

Frequently Asked Questions

Is WhistleStop Marathon a Boston qualifier?

Yes. The WhistleStop Marathon is a qualifier for the Boston Marathon. Please keep your official race result postcard (mailed to you within 3 weeks of the race) to verify your qualifying time with Boston Marathon race officials. We also e-mail our race results to the Boston Marathon officials for proof.

How do I register?

- **Marathon or Half Marathon** you can either register online with active.com, by printing a registration form from our website and mailing it in, stopping by the Chamber Office in Ashland, or at packet pick-up on Friday evening October 10, 2008 from 3:30pm to 9pm at the Bay Area Civic Center in Ashland. NO Saturday registrations.
- **5K or 10K, Cruisin' the Corridor** you can either register online with active.com, by printing a registration form from our website and mailing it in, stopping by the Chamber Office or the Vaughn Public Library in Ashland, or at packet pick-up on Friday evening October 10, 2008 from 3:30pm to 9pm at the Bay Area Civic Center in Ashland. There are NO Saturday registrations.

How do I know if I am registered?

- WhistleStop Marathon or Half Marathon you will receive a confirmation postcard confirming your acceptance into the WhistleStop Marathon or Half Marathon race. You can also call our office at (715) 682-2500/(800)-284-9484 or e-mail us at ashchamb@centurytel.net.
- Cruisin' the Corridor 5K or 10K you can call the Vaughn Public Library at (715) 682-7060 or e-mail Lynn Garrington at lynngarrington@gmail.com.

There is an error on my confirmation card. What should I do?

E-mail us at ashchamb@centurytel.net or fax the correct information to (715) 682-9404.

When and where do I pick-up my race packet?

Race packet pick-up for the WhistleStop Marathon & Half Marathon and the Cruisin' the Corridor 5K & 10K races will be from 3:30pm to 9pm on Friday October 10th and is held at the Bay Area Civic Center, 320 4th Ave West, Ashland. There is also packet pick-up on Saturday morning from 7am-8am at the Bay Area Civic Center as well.

I lost my confirmation card. What do I do?

Don't panic. Confirmation cards will only be mailed once. But if you lose your confirmation card, bring a photo ID with you to race packet pick-up and present it to one of the volunteers at the packet pick up area.

I am not able to make it to Race Packet Pick-up. What are my options?

If you cannot make it to packet pick-up you may have another person (family member or friend) pick up your race packet for you. The person picking up your race packet will need the following:

- A letter of authorization from you (example: I, Jane Doe, authorize John Smith to pick up my race packet)
- Your confirmation card

He or she will need to present these materials to one of the volunteers at the packet pick-up area.

I am injured, pregnant, or no longer able to attend the race, can I get a refund?

Entry fees are non-refundable. The only exception that will be made to our “no refund policy” is for those who are on active military duty and are deployed for service (a copy of deployment orders is required).

Can I defer my entry to next year?

No. Entry deferments are not permitted under any circumstances.

Can I give/sell my registration to another person?

Yes. If you have registered for the WhistleStop Marathon or Half Marathon you may sell or pass on your registration to another person. In order for this to happen you must send us a letter notifying us you are allowing us to change your registration to the person and then the person must fill out a registration form and mail or fax it to our office. There may be a fee depending on the date the request is made.

Can I switch from the marathon to the half marathon or to the 5K or 10K?

Yes you can do this prior to September 27th by either, mail, fax (715) 682-9404 or e-mail ashchamb@centurytel.net. There will be no refunds issued when switching to the 5K or 10K.

Can I drive to the starting line and leave my car there?

Racers are encouraged to take the shuttle buses from the designated finish line area at the Bay Area Civic Center on Saturday morning prior to the race to the start lines. We **DO NOT** bus runners back to these start lines after the race. However if you have spectators willing to drive you to the start, please follow these guidelines:

- **FULL MARATHON** - There is **NO PARKING** at the race start, however there is a parking corral area at South Shore Sand & Gravel on US Hwy 2, 1.5 miles from the Full Marathon start. Racers and spectators can park in this area and be shuttled to the full marathon race start area. Spectators will be bused back to the parking area after the runners have started. Runners will not be bused back to this area after the race.
- **HALF MARATHON** - For the Half Marathon there is ample parking at the Half-marathon start line. Racers and spectators can park here. Racers need to remember that they will not be bused back to this area after the race. Spectators will enjoy this spot because not only will you view the half-marathoners start, they are able to see runners returning to this area as they complete the 3 mile mark (approximately 20 minutes later).
- **5K & 10K** - For the 5K and 10K there is no parking areas available. Racers are encouraged to take the shuttle buses designated from the Finish Line area for the 5K & 10K racers. If you are planning to be dropped off the driver is asked to leave the area right away because space is limited. Drivers should leave the area.

LODGING

For a complete lodging list, **check** out our website www.visitashland.com, or call the Ashland Chamber of Commerce (715) 682-2500/(800) 284-9484. We encourage you to begin looking for lodging as early as possible as room availability is limited near the finish line area & festivities and fill up quickly. If you have a large group (10 or more) and are looking for lodging space together contact our office at (715) 682-2500/(800) 284-9484.

I want to volunteer! Who do I contact?

The WhistleStop committee loves the help we receive from spectators waiting for their loved ones to come in. Contact JoAnn at the Chamber office at (715) 682-2500/(800) 284-9484 or e-mail her at ashchamb@centurytel.net.

Can I walk the Full or Half Marathon?

We do not have a walking division for the WhistleStop Marathon or the Half-Marathon. The

WhistleStop Marathon runs on a 6 hour clock. