

Shepherd Center  2020 Peachtree Road, NW  Atlanta, Georgia 30309  [shepherd.org](http://www.Shepherd.org)

## 2015 Fast Facts

* Shepherd Center’s Wheelchair Division of the Peachtree Road Race is considered one of the largest and fastest wheelchair 10Ks in the country.
* 68 wheelchair racers are scheduled to compete this year – 57 men and 11 women.
* The 2015 race is the 34th annual race. Start time is 6:43 a.m. The Wheelchair Division follows the course set for the foot racers: 6.2 miles down Peachtree Road, starting at Lenox Road and ending on 10th Street at Piedmont Park.
* Shepherd Center’s therapeutic recreation staff coordinates all wheelchair race logistics: reviewing applications, orchestrating the start and finish, monitoring the times and overseeing the needs of the athletes.
* Shepherd Center and its Junior Committee fund and organize the race in cooperation with the Atlanta Track Club. Funding provides pre-and post-race brunches, defrayed travel and lodging expenses for racers and a $34,000 purse for winners.
* This year, the Wheelchair Division draws racers from 8 countries, including: Australia, Costa Rica, Great Britain, Ireland, Mexico, Nigeria, Spain and U.S.
* Racers use specially-designed racing wheelchairs with a lower center of gravity and tires similar to bicycle wheels with a steering handle in front.
* On average, it takes racers approximately 2,500 pushes to complete the 6.2 miles of the Peachtree.
* Oldest racer: Ken Higgins, 62, of Lilburn, Ga. He has competed in 25 Peachtree races
* Winningest racer: Clayton Gerein of Canada holds the record for the most first place finishes. He has won the Open Quad Division 12 times since 1991-2002.
* Record setting racer: Saul Mendoza of Mexico set the course record of 18:38 in 2004.
* Fastest female racer: Edith Hunkler of Switzerland, with a time of 22:09 in 2009.

*For more information, contact Larry Bowie @ 404-542-5678*

**Race Highlights:**

* Open Men’s Division – 32 racers
	+ Kurt Fearnley of Australia is the top seed and returning 2007 & 2008 Peachtree Champion. This division has a combined 6 Open Men champions since 2007 and 3 time Master Division champion.
	+ Top competition:
		- Krige Schabort of Cedartown, Ga.; Champion 2002, 2003, 2011, 2014
		- Richard Colman, Australia
		- Josh George of Champaign, Ill.
		- Scott Parson of San Jose, Calif.; Master Champion 2008, 2009, 2010
* Open Women’s Division – 11 racers
	+ Top seed is Tatyana McFadden of Clarksville, Md.; 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014 Peachtree Champion
	+ Top competition*:*
* Amanda McGrory of Savory, Ill.; 2007 Champion
* Susannah Scaroni of Champaign, Ill.
* Open Quad Division (some upper-body paralysis) – 9 racers
	+ Top seed is Santiago Sanz of Spain; 9-time Champion 2005-2012, 2014
	+ Top competition:
* Ray Martin of Champaign, Ill.; 2013 Peachtree Champion
* T-1 Quad Division (more paralysis with limited hand function) – 3 racers
	+ Top seed is Jeremy Finton of Canal Winchester, Ohio.
* Masters Division (40 to 50) – 6 racers
	+ Top seed is Aaron Gordian of Mexico and 2012 Open Men Champion and 2005 Masters Champion of Longmont Colo., and last year's Peachtree champion
	+ Top competition:
* Jacob Heilveil of Longmont, Colo.; 2013 & 2014 Master Champion
* Grand Masters (over 50) – 4 racers
	+ Top seed is Don Dowling of St. Charles, Mo.; 2013 Champion
* Push Assist – 2 racers
	+ Top seed is Kyle Pease of Atlanta, Ga.