

RACE DAY INSTRUCTIONS - MARATHON

2009 RACE UPDATE

RACE DAY BAGGAGE CHECK :

YOU MAY ONLY CHECK THE GOODIE BAG THAT YOU RECEIVE AT THE EXPO. NO OTHER BAGS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

A baggage ticket is included on the top part of your bib number. Detach the baggage check number and affix it to your goodie bag.

RACE MORNING

- The George R. Brown Convention Center (GRB) will open at 5:00 a.m.
- Protestant and Catholic Prayer Services will be held at 5:45 a.m. inside the GRB.
- All participants will be scored using the ChampionChip system. You MUST wear a chip in order to be scored. Official results are based on chip time.
- Race numbers MUST be worn on the front of your shirt or shorts.

PARKING and STREET CLOSURES

- A parking map is included in the Race Program and is posted on the website. Parking is available at privately owned lots around the Convention Center. Be prepared to pay cash to the lot owner for race day parking.
- Arrive early (BEFORE 6:00 a.m.) to allow for traffic and parking. The streets comprising the start line will close at 12:00 a.m. HPD will begin closing other streets in the downtown area at 6:00 a.m.

START LINE and COURSE

YOU MUST HAVE A BIB TO BE ALLOWED INTO YOUR START LINE CORRAL.

- Participants should be at the start line by 6:30 a.m.
- The marathon will start on Crawford Street at 7:00 a.m.
 - **Red Wave** (red bib): 7:00 a.m.
 - **Blue Wave** (blue bib): 7:10 a.m.
- Any items discarded along the race course will NOT be returned. They will be collected and donated to a local charity.
- For your safety, run on the vehicular pathways only. DO NOT RUN on sidewalks, curbs, medians or similar structures.
- Marathoners and half marathoners merge at mile 2. Half marathoners will U-turn to the left just before mile 9. Marathoners should STAY TO THE RIGHT in order to facilitate the half marathon turnaround.

POST-RACE

- ONLY RUNNERS are allowed inside the Halls A & B of the GRB.
- The runner/family reunion area will be inside Hall C of the GRB. This area is designated by letters of the alphabet hanging from the ceiling, such as A-D and E-H, etc. Runners should encourage family members to meet them under the first letter of their last name.
- You will receive a medal, finisher shirt and mug inside the GRB. A "Finisher Shirt" ticket is attached to the bottom part of your bib. You will need to turn this ticket in at the finisher merchandise area upon completion of your race in order to receive your finisher items.
YOU MUST COLLECT YOUR FINISHER ITEMS UPON COMPLETION OF YOUR RACE.
NO FINISHER ITEMS WILL BE MAILED.
- Merchandise will be available for purchase inside the GRB.
- Unofficial results will be posted inside the GRB and will include gun and chip time.
- You may keep your timing chip after the race. It is a commemorative single-use chip and may not be used at other races.
- Spectators will be able to purchase refreshments inside Hall C of the GRB.
- GRB closes at 2:00 p.m.

Packet Pickup Checklist

- Step 1:** Check the information on your bib for accuracy. Review the two digit code on the back of the timing chip in your packet; confirm that it matches the Chip Code printed on your bib. If there are any errors, visit the Help Desk to correct them.
- Step 2:** Please visit the Hydration Initiative at the end of the Marathon chute. It only takes a few minutes and allows us to offer you the best possible medical care on race day.
- Step 3:** Visit the Marathon t-shirt booth inside the EXPO to pick up your t-shirt and goodie bag.
- Step 4:** **VERY IMPORTANT** - Read the instructions in this packet.