

PNC BANK CHARLESTON HALF MARATHON



1.31.2026

Charleston, SC

Athlete Guide



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RULES & REGULATIONS

Can I wear headphones?

It is unsafe to wear headphones while running. Event organizers will not restrict headphone use and leave it up to the athlete on their ability to follow direction while wearing headphone devices. If you choose to wear headphones, please keep the volume down so you can hear and follow the direction of course volunteers.

Can someone else run in my place?

No, transfers of bib numbers from person to person is prohibited. Anyone racing with another runner's bib will be disqualified.

Can I register on race day?

Pending availability, registration will be open until 6 PM on Friday, 1/30/26.

Is there a gear check this year?

Yes, gear check will be available at the start line from 6-6:45 AM.

Where do I get my race bib?

If you did not pay for bib mailing, you will need to attend packet pick-up.

Can someone else pick up my race packet for me?

Yes, someone else can pick up your packet. They will need a copy of your ID (a photo is sufficient).

Are strollers allowed on the course?

Strollers are not allowed on the course.

Are pets allowed on the course?

Pets are not allowed on the course.

Is the race USATF certified?

Yes, all distances are certified.

Is this an open or closed course?

The course will be closed to traffic—please follow the directions of our volunteers, staff, and course signage on race day.

What is the weather policy?

Races are held, rain or shine, unless we determine that conditions are too dangerous. This will be based on a prudent decision made on race weekend or race day by race officials and local law enforcement officials. If the race is cancelled due to inclement weather, there will be neither refunds nor transfers. This position is consistent with USA Track & Field recommendations and with the protocol of sharing the risks associated with the sport of running. In the event of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, Capstone Event Group reserves the right to alter, cancel or eliminate any/all portions of the race.

If there is inclement weather during the race, it is your responsibility as a race participant to follow instruction from race officials and law enforcement in regards to inclement weather. If you disregard instructions from race officials and/or law enforcement, you are doing so at your own risk.

What is the time limit?

The time limit for each distance are as follows:

- **Half:** The time limit is 3:15, which is a 15-minute mile pace. This means 10:30 cut off.
- **5k:** The time limit is 1 hour, which is a 20-minute mile pace.
- The cutoff time is determined by our event permit, which permits us to use the roads, police, support, and other city resources for a specified period of time.
- When the course closes at the cutoff time, any remaining participants must move off the roads and onto a sidewalk. Anyone who decides to utilize the course route after the permitted time will not be considered an active participant and must follow pedestrian laws. Participants who do not meet the cutoff time will not receive an official time.

What will happen to clothes left at the start line or on the course?

- Start Line: Clothes that are left at the start line will be donated or discarded. Clothes will not be returned to you after the race.
- Course: Please discard any unwanted clothes during the race at **aid stations**. Clothes left at aid stations will be donated. Clothes will not be returned to you after the race.

RACE BENEFICIARY: ENGAGING CREATIVE MINDS

The PNC Bank Charleston Half Marathon is proud to continue its longstanding support of Engaging Creative Minds!

Engaging Creative Minds (ECM) mission is to spark creativity and curiosity in all learners through innovative learning experiences.

ECM is an Arts Integration educational nonprofit based in Charleston, South Carolina. ECM works with school districts, principals, teachers and the local workforce to identify specific knowledge and skill sets all students should master before graduating high school. ECM hires and trains local artists, STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) professionals and cultural organizations, called ECM Instructors, to work with grade level teams of teachers to support learning through the Arts.

For more information, check out the Engaging Creative Minds [website!](#)

Learn More! Be sure to stop by the ECM tent at Packet Pick-Up or the Post-Race Party to learn more about how ECM is positively contributing to education in the Lowcountry!

At packet pick-up, ECM will also have a sign making station, so while you're learning about all they do, make a sign for race day!



ACCESSIBILITY GUIDE



Handicap Parking

Packet Pickup: There is ADA Parking in the parking lot at RiverDogs Stadium.

Race Day: If you need accessible parking on race day, please email us at info@charlestonhalfmarathon.com by 1/25/26 and we will assist you.

Accessible Restrooms

Starting Area: There will be accessible portable toilets in the start area.

Post-Race: There will be accessible toilets at RiverDogs Stadium.

Race Start Times

- Half: 6:55 AM
- 5k: 8:10 AM

Post-Race Party

We will contact participants with accessibility needs via email by 1/25/26 to explain options for the post-race party.

RACE SWAG!

This year's Charleston Half Marathon race swag is thoughtfully designed to celebrate the heart and soul of the Holy City. Runners will receive a long-sleeve shirt inspired by Charleston's rich historic architecture, blending classic lines and textures with vibrant pops of color drawn from Rainbow Row and King Street.

To round it out, participants will also receive a cozy race hat, perfect for cool January mornings and post-race celebrating. Stylish, functional, and uniquely Charleston—this is swag you'll reach for long after race day.

Make sure to grab your race swag before you head out—these goodies are available only on-site and will not be mailed afterward.



WHAT'S NEW IN 2026

We're always working to make race weekend even better, and this year brings some exciting updates you won't want to miss:

Non-Disposable Cups | We are proud to be partnering with [Hiccup](#), a company committed to eliminating plastic waste from cups. All aid stations will utilize these cups.

Important: After grabbing a cup at the aid stations, please properly dispose of the cups in the designated bins so that they can be collected and washed/sanitized for the next use. **The cups are NOT free to be taken.**

Pre-Purchased Parking Pass | Runners now have the option to pre-purchase a parking pass for the Hagood Lot. A valid parking pass is required to park in this lot on race day. The Hagood Lot is sold out!

