



MONTEREY BAY HALF MARATHON

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HALF MARATHON FACT SHEET

- WHAT & WHEN:** **Monterey Bay Half Marathon – 16th Presentation**
 Sunday, November 11 – Race begins at 6:50 AM with Elite women. Elite men begin at 6:59:05 AM followed by 12 “wave starts” (approximately 1-to-3 minutes apart) on Del Monte Avenue at Camino El Estero. Last wave leaves at 7:22 AM.
- Saturday, November 10 – includes the **By the Bay 3K** beginning at 8 AM and the **Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K** following at 8:30 AM. Both races run along Ocean View Blvd. in an out-and-back course west from Lovers Point.
- Health & Fitness Expo** on Friday, November 9, from noon to 6:00 PM and Saturday, November 10, from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM at the Monterey Conference Center.
- COURSE:** Half Marathon course begins and ends in historic downtown Monterey and travels down Cannery Row and along the Pacific Grove shoreline, with a jog into downtown Pacific Grove.
- PARTICIPANTS:** 7,500+ registered runners including approximately 50 top ‘elite’ runners. In addition we expect roughly 1,700 participants in the Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K and By-the-Bay 3K events. Participants from 48 states 18 countries.
- HALF MARATHON RUNNER STATS:** 63% female, 37% male
 Age ranges:
- | | | | |
|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| <20 | 100 (2%) | 50-59 | 1,265 (19%) |
| 20-29 | 1,317 (20%) | 60-69 | 514 (8%) |
| 30-39 | 2,229 (34%) | 70-79 | 92 (1%) |
| 40-49 | 1,747 (26%) | 80+ | 3 (<1%) |
- AWARDS:** Overall purse and bonuses totals \$32,000, including a gender “Equalizer” bonus totaling \$5,000 to the top three runners to cross the finish line, plus an additional \$1,000 bonus for a new Male or Female record (current course records are 1:02:32 for men and 1:09:43 for women). Prize money will be awarded to the top eight open Male and Female elite or seeded runners as follows:
- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| 1 st | \$4,000 | 5 th | \$1,000 |
| 2 nd | \$2,500 | 6 th | \$750 |
| 3 rd | \$2,000 | 7 th | \$500 |
| 4 th | \$1,500 | 8 th | \$250 |

Cash awards are based on GUN, not CHIP time. Divisional (age group) awards will be based on chip time.

Awards will go five deep in age divisions beginning at 12-15 years and 16-19 years, and in five year increments following.

WHAT'S NEW:

- **Military/Veterans Wave:** This year, the Monterey Bay Half Marathon falls directly on Veteran's Day, November 11th, and we're thrilled to recognize our military and veterans with a special start wave. Active military and veterans will be asked if they'd like participate in this special wave during registration. Those opting in will be assigned a special bib and invited to start the half marathon together. Please note that spouses and family members are welcome in the special start wave (no action is necessary to participate).
- **Race clinics** at Saturday's Health & Fitness Expo to feature three female speakers and a panel of athletes: 12 p.m. – Fitz Koehler, "Best Strength Training Exercises for Runners"; 1 p.m. – Gretchen Reynolds, "Science in Sport: Separating Fact from Fiction"; 2 p.m. – Deena Kastor, "Let Your Mind Run"; 3 p.m. – Panel of Olympians & Hopefuls, "Olympic Memories, Olympic Dreams." See Clinics release for more detailed information.

HEALTH & FITNESS 24 sponsor and merchandise vendors will include:

| | |
|--|--|
| Aftershockz | Lululemon |
| Altra | Mascot Sports |
| BBH Massagers | Napa Valley Marathon |
| Chef Pepe's Carmel Bakery | Nuun |
| Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula | PWR Lab |
| Corrigan Sports Enterprises | Real Time Pain Relief |
| Dubrovnik Half Marathon | Recover Brands |
| Endure Jewelry | Roosport |
| First City Beer & Wine Festival | Santa Rosa Marathon |
| Fitletic Sports | The Treadmill |
| Green Team | Treadmill Pace Team |
| GU | NauteSport Eyewear |
| Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Half Marathon | Waves to Wine & Big Sur Marathon Foundation Events |

CHARITY PARTNERS: Big Sur Marathon Foundation's JUST RUN® youth fitness program

RACE HISTORY: The Monterey Bay Half Marathon was the result of the growth and expansion of the highly successful Big Sur International Marathon, which had reached its capacity on Highway 1. The first-ever event was held in 2003 and considered an "immediate, overwhelming success."

In 2006, the prize purse for elite runners was increased to \$13,000, attracting world-class runners. That year, the male course record of 1:02:32 was set by Ian Dobson with Jennifer Rhines establishing a new female record of 1:12:18 (since broken in 2010 by Belainesh Gebre in 1:09:43).

In 2007 the Monterey Bay Half Marathon added a new children's fun run, the JUST RUN!® Just Kids 3K, sponsored by Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula and the City of Monterey. This semi-annual event, now renamed "By-the-Bay 3K" is in keeping with the organization's mission of promoting health and fitness and provides a fun goal race for Big Sur's JUST RUN® youth fitness program. An annual 5K race has also been held in conjunction with the Half Marathon since the origin of the race.

2008 began focusing on 'greening elements' and introduced the highly successful "BYOB" or Bring Your Own (Water) Bottle for refilling on course. Greening programs continued in 2009 with 100% online registration, a virtual goodie bag, and strong recycling and composting efforts resulting Gold Certification from the Council for Responsible Sport. Trash diversion from the landfill has reached as high as 99.9%.

2009 and 2010 saw the introduction of "wave starts" to accommodate the growing field of runners. The course was also slightly altered to showcase more of downtown Pacific Grove. The walk division of the event was also eliminated.

In 2011, the field was again increased, capping at 8,000 runners. The affiliated 5K (known previously as the Run Forrest Run 5K) was moved fully into Pacific Grove and renamed the Pacific Grove Lighthouse 5K.

The runner field was increased to 9,000 runners in 2012. Several new runner amenities were added including a tracking app, enhanced finish line food and beverage items, pace teams, finishers' certificates and more.

In 2016 the race began a new Elite Runner program with its largest-ever prize purse of \$32,000, making the Monterey Bay Half Marathon the fourth largest prize-money half marathon in the US.

2017 heralded the event's new name, the Monterey Bay Half Marathon, along with a new logo.