

Dear Red Rock Canyon Runners,

Race day is quickly approaching! I hope all of your training has been going well and that you're ready to have a great time at Red Rock Canyon! Below are some details for the event weekend which should answer any questions you may have. *After reading this in its entirety*, any questions left unanswered, feel free to email me, bearing in mind I will be crazy busy.

Schedule of Events:

1. **Friday February 23, 2018: 5- 9pm:** Packet pick-up and event merchandise sale will be held at **Suncoast Hotel and Casino** located at 9090 Alta Drive. ***New area at Suncoast since 2017*** We will be **upstairs** near the convention rooms. NOTE: The EAST SIDE surface parking lot is the closest access. Entering the EAST SIDE doors, go up the short escalator to the gaming floor. Walk straight ~75' and go up the long escalator, following signs toward "**Bingo, Bowling, and Banquets**". We will be at the top of the long escalator to your left. You **MUST** wear your loaner **TIMING CHIP** on **YOUR SHOE** in order to be timed! ***Please: If you do NOT plan on racing, do NOT take your TIMING CHIP***
2. **PLEASE** make every best attempt to attend packet pick up during these hours!! My volunteers and I have many things to do Saturday morning and handling multiple race morning check-ins will only delay everyone's on-time start. ***Please do not email me to ask for permission- just make an honest effort*** *Those of you who paid for the bus from the Strip may pick up your packets race morning at your start line.*
3. Yes, someone else may pick up your packet for you.
4. At packet pick up you will receive, among other things, your timing chip. You **MUST** wear it on your shoe to be timed and it **MUST** be returned after the race.
5. **Saturday February 24, 2018: RACE DAY! DO NOT PARK AT RED ROCK CANYON! ALL RUNNERS AND SPECTATORS MUST PARK AND RIDE THE CONTRACTED BUS TO/ FROM THE START LINE.**
6. **BUSING/ PARKING:** All runners and spectators **MUST** park at the off-site parking location. This is **Suncoast Hotel and Casino located at 9090 Alta Drive/ Las Vegas, NV 89145**. You may use the parking garage or surface parking areas. **We will be loading on the ALTA side near the covered overhang.** There will be an attendant there helping to load the buses. They will not have packets/ bib numbers, and will not be handling race day registration. Get on the bus and I'll get you taken care of at the start line. Buses start running at 4:45am and will run on a rotation. The one way ride is roughly 9- 11 miles, but with traffic lights should take about 15-20 minutes. Please load and unload quickly and take all belongings with you. Buses will load based on race distance with priority given first to marathoners, then half marathoners, then 5K, then spectators. Please **DO NOT** wait until the last minute to get on the bus! Please arrive early for everyone's on-time race start! Buses will return runners to this same area after the race as demand dictates. I *roughly* anticipate the first bus departing Red Rock around 8:30am. **NOTE that different distances have different start lines!!! Marathoners: arrive to**

the main busing area no later than 5:20am; 1/2 marathoners no later than 6:20am; and 5K no later than 7:05am. If you arrive later, do NOT expect to get to the start on time!

7. Main Bus (Suncoast) loading schedule:

- 4:45am- 5:20am: Marathoners only
 - 5:20am- 6:20am: Half Marathoners only
 - 6:45am- 7:05am: 5K only
 - 7:15am- 8:15am: Spectators to the finish line
 - 9:30am: Spectators to the finish line
8. **DROP OFF:** If you are having someone drop you off for the race, or are taking a taxi- you may have them DROP you off at the race start. This will also help alleviate the workload for the buses. For the Half Marathon, this is at the Visitors' Center for Red Rock Canyon (see directions). The gates will be closed until 6am, but you can be dropped at the gate and walk thru up to the Visitors' Center (about 0.5 mile). If you are running the Marathon or 5K you can be dropped off at your start line, which is at the exit of the scenic loop. Follow the directions, but continue past the entrance about 2 miles along Highway 159. You will see a dirt lot at the exit of the loop- this is your starting area.
9. **The STRIP BUS:** For those of you that purchased a bus ticket from the Strip, your pick up point is on the FLAMINGO ROAD side of Bally's Hotel and Casino at Las Vegas Blvd. If you are standing on the corner of Las Vegas Blvd and Flamingo facing north (Bally's behind you on your right), turn right walking along Flamingo for about 200 feet. There is a little "uphill" where the contracted bus will be loading. The MARATHON bus will DEPART at 4:45am, the 1/2 Marathon bus will DEPART at 5:30am; and the 5K bus will DEPART at 6:15am. Please arrive about 15 minutes early to load. The driver will have a list of names of everyone who has paid to be on the bus. Give them your name and hop on the bus. I will be at your start line with your packets. There is a list of all of the paid bus riders posted on the website. Please go to: www.calicoracing.com , click on the event, then "Confirmed Bus Tix" to confirm that you are on there. The one way trip from the Strip to Red Rock Canyon is about 30-45 minutes. Return buses will return to the Strip *roughly* at 9:15am, 10:15am, 11:30am, and 1:25pm.

