See Note on Next Page





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**JUNIOR RACERS: (ALL) :**

**Per the 2024 USA CYCLING RULE BOOK: JUNIOR RACE FOR NATIONAL AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP NOW START AT AGE 11 TO AGE 18.**

**THE RACE DIRECTOR HIGHLY RECOMMENDS THAT AN ADULT RIDER FOLLOW, BEHIND THE JUNIOR, UP THE MOUNTAIN FOR THE SAFETY OF THE JUNIOR RIDER.**

**ALL JUNIOR RACERS AGE 16 AND UNDER MUST RACE THE 10-MILE DISTANCE ONLY. NO EXCEPTION NO MATTER WHAT CATEGORY/RANKING THE JUNIOR HOLDS.**

**ALL JUNIOR RACERS AGE 17 AND OLDER MUST BE A CATEGORY 3 OR ABOVE TO ENTER THE 20-MILE DISTANCE. ALL JUNIOR RACERS AGE 17 AND OLDER THAT ARE CATEGORY 4/5 MUST RACE THE 10-MILE DISTANCE. NO EXCEPTION!**

**IT IS HIGHLY SUGGESTED THAT ALL JUNIORS RACERS AGE 16 AND UNDER DO NOT RIDE FROM MILE POST 125 TO MILE POST 135. THIS IS A SAFETY CONCERN FOR ALL YOUNG RIDERS!**

**MOST INSPIRATION CYCLIST!**

Each year I chose a male and female cyclist as the Most Inspirational Cyclist!  
If you know someone who deserves this award e-mail Nippy at [nippy-mr-smarty-pants@juno.com](mailto:nippy-mr-smarty-pants@juno.com).

**Past Recipients!**

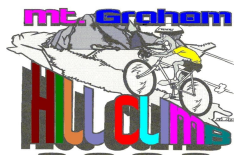
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1999 Al Hopper                                 | 2000 Vern Roberts  |
| 2001 Jeannie Longo & Don Melhado               | 2002 Scott Price   |
| 2003 Rebecca Cooke & Ken Stamm                 | 2004 Steve Walters (In Memory)                                 |
| 2005 Herb Johnson & Adrianna Brian             | 2006 Maggie Williams & Dave Deichman                           |
| 2007 Marlene Zuhl & Dwight Nelson              | 2008 Christina Carbone & Kerry Farrell                         |
| 2009 Tammy Lamb & Jesus Lamb                   | 2010 Jay Schreiber   |
| 2010 Colleen Whealdon-Haught (In Memory)       | 2011 Franz Hammer & Catherine Dickerson                        |
| 2012 Reg Dowell & Martha Stedman               | 2013 Alisha Welch & Darien Newman                              |
| 2014 Luis Chacon & Joanna Roberts              | 2015 Lawrence (Larry) Smith & Deborah Robison (In Memory both) |
| 2016 Lisa Crujido & Joey Iuliano               | 2017 Nathalie Potvin & Gustavo "Gus" Amado                     |
| 2018 John Conahay (In Memory) & Shelby Hoglund | 2019 Richard Horn & Cathi Stevens                              |
| 2020 Joel Thompson & Lauren Frisk              | 2021 Elizabeth Perry & Jeremy Barrett (In Memory)              |
| 2022 Ron Sweet & Leslie O'Doherty (In Memory)  | 2023 Barbara & Ted Frohling                                    |

