

VERO BEACH HALF MARATHON AND SEA TURTLE 2 MILER COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Location of Event and Course Design:

the Riverside Park is a large outdoor facility that we can easily spread out before and after the race so safe social distancing guidelines can be maintained.

Start Line Approach: Our event is scheduled to start at 6:45 am. Instead of having our standard start at 6:45 am as a mass start, we will implement a “rolling” start at 6:45 am and will have separate corral waves for the half marathoners. Your corral will be assigned to you. We have an online link to the Participant Lookup in RunSignUp, our registration platform, to look up your race number as well as your start corral when packet pick up starts. Your corral will also be on your race number. Your start corral will be assigned based on your expected finish time submitted during registration. For the start of the Sea Turtle 2 Miler, we ask that you line up in the corral according to your pace per mile. If you intend on running 6-7 minute pace per mile, you would be in the first corral, etc.

All results will be based on net time so your time doesn't start until you cross the start timing equipment. **MASKS ARE REQUIRED AT THE START! WE ALSO REQUEST YOU WEAR A MASK AFTER YOU FINISH IF YOU CANNOT SOCIAL DISTANCE.**

Packet Pickup & Registration: Packet pickup will be offered at Running Zone on Thursday, January 21st from 10-6.30, Runner's Depot in Vero Beach on Friday, January 22 from 9.30-5.30 and Saturday, January 23rd it will only be available at our presenting sponsor AMERICAN ICON BREWERY. **Masks will be required during packet pickup. No packet pickup or registration will be allowed on race morning.** This eliminates a touch point between volunteers and participants as well as congregating in these two areas on race morning.

Protective Face Coverings: We will require a face covering or mask at the **start of the race and at the race site after finishing.** We encourage everyone to bring their own mask but we will also provide masks during packet pickup and at the finish line after the race.

Aid / Fluid Stations:

We encourage everyone to bring their own fluids/gels during the event. We will only hand out bottled water at the race site finish line from volunteers will wear gloves/masks. We will have aid stations about every **2 miles** for the half marathon. Masked and gloved volunteers will be placing cups of water and Gatorade on tables for participants.

Spectator Guidelines: Spectators are a highlight of race day, but also create an additional opportunity for crowding. Our plan is to limit areas that allow spectators and to make certain areas for participants only- such as the start corral and food and drink areas. We will have volunteers and staff assigned to help enforce the social distancing guidelines throughout the morning for both participants and spectators.

Finish Line Flow: Racers tend to want to STOP at the end of a race...but moving quickly through the finish area will help eliminate slow-downs. We will have volunteers/staff at the finish line to help facilitate moving quickly through the finish line area into the race site areas. We will also eliminate handing out finisher medals at the finish line and will provide the finisher medals in the race packets. Any other amenities will be offered away from the immediate finish line to help spread things out.

Awards / Results: We will only post results electronically on our website during and after the race and we will not have an awards presentation at the race site. Award winners can pick up their awards at the Award table at the pavilion before they leave.

Food & Drink Handling: All food provided after the race will be distributed in sealed packaging when applicable (i.e.fruit). Drinks will be distributed on tables in sealed containers. Beer will be distributed by our sponsor on tables after being poured to reduce any touch points. **Everything will be distributed via volunteers wearing gloves and protective face coverings.**

Summary: The above safety protocols and precautions will minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19. We ask your cooperation in following all of the above safety protocols and hope you elect to join us at inaugural Vero Beach Half Marathon and Sea Turtle 2 Miler on January 24th..