



26th Annual

River Run Half

2025 Race Participant Guide

Join Northeast Ohio's finest runners for this USATF-certified, point-to-point race along the scenic Rocky River Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks. Established in 2000, this half marathon offers a smooth, relatively flat course, perfect for runners seeking a memorable experience from start to finish.

Event Overview

- **Date:** Sunday, September 7, 2025
- **Location:** Wallace Lake in Berea (Start) to Memorial Fields in Rocky River (Finish)
- **Distance:** Half Marathon – 13.1 Miles (USATF Certified)
- **Starts:** Walk - 7:00 am | Run - 8:00 am
- **Course:** Slightly downhill, scenic, point-to-point route along Valley Parkway.
- **Time Limits:** Walkers (7:00 am start) – 4 hours | Runners (8:00 am start) – 3 hours. *Participants must maintain a 13:45 min/mile pace or faster for the Run Start.*

Registration & Pricing

- Online registration opened January 1, 2025
- Tiered pricing applies. Register early to secure the best rate.
 - Tier 1 (1-100): \$65
 - Tier 2 (101-300): \$75
 - Tier 3 (301-500): \$85
 - Tier 4 (501+): \$90
- Virtual Option: \$70
- Registration closes: Saturday, September 6 at 12:00 pm.
- Participants can pay by cash or check by filling out the paper form and mailing in to Hermes Office before Wednesday, September 3.

Packet Pickup

- No race-day packet pickup unless pre-purchased (\$12).
- Mailing option available until August 25 (\$12).
- Pickup Locations:
 - **Wednesday, Sept 3 (4-6 pm)** – Fleet Feet Pepper Pike
 - 30679 Pinetree Rd, Pepper Pike, OH 44124
 - **Thursday, Sept 4 (4-6 pm)** – Fleet Feet Westlake
 - 26149 Detroit Rd, Westlake, OH 44145
 - **Saturday, Sept 6 (10 am-12 pm)** – Hermes Sports and Events Office
 - 2425 W. 11th St. Cleveland, OH, 44113
- Participants may pick up for others (bring confirmation email).
- Groups of 5+ should email roadracing@hermescleveland.com for pre-packing at least 24 hours in advance of pick-up date/time.

- Those who need to add-on race day packet pickup can do so by following the steps in their RunSignUp account [HERE](#).



Race Morning Schedule

- 6:30 am – Participants who selected Shuttle should be parked at Rocky River HS
- 6:45 am – Shuttle leaves Rocky River HS for 8:00 am Wallace Lake Start
- 6:30-7:45 am – Race-day packet pickup begins (paid option only) at Start Line
- 6:30-7:45 am - Bag Check begins at Start Line
- 7:00 am – Walk start (Wallace Lake)
- 7:30 am – Valley Parkway closes to traffic
- 8:00 am – Run start (Wallace Lake)
- 8:30 am – Shuttle Service from RRHS to Finish Line begins for spectators
- 9:30 am – Awards begin
- 10:00 am – Shuttle service begins to Wallace Lake & Rocky River HS and runs continuously
- 11:00 am – Course closes

Race Results

- Race results are posted live on RiverRunHalf.com race site, as runners finish.
- Split point timing mat is placed mid-way.
- Issues with your results? Email roadracing@hermesccleveland.com



Bag Check

- A complimentary bag check will be located at the Start Line in the Fleet Feet Sports van.
- Your bags will be taken to the Finish Line in the same Fleet Feet Sports Van for pick up after you finish the race.
- Participants will need to bring their own bag, with their tear off bib tag attached to their bag (tear off bib tag can be found at the bottom of the participants race bib).

- Bags do not need to be clear.



Course Details / Aid Stations

- **Start:** Wallace Lake, Berea, OH
- **Finish:** Memorial Fields, Rocky River, OH
- **Medical:** EMS at Mile 6 & at the finish line
- Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association will be on the course providing public service and emergency communications.
- Chamberlain College of Nursing will be at the finish line
- **Digital Map** [HERE](#)

Distance	Aid	Volunteer Group
Mile 2.5	Water	Greater Cleveland Young Marines
Mile 4	Water, Portos	Westlake High School Senior Class

Mile 6	Water, Gatorade, CarbBoom Gels, Portos, Anti-chaffe spray	Rocky River High School Boys Soccer
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Mile 8	Water, Gatorade, CarBoom Gels, Portos, Anti-chaffe spray	Cub Scout Pack 153 of North Olmsted
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Mile 10	Water, Gatorade, Portos	Cleveland Road Runners Club
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Mile 12	Water, Gatorade	Berea Midpark Orchestra Boosters
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Awards