Distance Specific Finish Lines | To create a smooth finish experience, each distance will have its own finish line!

VIP Program | You've trained hard for your race – now sit back, relax, and let us provide an exclusive VIP race experience for you! You deserve this. The VIP experience will include an indoor space before the race, race morning packet pickup, a VIP space after the race, and more!

Distributing Award Medals on Race Day | We're now giving age group awards on race day so you can celebrate your achievement immediately, enjoy the recognition in person, and share the moment with fellow runners.

RACE DAY TERMS

Race Bib

Your race bib has a timing chip on the back that records your start-to-finish time. On race day, wear your bib with the number facing forward, and don't bend or remove the chip.

Start Line Chute

The start line chute is where runners gather before the race begins.

Hydration Station

Hydration stations on the course will offer water, sports drinks, and portable toilets.

Mile Markers

Mile markers are posted along the course. GPS devices may not align exactly with them.

Finish Line Chute

The finish line chute is where runners collect their medal, water, and post-race snacks.

Post-Race Party

A post-race party is a celebration held after the race where runners and supporters gather to enjoy food, drinks, and festivities to celebrate their accomplishments.



RACE DAY ETIQUETTE

Start Line

To keep everyone moving comfortably, please line up toward the back if you plan to walk or do a walk-run.

Respect Others

Avoid sudden stops or weaving; be predictable in your movements.

Show Gratitude

Don't forget to thank the volunteers, police, and EMS who are helping make race day safe and fun!

Hydration Stations

At hydration stations, keep moving while grabbing your cup. If you need to stop, glance behind you or step to the side so everyone stays safe and flowing

Garbage

Please put all trash in the bins, not on the course.

Finish Line

For everyone's safety, please keep moving through the finish line.

Passing

If possible, pass on your left and alert the runner by saying, "On Your Left."

Follow Instructions

Listen to volunteers & race staff, and obey signs or course markings.



RACE DEADLINES

DEADLINE	FORM	DETAILS
REGISTRATION 1/30/26 at 6:00 PM EST	<u>Join the fun!</u>	Registration will close one hour prior to the end of packet pickup, unless the race sells out sooner.
BIB MAILING 12/12/25 at 12:00 PM EST	Form Closed	Only bibs and safety pins will be mailed to you. You will pick up your shirt & hat at the post-race party.
CHANGE DISTANCE 1/30/26 at 6:00 PM EST Distance changes are subject to availability.	<u>Change distance here!</u>	You must fill out the change distance form online. Bib Mailers, if the bib you receive is for the incorrect distance, you will need to get a new one at PPU.
DEFERRAL 1/21/26 at 11:59 PM EST	Deferral window is closed.	You will be issued a race credit for the amount you paid at registration (excluding handling fees) that can be applied toward next year's race or another Capstone Race.

BIB MAILING

- Bib were mailed the week of 1/5/26 from our timing company Start2Finish. **If yours hasn't arrived by 1/29/26**, visit packet pick-up and head straight to customer service for assistance.
- If you changed distances after 12/12, check to make sure your bib reflects the distance change. If it doesn't, please visit the customer service at packet pickup for a new bib.
- You will pick up your race shirt and hat after the event at Customer Service.
- If you need a gear check bag, they'll be available outside of gear check on race morning.

Race Item	Will Receive in the Mail	Will Pick Up AFTER the Race
Bib	✓	
Safety Pins	✓	
Participant Shirt		✓
Hat		✓

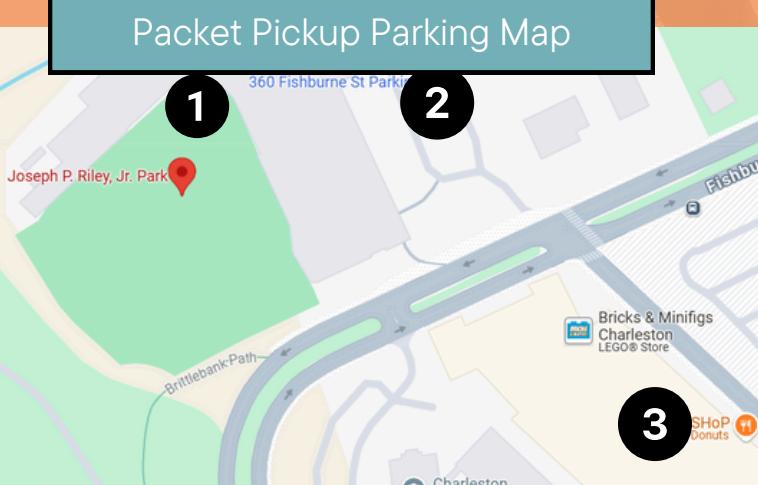




PACKET PICKUP

- Location:** RiverDogs Stadium | [360 Fishburne St. Charleston, SC 29403](#)
 - Please note packet pickup will be outside, so please dress accordingly.
- Date:** Friday, January 30, 2026 | 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Parking:**
 - Limited free first come, first served parking at the RiverDogs stadium.
 - [99 West Edge Parking Garage](#) | Across the street from the stadium | Parking is \$1.00 per half hour
- We use a reservation system to help keep lines short. Please select a [30-minute time slot](#) and plan to arrive during that window. If you're picking up for multiple participants, you only need to reserve one time slot.
- At packet pickup, you'll receive your bib, shirt, safety pins, extra swag (hat), and gear check bag. You'll also have the opportunity to engage with our race sponsor and purchase official race merchandise!
- Check out this year's official race merchandise [here!](#)

Packet Pickup Parking Map



- 1 Packet Pick-up Location | RiverDogs Stadium
- 2 Limited Free Parking at RiverDogs Stadium
- 3 Paid Parking at 99 West Edge Parking Garage

PACKET PICKUP FAQ

Can someone else pick up my bib for me?

