

# iRun WNY COVID-19 Event Safety Protocols

(updated 1-1-21)

**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** At this time we are only allowing participants the option of online registration or mail in paper applications (received prior to race day) payable by check. There will be no paper applications and/or cash accepted until we are beyond the pandemic or it is deemed safe by public health officials.

**PACKET PICKUP:** We have established a touch free drive-thru packet pickup service that requires participants to stay in their vehicle upon arrival to the race where we safely hand them any race related items (ex: race bib/timing chip, t-shirt, pins, finisher medal, etc.). Our staff will setup a pop-up tent with gates and cones for distancing and will wear latex gloves and mask throughout the distribution process. Hand sanitizers will be readily available for staff members and guests.

**COVID HEALTH QUESTIONS & TEMPERATURE CHECK:** If required by the facility, we will ask participants to answer health questions to make sure that no participant is experiencing COVID symptoms and take the temperature of each participant on race morning. Participants who are experiencing any symptoms or have a temperature greater than 100 degrees will be denied access.

**OUTDOOR FACILITIES:** Until further notice we are limiting our events to outdoor venues only. In many cases we work with restaurants, wineries, golf courses, etc that do in fact allow guests to enter the facilities to order a drink, food, use the restroom, etc. In these cases, our guests must adhere to all social distancing guidelines for that particular facility. Some of these guidelines include wearing of a mask at all times when approaching or entering, limited number of persons allowed inside the facility, social distancing, etc.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING & MASKS:** Prior to the event and again on race day, all participants will be instructed to follow social distancing guidelines while outdoors (6' minimum between people) or they must wear a mask. They do not have to wear a mask while running individually on the course but must social distance or wear a mask upon completion of the race.

**NY RESIDENTS ONLY:** We will be limiting participation to residents of NY State. People who reside outside of New York State cannot attend the event unless they have followed required quarantine and/or Covid testing procedures set forth by New York State.

**SPECTATORS:** We will inform participants that spectators are not allowed at events if requested by facility, municipality, or other parties of interest.

**GROUP SIZE:** iRun WNY will advise participants that at no time before, during, or after the race are they allowed to gather in groups of more than 50 people.

**RACE START LINE:** For the foreseeable future we are limiting the number of total participants at all events. To avoid the gathering of groups (small or large) we will have our timing company assign **individual start times** to each participant starting with faster runners first. In other words, we will be starting runners **one at a time** leaving a space between all participants. This technique will spread runners out on the course and should reduce or even eliminate the possibility of close contact while running. We will no longer allow crowds of runners to gather at the start line and send them off as one large group.

**RACE FINISH LINE:** once runners complete the race, they will be provided with a grab and go bottle of water by staff members. At no time will participants be allowed to gather at (or near) the finish line to watch the race. They will be directed to a designated outdoor area and must follow all social distancing

guidelines until they leave. This means that they must remain 6' (2 arm lengths) apart at all times (unless they are family members living together) or wear a mask when social distancing is not possible.

**RESULTS:** Normally we setup a results kiosk and/or television monitor where participants can check their official finish times. During COVID, we are not setting up any of these services to avoid groups of people gathering to check results. Instead, all results will be posted after the race or live to our website and mobile app (as long as we have internet connection at the race site). Participants can download the free mobile app or visit the site at their convenience to check results. Finisher certificates, along with finish line photos will be made available ASAP and can be viewed on the event page from the safety of their own home or from their phone.

**POST RACE:** After the race, there will be no post-race awards ceremony. At most events we provide some type of grab & go food/snack for the runners. Food distribution (if any) by iRun WNY staff will be done on an individual basis while wearing latex gloves and masks. Food (if any) will be pre-packaged or wrapped and distributed individually as runners finish the race.

**STAY or GO:** Depending on the venue, participants may or may not have the option to stick around after the race. Each facility will notify us of their protocol and we will advise runners prior to the race and again on race day. For example, we recently hosted a small race at a private golf club. They have a huge outdoor patio area plus lots of grass space in the immediate area. All participants were instructed to bring their own lawn chair and spread out after the race. The club was open for business and so our guests were allowed to stay for food and cash bar following the guidelines established by New York State for their industry. They were required to wear masks when moving about the patio or if they entered the club to order a drink from the bar or use the restroom. Once seated outside and socially distant from other guests they were allowed to remove their mask. At another event (Letchworth State Park) runners were instructed to leave after completing the race. They were allowed to stay and visit the park on their own but we did not gather participants after the race.

**STAFF:** We are a small family run business and prior to each race we document the temperature of each family member and make sure that none of us are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

**CONTACT TRACING:** Because we collect complete and detailed information from each participant, we would be able to easily notify all participants should we be informed that someone who attended the event may have been tested as COVID-19 positive.

**MOVING TARGET:** We realize that at any given moment that State of New York could change the guidelines for the reopening of businesses. In fact, many states have gone backwards causing businesses to make changes and adjust to the situation at hand. We have clearly stated on all of our upcoming events that we reserve the right to postpone any event or convert it to a virtual race for any reason we deem necessary, especially as it relates to the safety of participants and staff.

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