- Top 3 Overall Male & Female Finishers
- Top 3 Overall Masters Male & Female Finishers (60+)
- Top 3 Male & Female per Age Group: 12-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70+
- Overall Winners: Gun time | Age Group Winners: Chip time
- No awards mailed – pick up at Finish Line Award Tent, the Hermes Office or coordinate at another event. Email beforehand at roadracing@hermescleveland.com



Spectator Information

- No parking at Memorial Fields (Finish Line). Use Rocky River HS shuttle service.
- Free Spectator Shuttles start ~8:30 am from Rocky River HS to Finish - running continuously throughout the morning.
- Parking & viewing spots:
 - Mile 6: Cedar Point Rd/Nature Center
 - Mile 9: Mastick Woods Golf Course
 - Mile 10: Big Met Golf Course
 - Mile 11: Little Met Golf Course



Sponsors / Finish Line

- Blue Silo Food Truck (onsite)
- City of Cleveland Water (onsite)
- Cleveland Performance Chiropractic (onsite)
- Crowne Plaza
- Dick's Sporting Goods
- Go Ape Treetop Adventure (onsite)
- Hand and Stone Massage and Facial Spa (onsite)
- Kate's Real Food (product onsite)
- Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association (on the course)
- Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers (onsite)
- Welsh Financial & Accounting
- Yoga Six – Fairview Park (onsite)

Finish Line

- Live DJ / entertainment
- Finisher medal to all finishers
- Post race snacks and refreshments
- River Run Photo banner - free photos
- Awards Tent
- Bag Check at the Fleet Feet Sports tent
- River Run Store - purchase old merchandise | pick up previously purchased merchandise
- Continuous shuttle service back to Wallace Lake (start) and to Rocky River High School

Virtual Runners

- Available for those unable to attend in person
- Complete the half marathon anytime, outdoors or on a treadmill
- Times may be submitted online for recognition through **September 28**
- Packets can be picked up early at designated locations or will be mailed after the race
- Registrants transferring from the live event to virtual must pick up packets in person!

Rules & Restrictions

- No strollers or dogs allowed.
- Headphones allowed at low volume.
- Bibs must be worn on outermost clothing layer.
- Bibs must be worn by the participant it was assigned to - runners will be disqualified from future races for wearing another participant's race bib.
- No cyclists on course.
- No pacers on course.
- No unregistered runners on course
- No late starters.
- No participants under 12 years old.
- Those who anticipate finishing over 3 hours must start with the 7am walk division.

Course Time Limit

For the safety of all participants and in coordination with city permits, the course will officially close at **11:00 AM**. This provides:

- **4 hours** for walkers starting at 7:00 AM
- **3 hours** for runners starting at 8:00 AM

- Participants who are unable to maintain pace within these limits should be aware that:
 - Course support, including traffic control and aid stations, may no longer be available
 - Roads will begin re-opening to traffic and participants may be directed to the all-purpose path
 - An official finish time, results, and finisher services may not be provided after the finish line closes at 11:00 AM

Refunds, Deferrals & Transfers

Transfer Options (choose one):

- **To Virtual** – Run anywhere, anytime before **Sept. 30, 2025** .Details: [HERE](#)
 - Those who transfer to Virtual will still need to pick up their race packet at packet pickup!
- **To Another Runner** – Free option through RunSignUp before final packet pickup.
 - Bibs **cannot** be given away without completing the online process (violators may be disqualified from future races). Details: [HERE](#)
- **To Another Hermes Race** – Transfer to one of these short distance races later in the year by **Sept. 1** Details: [HERE](#)
 - Cleveland Turkey Trot (5K or 5-Mile, 11/27)
 - Reindeer Run (5K, 12/13)

Deferrals

- Defer to the **2026 River Run** for \$20 until **Sept. 1**.
- No deferrals accepted after this date.
- Deferrals are **not** available for 2027. Details: [HERE](#)

Refunds

- Like concerts or airline tickets, refunds are **not offered**.

- The River Run implements capped pricing at fair market value up until 1-day before the race to allow participants to register at their discretion.

Hotel Partner

- Crowne Plaza Cleveland Airport – \$124 + tax (Sept 6-7)
- Includes breakfast buffet (6 am), parking, airport shuttle, pool, and fitness center.
- Call 440-243-4040 (code HER) to reserve.



Contact Information

- Hermes Sports & Events
 - Phone: 216-623-9933
 - Email: roadracing@hermescleveland.com
 - Website: RiverRunHalf.com | HermesCleveland.com
 - Office: 2425 W. 11th St. Suite 2 Cleveland, OH, 44113