Yes, someone else can pick up your bib—just have them bring a copy or photo of your ID for verification.

Will there be a packet pickup on race morning?

There will not be packet pick-up on race morning. Please make plans to attend beforehand, or have someone attend on your behalf.

Will I be able to exchange my t-shirt size at packet pickup?

Shirts are distributed based on the size selected during registration, as we order inventory according to these selections. Size changes are not available at packet pickup. Limited size exchanges may be available beginning at 9:30 AM on race day, while supplies last.

If I am picking up bibs for multiple people, do I need to sign up for multiple reservation spots?

No, you only need to sign up for one slot if you are picking up for multiple people.

Why was my shirt size not available when I registered?

Shirt sizes are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are selected during registration. To ensure timely ordering and delivery, we place our shirt order well in advance of race day based on the size selections made at that time. Once a size reaches capacity, it is no longer available in the registration system. While we do our best to order a small buffer of extra shirts, we cannot guarantee availability of all sizes. We recommend registering early to secure your preferred size.

RACE MERCHANDISE

Don't miss your chance to grab official Charleston Half merchandise! Shop exclusive race-weekend gear at Packet Pickup and on race day, or preview the collection here!

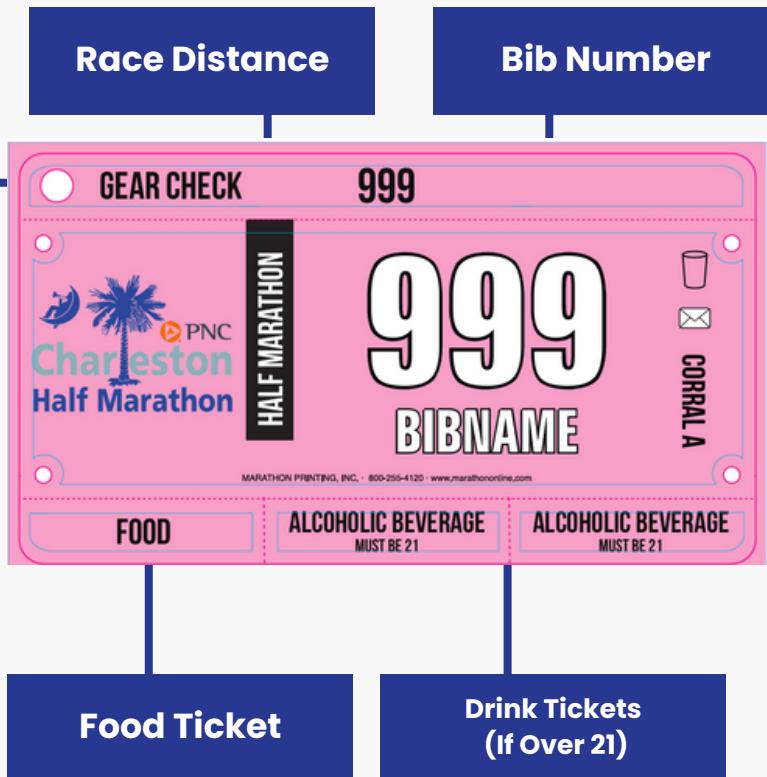
**2026 OFFICIAL
MERCHANDISE**



 PNC
**Charleston
Half Marathon**

BIB GUIDE

All participants must wear their bib on the outside of their shirt with the race number facing forward.

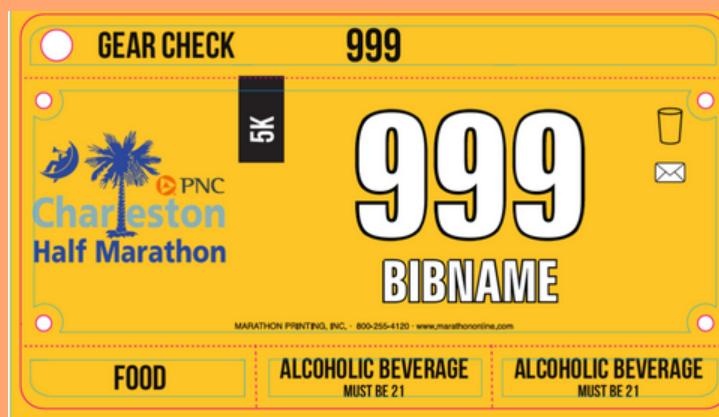


How to Use Gear Check

1. Remove the gear check tag from your bib.
2. Attach the tag securely to your clear gear check bag using the provided zip tie.
3. Bring your tagged bag to the gear check area on race morning and drop it off before heading to the start line.

Please note: Only clear bags with an attached gear check tag will be accepted.

5k Bib



Additional Bib Variables

VIP: If you purchased VIP package for race day, your bib will have a star on the front.

V10k: If you participated in the Virtual 10k, your bib will note that on the back.

BGR Participant: If you registered as a BGR participant, your bib will note that on the back.

RACE WEEKEND TIMELINE



YOUTH MARATHON

Race Details: The Youth Marathon is a **FREE** and fun-filled event that gives kids the chance to feel like true race-day stars! Young runners will start their race at Brittlebank Park and finish at the same iconic finish line as the Half Marathon participants, right in front of “The Joe”—an unforgettable experience they won’t forget.