Spectators: DO NOT DRIVE TO RED ROCK CANYON!!!

We are happy to have your spectators come join us for race day! Please ensure that they **TAKE THE BUS!** I am working very diligently with BLM to reduce any unnecessary vehicular traffic inside the park during the race. I am paying to provide this FREE to spectators (from the main pick up point)- please use it!

7:15am- 8:15am Spectator Buses from the main FREE lot at Suncoast to the FINISH LINE only. Buses will run on a rotation, boarding on the ALTA ROAD side of Suncoast near the Valet area (same as the runners)

8:15am- 9:30am: NO Buses running for spectators.

****9:30am**** Final Spectator Bus from the main FREE lot at Suncoast to the FINISH LINE only. This departure will not have a volunteer attendant. Spectators should wait near the covered overhang on the ALTA side and look for the contracted bus.

***Spectators** should also note that the finish line food and drinks are for the registered athletes only. There are **NO concessions** at the race, so spectators should come prepared with their own food and drinks and dress warmly.

Spectators on the paid Strip Bus:

Spectators who paid for a Strip Bus ticket on the *5:30am 1/2 Marathon Bus*: When you arrive at the half marathon start line, please get off the bus and stay in the starting area. At approximately 6:45am we will start loading 1/2 marathon runners' gear bags onto a specific bus. Please board this gear bag bus no later than 7am. It will transport you to the finish line.

Clothing Bags:

Warm clothes bags will be collected on race morning and available for you after the race. Please use your own bag and label it with your name and bib number. PLEASE ensure that you collect your bag after the race as NO bags will be mailed. Marathoners and 5K runners may drop them at their start/ finish line. There will be a tarp laid out.

1/2 marathoners: bags will be loaded directly onto the buses in the baggage bays, corresponding to the first letter of your last name. **These buses will arrive ~ 6:45am. Until then, please hang onto your bags.** Bags will be transported from their start line to the finish line and laid out for your collection in the same manner. These bags are NOT checked or guarded, so no valuables please. NOTE: Any clothes disposed of along the course (at the aid stations ONLY please) will NOT be returned and will be donated to charity.

1/2 Marathon Start:

Note that the 1/2 marathon starts at the Visitors Center. Water, HEED, cups, basic first aid, and portable toilets will be available. A volunteer will be attending to the 1/2 marathon start line from 5:15am. I will be arriving at the 1/2 marathon start around 6:30am after I start the marathoners at 6:15am at the Exit of the Scenic Drive. Since there are 3 races under way- there will not be a timing clock at your start line, but will be synched with the master clock back at the finish line. We will be announcing official race time "count down to go" at roughly 30 minutes, 15 minutes, and more frequent the closer we are to start time.

Mile Markers:

Mile markers will be placed every 1 mile and will be designated by signs stuck inside of traffic cones. Any spray painted markings are NOT mine! We respect the park and my permit- so ignore any spray painting! All of my marking are either the signs inside of cones or colored duct tape. Marathoner mile markers will be designated in BLUE, 1/2 marathoners will be designated in GREEN; 5K in PURPLE. All directional signs will also be posted by these same type signs and/ or colored duct tape arrows on the roadway.

The course is very easy to follow and any changes in direction will be attended by a volunteer.

Aid Stations:

Aid Stations are roughly every 1-2 miles. Please see "Aid Stations" under the Red Rock event page for specific locations and provisions. Please keep our park beautiful by using the trash bins provided. **No littering will be tolerated.** Please do not throw your cups OR GEL WRAPPERS, as with a slight amount of wind they will blow off- making our volunteers run to chase them- and we should not be running on the undisturbed park lands! Please thank your volunteers!

Portable Toilets:

Portable toilets will be available at the marathon/ 5K start and finish line, ½ marathon start line, Visitors Center, and at the aid stations located at Red Rock Wash, the Scenic Overlook, and additional permanent park toilets at Ice Box Canyon, Calico Hills 1 and Calico Hills 2 trailheads. A toilet is also available on some of the buses.

