



2010 Chevron Houston Marathon, Aramco Houston Half Marathon Sell Out in Record Time

Limited entries available through charity programs

HOUSTON, TX (July 20, 2009) – Open registration for the 2010 Chevron Houston Marathon and Aramco Houston Half Marathon is closed, with both races selling out in record time.

The half marathon reached capacity in less than 24 hours, while registration for 38th running of the marathon was completed just hours later. As of Monday, July 20, only several hundred Hero entries remained to reach the combined field limit of 22,000 runners. The 2010 Chevron Houston Marathon and Aramco Houston Half Marathon are scheduled for Sunday, January 17.

“We knew we would establish a new standard with the fastest sellout in race history, but the pace at which registration was completed exceeded even our most optimistic projection,” said Race Director Brant Kotch. “The Houston Marathon Committee and our dedicated team of more than 5,000 volunteers look forward to staging a great event for our largest field ever.”

It took 12 weeks for the 2009 races, with 4,000 fewer registrations, to reach capacity.

"We had concerns the difficult economy might impact our numbers and offered our participants a no fee increase year to do our part in these tough times," said Steven Karpas, Managing Director. "Obviously, the phenomenal response and 60-hour sell out proved us wrong."

There are still ways to enter the sold out races through our Run for a Reason charity programs.

The Hero charity entries that remain for both the marathon and half marathon require a commitment of \$350, a direct donation to a Run for a Reason charity of the runner's choice, plus the cost of registration. Each Hero runner receives a custom back bib, an invitation to the event's exclusive post-race charity party, cap and recognition on the marathon web site.

Select Run for a Reason charities also have a limited number of marathon and half marathon spots available. Each charity sets its fundraising objectives and deadlines required to receive a race entry. Runners may contact the charities directly for more information. Entries are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Sidewalk Squad Corporate Charity Sponsorship program allows businesses and organizations to be a highly visible part of Houston's largest single-day sporting event and offers race entries, charity sponsorships and volunteer opportunities.

The Chevron Houston Marathon, a Running USA founding member, is the nation's premier winter marathon, annually attracting participants from all 50 U.S. states and more than 20 foreign countries. In 2009, more than 26,000 runners participated in four marathon weekend events (marathon, half marathon, 5K run and children's run). The Houston Marathon has been ranked among the top five marathons in the nation by Ultimate Guide to Marathons for fastest course, organization and crowd support. More than 5,000 volunteers organize the race, which is Houston's largest single-day sporting event.

More information is available at www.chevronhoustonmarathon.com or 713-957-3453.

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