Parents & Family: You’re welcome to walk your child to the start line. If you plan to accompany them for the race, please line up at the back of the group.

Start Time: Saturday, 1/31 | 10:30 AM

Start Line Location: **Brittlebank Park** | [185 Lockwood Dr., Charleston, SC 29403](https://www.google.com/maps/place/185+Lockwood+Dr,+Charleston,+SC+29403)

Packet Pickup:

Youth Marathon participants can pick-up their bib and shirt during regular packet pick-up hours or on race morning:

- Friday, 1/30 | 9 AM- 7 PM
- Saturday, 1/31 | 9:30 - 10:15 AM at Customer Service at Brittlebank Park



Important Parking Information

Road Closures: You will NOT be able to utilize Lockwood Drive on race day due to road closures. Please be sure to avoid Lockwood on race morning.

Parking: Our recommended parking locations are just a short walk to Brittlebank Park. Please see the recommended lots below.

- **99 West Edge Garage:** [99 West Edge, Charleston, SC](https://www.google.com/maps/place/99+West+Edge+Garage,+Charleston,+SC) | \$1.00/20mins
- **Bee Street Garage:** [122 Bee St, Charleston, SC](https://www.google.com/maps/place/122+Bee+St,+Charleston,+SC) | \$6.00 per car

YOUTH MARATHON MAP



Peyton Moore Spirit Award

The Peyton Moore Spirit Award
The traveling trophy will be
awarded to the school with the
most Youth Run runners.

A purse of \$500 is distributed
among the top three schools with
the most school participation.

- 1st place: \$300
- 2nd place: \$200
- 3rd place: \$100

RACE DAY PARKING

All parking is available on a first come, first served basis. We strongly recommend allowing extra time on race morning to park and walk to the start line. With more than 7,000 participants expected, **runners should anticipate increased traffic near parking areas as everyone arrives for the start.**

Half Marathon Runners: We recommend arriving no later than 6:00 am.

5k Runners: We recommend you arrive **no later than 6:30 AM** to avoid road closures. We also strongly recommend 5k participants park in the [Bee Street Garage](#)!

Location	Address	Cost	Estimated Spots	Distance to Start & Finish
Hagood Lot	333 Fishburne St, Charleston, SC	\$15.00. Parking passes MUST be purchased before race day, picked up at packet pickup & presented on race morning.	875	Start: 0.4 miles Finish: 0.1 Miles
99 West Edge Garage	99 West Edge, Charleston, SC	\$1.00 per 20 mins \$24.00 daily max	500	Start: 0.5 miles Finish: 0.2 Miles
Bee Street Garage	122 Bee St, Charleston, SC	\$6.00/car	800	Start: 0.6 Miles Finish: 0.7 Miles
Charleston Visitor Parking Garage	63 Mary St, Charleston, SC 29403	\$1.00 per 20 mins \$24.00 daily max	700	Start: 1.2 Miles Finish: 1.7 Miles
Midtown Parking Garage	558 King Street	\$1.00 per 20 mins \$24.00 daily max	378	Start: 1 Mile Finish: 1.5 Miles

RACE DAY PARKING MAP

Parking Options

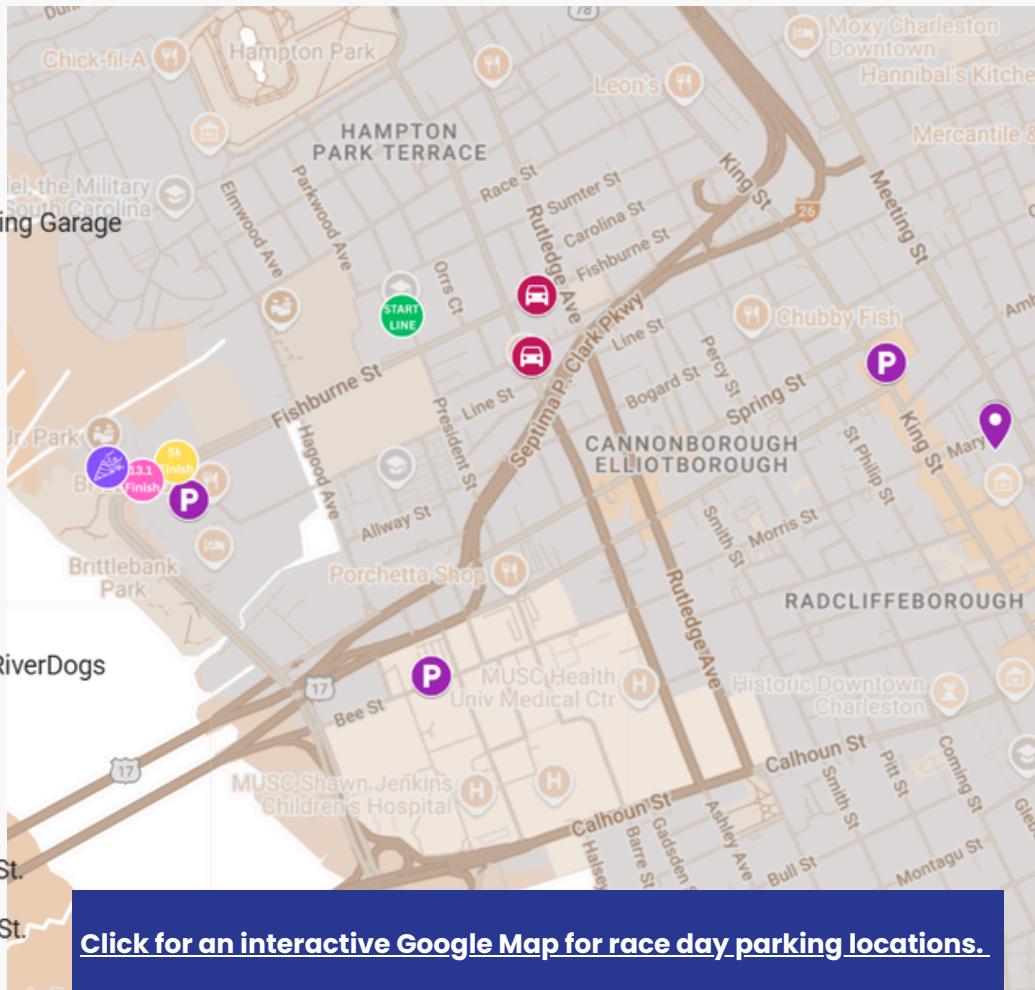
- P 99 Westedge St
- P Bee Street Garage
- P Visitors Center Parking Garage
- P Midtown Garage