**THIS YEAR 2024 MOST INSPIRATIONAL CYCLISTS ARE:**

**David Swain and Lee Marvin!!!!**

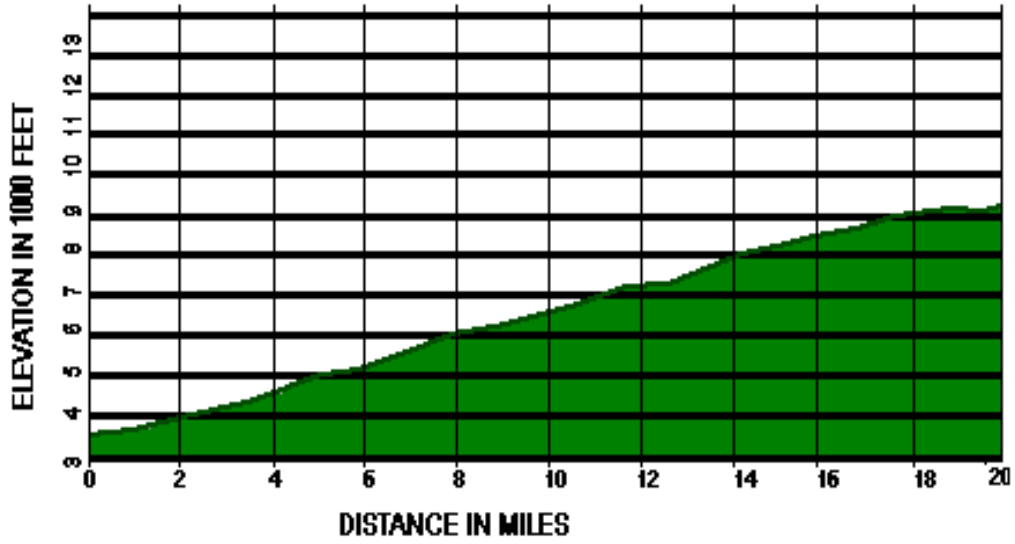
**Kathleen Dreier Photography**





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**PROFILE**







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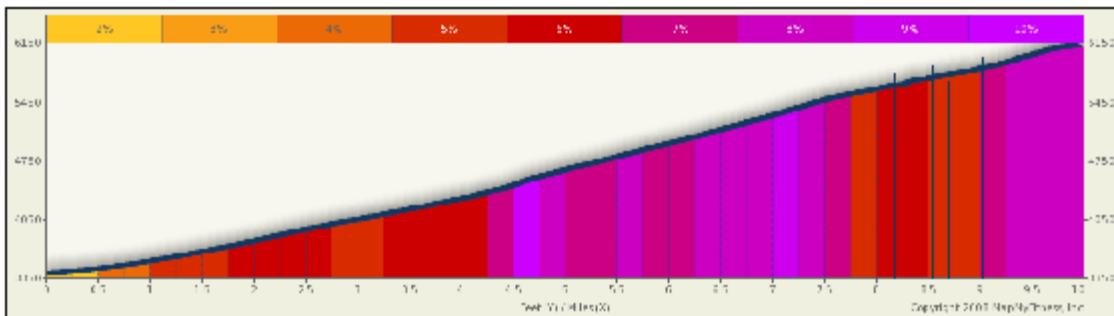
MAPS 10-mile event



Mt. Graham Hill Climb 10 Mile Event

Starts in Safford, Arizona

10.00 miles



**Description**  
Mt. Graham Hill Climb 10 Mile event starting at mile post 115.1 on Arizona State Route 366 South of Safford Arizona and ending at mile post 125.1. Start just past the upper prison parking area. The route is the Mt. Graham Hill Climb which is the Arizona State Hill Climb Championship. This is a road bike event not a mountain bike event.



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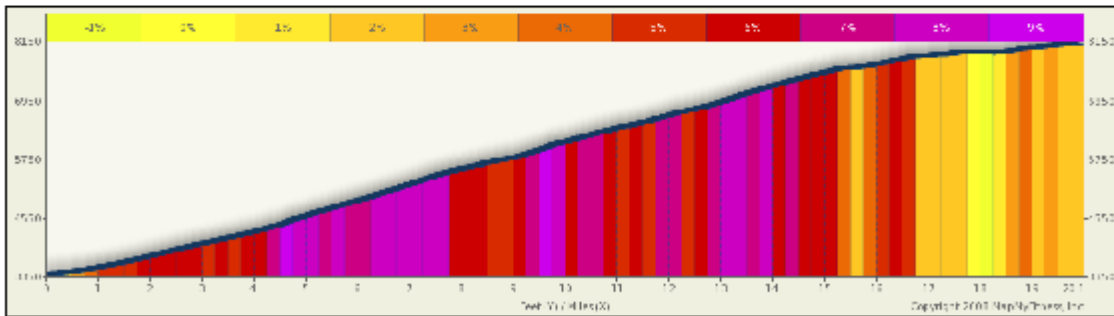
MAP 20-mile event



Mt. Graham Hill Climb 20 Mile Event

Starts in Safford, Arizona

20.00 miles



**Description**  
Mt. Graham Hill Climb 20 Mile event starting at mile post 115.1 on Arizona State Route 366 South of Safford Arizona and ending at mile post 135.1. Start just past the upper prison parking area. The route is the Mt. Graham Hill Climb which is the Arizona State Hill Climb Championship. This is a road bike event not a mountain bike event. This is the toughest climb in Arizona and is Rated a HC due to the length and steepness! Nippy Feldhake Race Directo