

TAHOE DONNER HIKING CLUB HIKE COMPARISON MATRIX

| Description | GREEN | BLUE | BLACK |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| Hike Day | Monday + occasional weekend | Wednesday + occasional weekend | Thursday |
| Drive to Trailhead | At leader's discretion - generally under 1 hour | At leader's discretion - generally under 40 minutes | At leader's discretion |
| Hike Distance | Typically 5-8 miles with shorter options for hikes > 6 miles | Typically 7-10 miles | Typically 10 miles or more |
| Hike Style | Frequent stops to regroup | Periodic stops to regroup | At hike leader's discretion |
| Recommended Pace | 1.5-2 miles per hour on flat trails | 2.0-2.5 miles per hour on flat trails | 2.5+ miles per hour on flat trails |
| Food Breaks | Typically includes a lunch stop | Typically includes a short snack stop | Typically includes a morning snack break and a lunch stop. |
| Trail Conditions | Established trails | Typically on a trail, but may be narrow and rough underfoot at times | Typically on a trail, but sometimes includes off trail and/or scrambling |
| Leader | Waits at all decision points and at end of hike | Waits at all decision points and at end of hike | Marks turns with blue tape and/or waits for next hiker who waits, etc. |
| Leader's Speed | Hikes at group's pace | Waits for slower hikers | Monitors group speed through conversation with sweep via radio |
| Sweep | Designated sweep + companion | Designated sweep + companion | Volunteer sweep at start |
| Sweep Duties | Stays behind the last hiker | Stays behind the last hiker | Can change during the hike – person at back of group always carries the radio |
| Group Size | Goal is 20 or less; can be broken into smaller groups on the trail | To be reviewed if the group size becomes a problem | To be reviewed if the group size becomes a problem |
| Timing | Typically ends early afternoon | Typically ends around 1:00pm | Plan for an all-day adventure |
| Dogs | In accordance with club and local rules and at leader's discretion | In accordance with club and local rules and at leader's discretion | In accordance with club and local rules and at leader's discretion |