Key Race Day Points

- BURKE HIGH SCHOOL
- 5k Finish
- 13.1 Finish
- Post-Race Party at RiverDogs

Drop-Off Locations

- Ashley St. & Nunan St.
- Larnes & Fishburne St.



Suggested Drop-Off Locations

If you're using ride-share or getting drop-off, we suggest the following locations:

- Intersection of Ashley Ave & Nunan St.
- Intersection of Larnes St. & Fishburne St.

To help reduce race-day congestion, **please do not use Lockwood Drive or Fishburne Street West of Ashley** to access the drop-off points. We recommend approaching from the east and using Cannon Street to reach these locations.

Plan Ahead

- With over 7,000 runners participating, traffic and congestion are expected
- Please walk or carpool if you're able.
- Please allow extra time on race morning for parking and walking to the start line.

PRE-RACE INFO

Start Line

Burke High School | 244 President St, Charleston, SC 29403

Start Times

- Saturday, January 31, 2026
 - Half Marathon: 7:00 AM | Wheelchair Division 6:55 AM
 - 5k: 8:15 AM | Wheelchair Division 8:10 AM

Packet Pick-Up

Location: RiverDogs Stadium

- Friday, 1/30 | 9 AM-7 PM
- Packet pickup is unavailable on race day (unless you've selected the VIP option). Please plan accordingly.

Portable Toilets

Portable toilets will be located on Fishburne Street adjacent to the start line.

Customer Service

Customer service will be available at **6:00 AM** in front of Burke High School.

Pacers

We plan to offer the following pace groups. Please look for the pacers (holding a flag with the pace on it) in the start line chute.

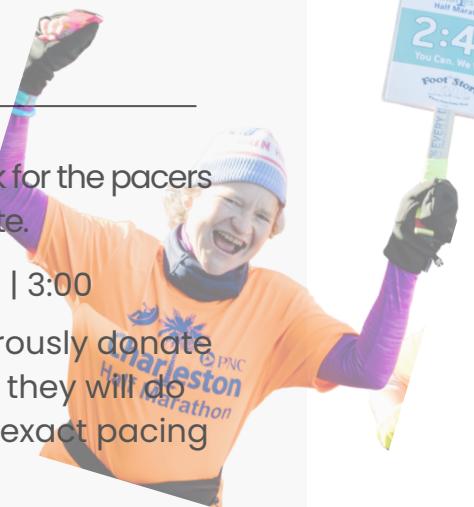
Half marathon: 1:30 | 1:45 | 2:00 | 2:15 | 2:30 | 2:45 | 3:00

Our pacers are dedicated volunteers who generously donate their time to support runners on race day. While they will do their very best to maintain their assigned pace, exact pacing cannot be guaranteed.

Discarded Clothes

Start Line: Clothes that are left at the start line will be donated or discarded. Clothes left at the start line **will not** be returned to you after the race.

Course: Please discard any unwanted clothes during the race at aid stations. Let's all work together to keep the streets of Charleston clean! Clothes left at aid stations will be donated. Clothes left at aid stations will not be returned to you after the race.



PRE-RACE INFO

Corrals

- Runners in the half marathon will be divided into three corrals (A, B, & C) based on the estimated pace provided at registration.
- Corral assignments are printed on the front of your race bib.
- There will **not be corrals for the 5k**. To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all participants, *walkers should line up toward the back of the start line chute*.

Corrals Guidelines

- Corral assignments will be printed on your race bib.
- Each participant is **required** to start in the corral that is printed on their bib.
- Bibs will be checked for correct corral placement upon entering the chute.
- Please have your bib fastened and visible before entering the chute.

Gear Check

We strongly encourage runners to leave personal items at home or in their vehicles. If you need to check a bag, drop your bag at the Gear Check Truck located on Fishburne St just past the bus loop at Burke High School. **Gear check will close promptly at 6:45 AM on race morning.**

After the race, pick up your gear check bag at the RiverDogs Stadium from 8:30-11:00 AM.

Bags: Clear drawstring bags will be available at packet pick-up. If you chose bib mailing, you can pick up your gear check bag at gear check on race morning.

Gear Check Tags: *Attach your gear check tag from your bib to your bag before coming to gear check.*

Important: The race is not responsible or liable for items left in gear check. Do not leave valuables such as keys, wallets, or cell phones in your bag.

