Cancellation Update - Sent 1/23/25

As you are aware following this afternoon's email, **The Charleston Half Marathon team has made the incredibly difficult decision to cancel this year's event**. Much of Charleston is covered in ice with roads expected to refreeze overnight and into Saturday, and our start and finish line venues are in no condition to host an event. Many of the police and emergency resources that were necessary to produce the event are rightfully being reallocated to assist neighboring communities that are in a state of emergency and therefore won't be available on race morning.

After consulting with City officials and exploring all options, we have concluded that the only feasible path forward is to cancel the event and return in January, 2026. We realize this is disappointing news given all of the hard work it takes to prepare for an event like this. It is not the news we wanted to deliver.

On behalf of our team, as well as Engaging Creative Minds, the charity that owns the Charleston Half Marathon, we greatly appreciate your understanding and sincerely hope to serve you next year.

Runner Options

When you registered, you were guaranteed a <u>Worry Free Registration</u>, which provides you with race credit if the race is canceled before the start of the race. Race credit may be used for any Capstone race for the next year, including the 2026 Charleston Half Marathon. <u>Click here</u> to view all eligible races. Suggested options include:

- 2025 Myrtle Beach Marathon + Half | Myrtle Beach, SC | March 1
- 2025 Tar Heel 10 Miler | Chapel Hill, NC | April 19
- 2025 Hamptons Marathon + Half | Southampton, NY | September 27
- 2025 Amelia Island Half Marathon | Fernandinda Beach, FL | October 11-12
- 2025 City of Oaks Marathon + Half | Raleigh, NC | November 2

Option 1: Receive Race Credit

No action necessary. The amount you paid (minus handling) will be awarded to your email address from your registration by 2/7. Race credit will expire 365 days after being granted.

Your race credit can be used for the 2026 event or any other Capstone Race.

Option 2: Virtual Running + 25% Off 2026

For those who wish to forego your credit claim and instead showcase your training on our Virtual Results page, <u>fill out this form</u> by 1/31.

You will be mailed your participant shirt, finisher shirt and finisher medal as well as be awarded a 25% off discount code for the 2026 event.

Add-On Purchases

If you purchased anything beyond a race entry:

- Credit Card Refunds will be processed by Feb. 7 for the following:
 - VIP Program
 - Race Photos
 - o iTab
 - Trucker Hats
- Virtual 10k Medals will be mailed to all Virtual 10k participants by the end of February
- All donations made to Engaging Creative Minds will be provided to them.

Swag Pick Up

Any runner who is in Charleston can pick up their participant shirts, finisher shirts and finisher medals at <u>Fleet Feet Mount Pleasant</u> (881 Houston Northcutt Boulevard, Mount Pleasant, SC 2946) during the below times. These entitlements will not be mailed, unless runners opt into the virtual event (see 'virtual running' option above).

- Friday 1/24: 10am 7pm
- Saturday 1/25: 10am 6pm

Youth Marathon

Youth Marathon shirts will *not* be at Fleet Feet Mount Pleasant. We are exploring alternate dates to host the youth run.

Cancellation Notice - Sent 1/23/25

After touring the race course today and working with local authorities, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2025 PNC Bank Charleston Half Marathon. The event will not be rescheduled and will return in January, 2026.

The race course continues to be very icy creating a significant safety hazard for runners, as well as for the hundreds of volunteers and staff required to properly produce the event. Many of our valued partners, such as police and EMS, are needed to help with storm relief efforts in other areas of the city and surrounding areas.

Your safety and the well-being of our community are always the top priorities. Given these unforeseen circumstances, proceeding with the event is simply not possible.

We understand the time and effort you've put into preparing for this race, and we deeply share your disappointment.

When you registered, you were guaranteed a <u>Worry Free Registration</u>, which provides you with race credit if the race is canceled before the start of the race. **By the end of the day, you will receive another email from us with more details about your option of receiving race credit or participating in the event virtually**.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented weather event. Thank you for your continued support of the Charleston Half Marathon and Engaging Creative Minds.

Weather Update - Sent 1/22/25

As many of you know, a winter storm hit Charleston and the surrounding areas yesterday. As a result, we have decided to make one change to the event: **Packet Pickup scheduled for Thursday, January 23, 2025, from 4-8 PM is canceled.** At this time, we anticipate the rest of the event will occur as planned and are looking forward to race weekend in Charleston.

If you were planning to attend packet pickup on Thursday, you will need to come to packet pickup on Friday, which will be held at the Riverdogs Stadium from 9-7. Given the last minute change, you will not need to select a time slot for Friday. Please come at your convenience. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding.

The decision to cancel Thursday's packet pickup was not made lightly, as we know many of you had planned to pick up your race bib then. The decision allows time for the Riverdogs Stadium and the streets surrounding the venue to be cleared and safe for participants. Additionally, many of our vendors, including the race organizers, will travel to Charleston from out of town and will need additional travel time due to the inclement weather.

Given that many of you have been impacted by the winter weather, we have reopened the deferral form for those who are unable to attend the event. If you would like to defer your registration, you can do so <u>here</u>. The deferral fee will still be in place. You will receive race credit for the amount you paid for your registration (minus handling fees) that you can use for next year's race or another Capstone Event. The credit will expire after one year.

If you are still planning to attend the race, we will send an **email update** tomorrow with any additional information. The deferral window will remain open until 6:00 PM on

Friday giving you the option to defer if you are no longer able to attend the event due to the weather.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Weather Update - Sent 1/17/25

Much like many of you, we are closely watching the weather forecast for race week. The current weather forecast indicates a chance of winter weather on Tuesday of race week, as well as some rain accumulation throughout the week. We are in close conversation with the City of Charleston and other local officials, and **at this time, there are no anticipated changes to the event.** We will plan to provide an additional update on **Wednesday, 1/22.**