

*4th Annual*  
**MINE ORE CART RACES**

Presented by  
SPIRIT OF BOHEMIA MINING DAYS and the BOHEMIA MINE OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
Sponsored by  
Weyerhaeuser

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2026

308 S. 10th Street  
In Front of the Bohemia Gold Mining Museum  
Cottage Grove, Oregon

#### HOW IT WORKS

This is a team sport requiring a three-person team consisting of two Miners and one Tommyknocker, plus up to two alternates. All participants must be at least 18 years of age.

Each team builds a reusable, human-powered mining ore cart that meets the Ore Cart Specifications listed below.

At the start signal, two Miners push the Tommyknocker in the ore cart from the Start/Finish Line on 10th Street in front of the Bohemia Gold Mining Museum. At the halfway point, the Tommyknocker exits the cart, loads three 20-pound sandbags into the cart, re-enters the cart, and the team races back to the finish line.

Two teams compete head-to-head in timed heat races beginning at high noon on Saturday, July 18, 2026, until clear First, Second, and Third Place winners are determined. Early registrations may receive preferential bracket placement or byes.

The number of entrants will determine whether the tournament is conducted using a single-elimination or double-elimination format.

#### REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES

Early Registration (through June 30, 2026): \$25

After June 30, 2026: \$50

Entry fee is payable at race-day check-in.

The race is limited to 24 teams. Early registration is strongly encouraged.

#### CASH PRIZES & AWARDS

##### People's Choice Award

Awarded to the crowd favorite ore cart. One voting ticket is included with admission. Additional tickets may be purchased.

##### First Place

Traditional Pickaxe Trophy

Bag of \$100 Sacagawea Dollar Coins

Local Cottage Grove Swag

Second Place  
Silver Shovel Trophy  
Bag of \$75 Sacagawea Dollar Coins  
Local Cottage Grove Swag

Third Place  
Copper Mining Pan Trophy  
Bag of \$50 Sacagawea Dollar Coins  
Local Cottage Grove Swag

Note:

The Pickaxe, Shovel, and Mining Pan trophies will display photographs of the winning teams and remain on display year-round at the Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days office alongside the perpetual Ore Cart Race Champions plaque.

While not required, it is customary for teams to donate prize money back to Spirit of Bohemia Mining Days to support future Ore Cart Races.

CREW

Each crew consists of:

- 2 Miners (Pushers)
- 1 Tommyknocker (Rider)
- Up to 2 Alternates

All participants must be at least 18 years old.

No dogs or other animals are permitted.

Safety equipment is recommended but not required.

Reminder:

"Asphalt is hard and rough, gravity is real, please dress appropriately."

ORE CART SPECIFICATIONS

- Minimum Weight: 150 lbs
- Minimum Height: 44 inches (ground to highest point of cart)
- Minimum Cart Body Size: 30 inches x 48 inches
- Ore carts may be constructed from any durable material.
- Ore carts must have a minimum of four (4) wheels.
- Wheels and axles must extend beyond the cart body for safety and stability.
- Swivel wheels are not permitted.
- Wheels may not exceed 16 inches in diameter.
- Bicycle tires are not permitted.
- Ore carts must be powered solely by human effort. No motors or powered assistance devices are allowed.
- Only the two designated Miners may propel or control the cart.
- Brakes are optional.
- Each cart must have a visible light source.

- Each team/cart must prominently display a team name.
- Historic Bohemia Mining District mine names are encouraged but not required.
- Logos, sponsor recognition, company names, team member names, and decorative elements are encouraged but optional.
- All carts must pass a safety inspection prior to competition.

## SCHEDULE

Friday, July 17, 2026

5:00 PM — Team registration, weigh-in, safety inspection, and practice runs.

Teams unable to attend Friday may check in Saturday morning. However, Friday check-in is strongly encouraged to avoid race-day congestion.

Saturday, July 18, 2026

9:00 AM — Check-in, weigh-in, and safety inspections open

11:00 AM — All teams report to the race area with carts

12:00 PM — Heat races begin

Awards Ceremony — Time and location to be announced

## RACE RULES

- All ore carts and crews must be ready for inspection and check-in no later than 11:00 AM Saturday.
- Teams consist of one Tommyknocker and two Miners. All participants must be at least 18 years old.
- Ore carts must be powered solely by human effort.
- Ore carts must remain in designated staging areas when not racing.
- At the starting line, no portion of the cart may extend over the start line.
- Teams must maintain control of their cart at all times.
- Both Miners must be in contact with the cart as it crosses the finish line.
- Ore carts must remain within their assigned lane throughout the race.
- A cart that interferes with another team's lane may be disqualified at the judges' discretion.
- Upon reaching the tote line, the Tommyknocker must exit the cart and load all three sandbags without assistance.
- Pushers may not touch the sandbags.
- Once all bags are loaded and the Tommyknocker is seated in the cart, the team may continue toward the finish line.
- The first cart whose leading edge crosses the finish line wins the heat.
- Decorative extensions do not count toward determining the winner.
- In the event of a tie or photo finish, judges may order a rerun.
- All participants must sign a liability waiver before competing.
- Judges' decisions are final.

Questions?

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