PRE-RACE MAP

Race Start Area Map

 Customer Service

 Gear Check Drop-Off

 Portable Toilets

 Portable Toilets

 Portable Toilets

 Portable Toilets

 VIP Entrance

 Corral A

 Corral B

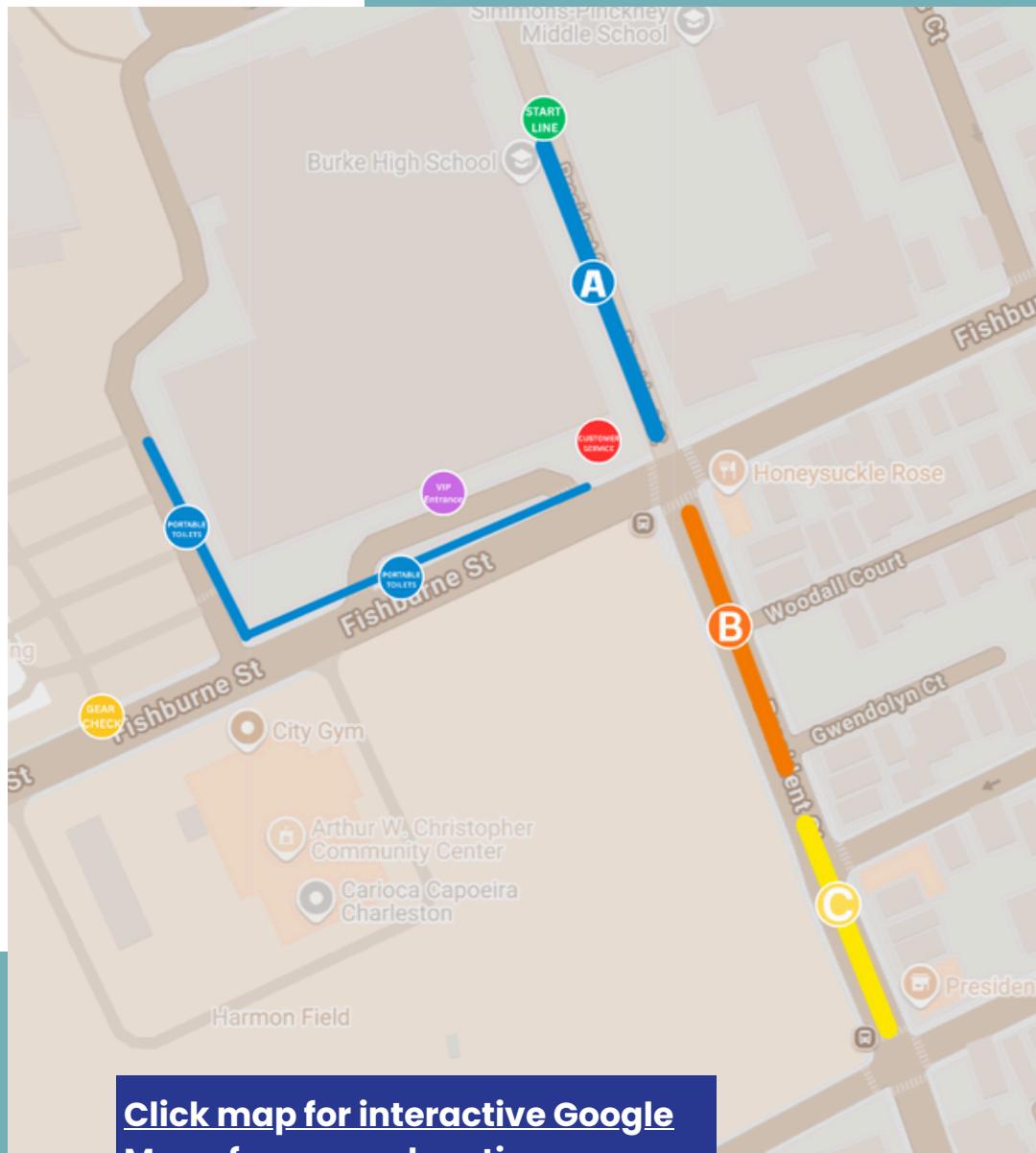
 Corral A

 Corral C

 Corral B

 13.1 & 5k Start Line

 Corral C

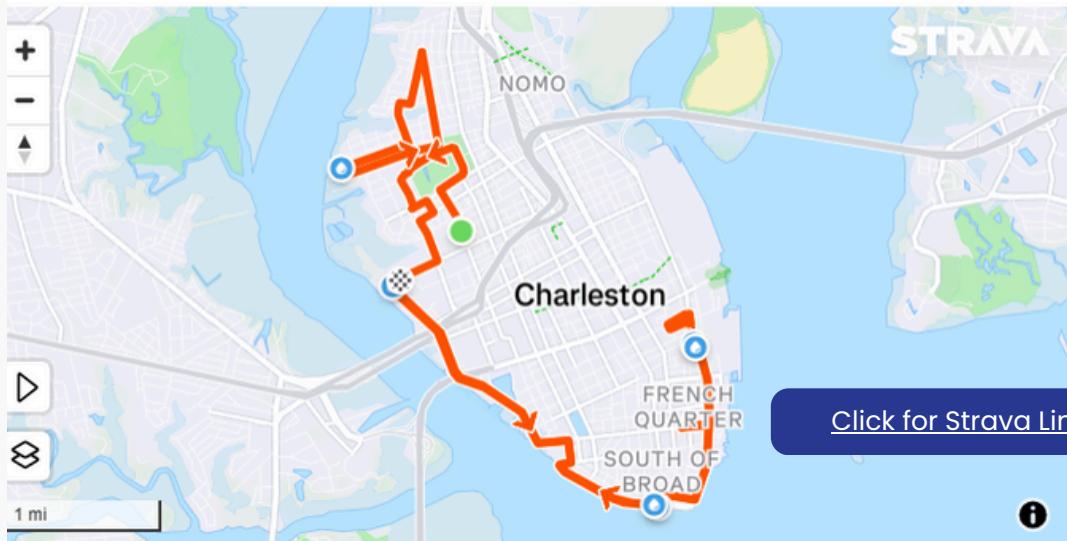


This map represents the intended setup for race weekend, but locations may change as we get closer to race day. Please follow all posted signage and feel free to ask a volunteer or staff member for help—we're happy to assist!

