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Pre-Race General Information 2018

51st Running

Please Read Carefully

Packet Pickup is under the stands on the West Side of the Kidd Brewer football stadium on both days.

Packet pickup is from 3:00pm to 7:00pm on Friday, July 13th and from 5:00am to 6:15am on Saturday, July 14th in Kidd Brewer Stadium on the West Side.

** Please be advised that the section of Parkway the course takes is a gift. The Parkway has been very gracious in allowing us the use of that four mile section. You must run on the side of the road facing traffic. Also, you can not run in the middle of the road, crossover at will or run side by side on the Parkway. You must listen to the instructions at the start line and any instructions that the Parkway Rangers give. We must let everyone know that non-compliance with these situations will result in the Parkway not allowing us to use that stretch of road and the marathon might have to dissolve because of no other alternatives. This is a serious issue. Please help us with this!!

** The Highland Games has provided a wonderful opportunity to help with the above traffic problem. Keep in mind that when you get to the top ahead of your runner, you will not find a place to park. The NC Highway Patrol will have any car parked alongside the road towed. The Highland Games is providing a shuttle from Boone to McRae Meadows for a very low fee. This is the shuttle we will use for the return of the marathoners. The Highland Games shuttle from Boone leaves every half hour starting at 7:15 am. Once the shuttle starts in Boone, they continue all day long coming back to Boone. The Highland Games shuttle fee is nominal, it is \$10.00 round trip and \$5.00 from the top back to Boone. Some of you have pre-purchased these shuttle tickets and will get them at packet pickup on both days. You can purchase shuttle tickets at packet pickup each day if you do not have any. We will be selling these tickets only at packet pickup. This gives you the flexibility of leaving anytime you want after you arrive at the finish. **However, the shuttle we provide from the Boone shuttle area runs only until 3:30pm back to the stadium where we started. That shuttle begins at 11:00am.**

The Games management would like to see all the marathon spectators take the Boone shuttle. The incentive is this: All spectators, friends, etc that take the Boone shuttle to the Games will be given a free admission to the Games for each round-trip shuttle ticket purchased. The shuttle ticket and free admission is only given at the packet pickup area for the marathon runners and their families and friends only. **We will not sell a shuttle ticket to a non-registered runner.

** Those individuals who insist on providing aid to their runners must become more litter conscious. We are picking up more and more litter from what we know must be support vehicles.

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL IS STILL ALIVE! Also, please don't follow them every mile. We have aid stations. The traffic you create isn't good for the runners.

****There will be a vehicle for those runners wanting a bag taken to the top. We are, however, not responsible for lost items, but will do our best to secure them. There will be a white panel van near the Rock at Kidd Brewer Stadium Saturday morning. The bag will be at the finish tent at the Games.**

PLEASE DO NOT RUN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD! WE CAN NOT STOP TRAFFIC, YOU MUST RUN ON THE SIDES AND STAY AWAY FROM BLIND CORNERS. IF YOU CAN'T SEE AROUND THE CURVE- MOVE SAFELY TO THE OTHER SIDE BEFORE YOU GET TO THE CURVE.

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Course Information 2018

Starting line is on the track at the 5000m start in Kidd Brewer Stadium clockwise around the track one time and then around again and out the gate, take a right toward Stadium Drive...turn left onto Stadium Drive, go down the hill toward Rivers Street...you take a right on to Rivers Street and run in the right side lane to the intersection of Rivers St. and Blowing Rock Rd (Hwy 321) at the Holmes Center... you take a right into the right hand lane of Blowing Rock Rd...you will follow Blowing Rock Road until you see Bojangles Restaurant...you will turn right on to Winkler's Creek Rd...you will follow Winkler's Creek Rd out of town...(it turns right after the bridge once you pass the Mall...you will go to Russ Cornett Rd and take a right...(Boone Police car will lead the race to this point)...you will proceed on Russ Cornett Rd until you intersect with Diamondback Rd...take a right at this point... proceed until you get to the intersection of Poplar Grove Rd...take a left at this point...proceed until Poplar Grove intersects with Shull's Mill Rd...take a left...proceed until you get to the the Parkway... take lefts to get to the Parkway...proceed South on the Parkway until you get to Holloway Mtn Rd Exit...take a right at that exit...at the bottom of ramp you turn left on Holloway Mtn Rd...proceed on Holloway Mtn. Road until you get to SR 1561 (Clarence Newton Rd)...take a right on to Clarence Newton Road...follow Clarence Newton Rd until it intersects with Hwy 221 ...take a right and follow Hwy 221 to the Highland Games...look for marathon directional signs just beyond the entrance to Grandfather Mtn Attraction...there should be a guide to direct you into the Highland Games area and signs to the track...take a right then left onto the track and run clockwise until you reach the finish line...

On Hwy 221, please face traffic at all times until you crossover at Grandfather Mtn Entrance and turn at the marathon sign near the road...there should be an official to help you...

Please do not run into or around blind turns on the mountain roads. Make sure you are as visible as possible at all these turns and do not run in the middle of the road.

On the Parkway...run facing the traffic all the way until you get to the Holloway Mtn Rd Exit...you crossover at that point...You can not run side by side on the Parkway...you must run single file...the Park Rangers will stop and make you do this...if you don't obey, they will give you a ticket...