Oak Creek Dirt Road: *Marathoners only*

The majority of the course is paved, with the exception of ~1/2 of a mile on Oak Creek dirt road. Marathoners will hit this section within the first ½ mile of the race. There will be a volunteer directing you to take a LEFT onto Oak Creek dirt road. **STAY TO YOUR LEFT** and run 0.25 mile to your turn around and come back. Your turn around will be marked with a sign. When you get back up to the scenic drive at roughly your mile 1 you'll take another LEFT rejoining with the scenic drive. This dirt section is only run on the outbound, not on the return. While this section may NOT be coned off, it is still OPEN to vehicular traffic- though sparse.

Safety:

Your safety is the utmost concern of Calico Racing and Red Rock Canyon Conservation Area. Please listen to all instructions, abide by race official and park official instructions, and exercise caution at all times. The roads are open to vehicular traffic. We have 25% of the roadway and it will be coned the entire length of the paved scenic drive. You **MUST** remain inside the cones and stay to your **RIGHT**. **Anyone running or walking greater than single file MUST yield to passing or oncoming runners.** No blocking please!

Sunrise should be around 6:22am, with dawn breaking just in time for a 6:15am marathon start. There are no street light but visibility should be fine.

An *advanced level of care ambulance* will be at the event the entire duration and will be dispatched out of the EXIT of the Scenic Drive. Please alert an aid station volunteer, park ranger or another runner should you need help!

There should be no interruption to the race. The **ONLY possible cause for interruption would be at the discretion of Red Rock Canyon Conservation in the rare event that a medical helicopter evacuation must take place which would overlap our course. This is one of the many reasons we ask spectators to keep their on course driving to a minimum

and use the bus provided. Our added event traffic could delay the life saving measures for victims of an accidental fall. On course instructions will be relayed if applicable.

Environmental Safety:

No runner, spectator, volunteer or others may cross undisturbed park lands. Stay on the roadway and course at all times. This **INCLUDES** the start/ finish area which is the overflow parking area for the Visitors' Center and the **EXIT** of the loop. Do not step onto the vegetation. Use the stairs! Leave any wildlife alone.

Desert Tortoise:

The Desert Tortoise is a threatened species on the Endangered Species list. The BLM requires all runners read, understand, and abide by certain information and protocols. This information will be available at the packet pick up on Friday night, or can be read ahead of time on the Calico Racing website by visiting "Desert Tortoise" under the event page.

Volunteers:

As with every race, volunteers are a vital part of the event. Many of the volunteers are fellow runners, earning credit and discounts toward future Calico Racing events! No one takes care of runners like other runners! Please be kind and **THANK** your volunteers! I am still looking for a few more volunteers- if interested, please email me: calicoracing@hotmail.com

Finish Line:

We will be using IPICO chip timing. You **MUST** attach your timing chip to your shoe and return it at the finish line. Please stay in the finishing chute while the volunteer removes your chip and you receive your finishing medal.

Photography:

I am proud to announce *M Bradford Photography* will be on course photographing the event. Photos will be available after the event on the website. Buy plenty so he'll come back!

Weather:

Morning will be brisk, generally in the low 40s so plan on some disposable layers (disposed of **ONLY** at the aid stations). Do **NOT** plan on getting this back. I personally am a fan of old socks for gloves and long tube socks with the toes cut out for arm warmers. Works great! Race morning disposable layers will be donated to charity. Temperatures should warm to the 60s at the peak of the day. **To track the weather use zip code 89135.**

Post Race:

Post race food will be available at the finish line for registered athletes only.

Wet and dry hand towels will also be available at the finish area so you can towel off after the race. Please return all used towels in the clearly marked bin provided. Yup- I do about 10 loads of towel laundry after each race!

Awards:

I LOVE the awards for this race! Gorgeous sandstone pieces will be awarded to the top 3 overall men and women in each race distance, and first place in 10 year age groups. Overall winners are taken out of the age groups. Awards will be handed out in the finish area immediately following the first several runners. Race hard out there- these are sweet!

* If you are leaving the park area and think you may have qualified for an award- please see me to avoid having to mail them!

Course Certification:

The Marathon course is certified! It's a tough course to qualify for Boston on- but go for it!

Lastly:

I want to take a moment to express my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for attending the 11th annual Red Rock Canyon event. Many of you are returning runners, having run in one of the many other races that I direct. Your continued support is SO important and appreciated. To those of you that are new to Calico Racing- welcome to the family! We are a smaller event than many of you may be used to- but that is what can make it so great. A personal race with first rate amenities. With your help, I hope to position this and other Calico Racing events for future growth and a lifelong achievement of passion, environmental responsibility, fun, and of course... running.

See you all soon!

Joyce