HALF MARATHON COURSE MAP

2026 Charleston Half Marathon

Type  Distance 13.4 mi Elev Gain 16 ft



Maps displayed on third-party platforms, such as Strava, may show slight variations in distance. The Charleston Half Marathon will be run on a USATF-certified 13.1-mile course, measured using standardized procedures. The certified course is the official race distance.

Hydration Stations

Half marathon runners will find 6 hydration stations along the course to help keep you fueled and hydrated. Station locations are approximate and listed rounded to the nearest 0.25 mile.

Locations:

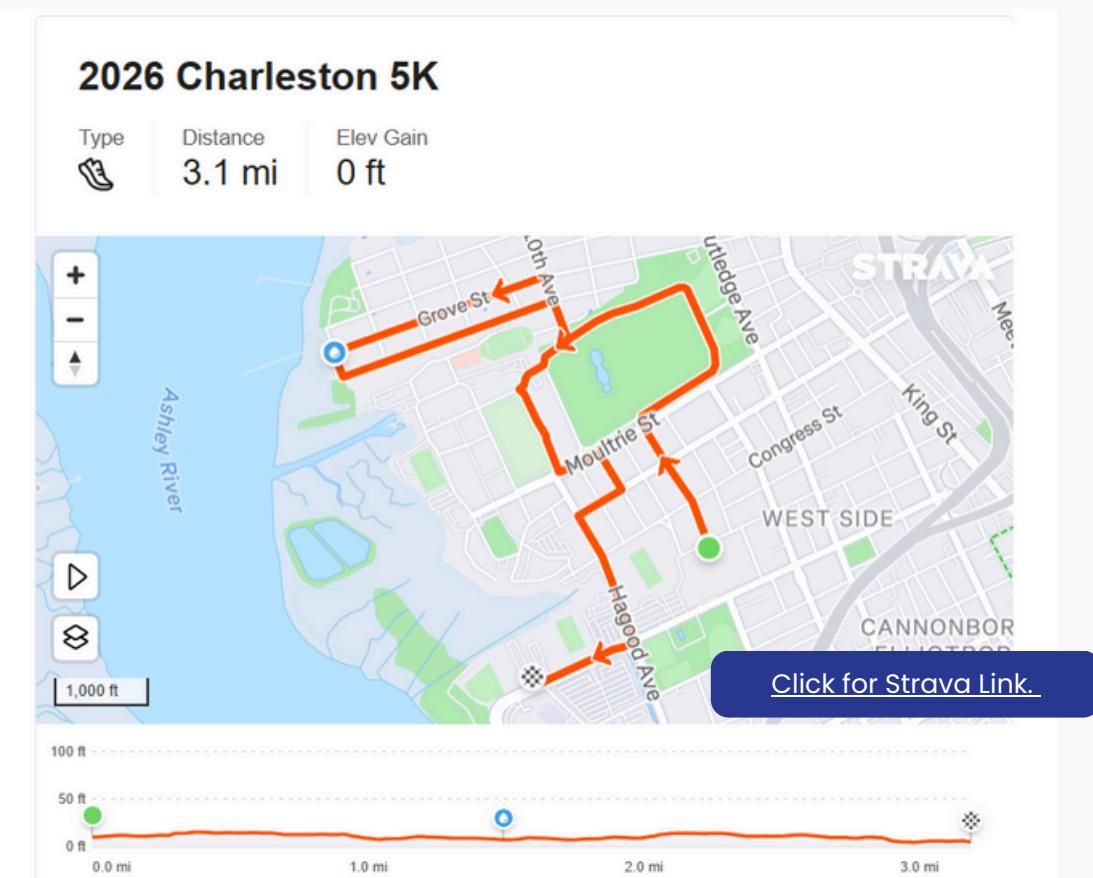
Miles 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11

On Course Hydration & Fuel

Water & Gatorade will be provided at all aid stations.

Portable toilets will be located at each aid station.

5K COURSE MAP



Maps displayed on third-party platforms, such as Strava, may show slight variations in distance. The 5k will be run on a USATF-certified 5k course, measured using standardized procedures. The certified course is the official race distance.

Hydration Stations

5k runners will find one hydration station along the course to help keep you fueled and hydrated. Station locations are approximate and listed rounded to the nearest 0.25 mile.

Location: Mile 2

On Course Hydration

Water & Gatorade will be provided at all aid stations.

Portable toilets will be available at each hydration station.

Hiccup | REUSABLE CUPS



New for 2026!

We're proud to partner with Hiccup, a reusable cup company. Since 2020, Hiccup has kept more than 910,000 cups out of landfills and recycling plants.

Hiccup cups will be available at all on-course aid stations. **Please return your cup after use—do not take it with you or place it in a trash can.**

Let's work together to keep the Charleston beautiful!



After finishing your drink, drop your cup in the black bins located near each aid station.

Every Cup Counts — Please Return!

POST-RACE PARTY

After you conquer your race, it's time to celebrate at RiverDogs Stadium! Join us on the field for music, food, and drinks as you recap your race with family and friends. Be sure to visit our sponsor tents and learn more about the incredible contributions ECM is making in the community.

Out on the field, you'll also find sponsor activations and the Kids Zone—so stick around and enjoy classic stadium games after the race!

Participant Perks

Half Marathon and 5K participants will receive:

- 2 beverage tickets – Must be 21+ for alcohol – Valid ID required
- 1 food ticket – redeemable for a burrito

Youth Marathon

The Youth Marathon will finish inside RiverDogs Stadium beginning at 10:30 AM, so be sure to stick around to cheer on our youngest runners as they cross the finish line.

Overall Awards

Overall awards for each distance will be presented to the top 3 male & female finishers, based on gun time. Awards will not be mailed.

Overall Award Time

Overall awards will be announced at the Awards Tent.

- 5k: 9 AM
- Half Marathon: 9:15 AM

Age Group Awards

Age group awards will be given to the top 3 male & female finishers in each age group for both distances based on chip time. Age group awards will be available for pick-up at the awards tent after the announcement of the overall awards. **Awards will not be mailed.**

Age Groups

19 & Under, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75 & over



POST-RACE PARTY MAP

 Finish Line

 Half Marathon Finish

 Gear Check

 Sponsor Tents

 Race Swag (Shirts & Hats)

 Customer Service

 BGR Tent

 Awards Tent (V10k Medals)

 Merchandise

 Kids Zone

 Food

 Beer

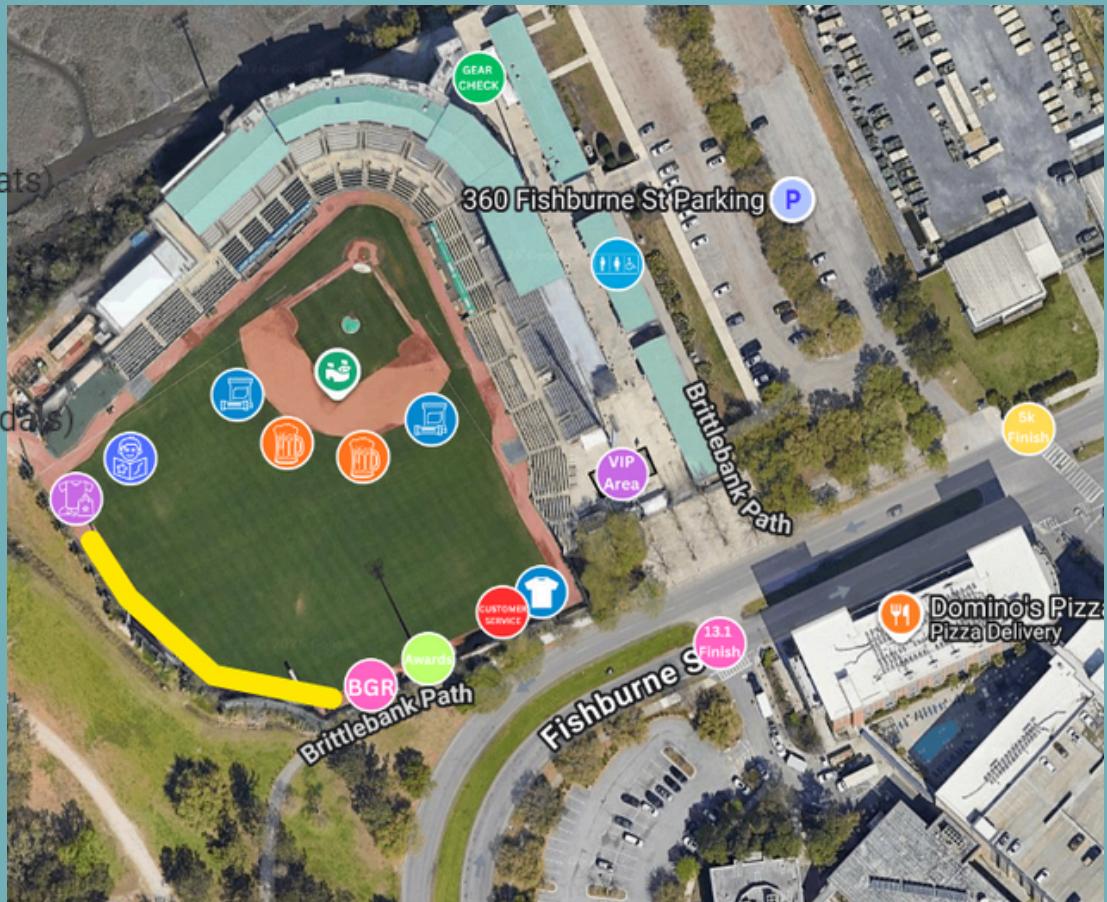
 Beer

 Food

 VIP Area

 VIP Area

 Restrooms



[Click map for interactive Google Map of post-race locations.](#)

This map represents the intended setup for race weekend, but locations may change as we get closer to race day. Please follow all posted signage and feel free to ask a volunteer or staff member for help—we're happy to assist!

POST-RACE

Race Photos

Within 2-3 days of the race, you will receive an email from the race photographer, Finisher Pix, with race photos.

Results

There will not a results tent at the finish line, but a results link will be shared via email before the race.

Results Correction

We will share information about how to correct your results after the race.

Survey

We value your feedback! After the race, you'll receive an email with a short survey link. Taking a few minutes to share your thoughts helps us improve and make next year's event even better.



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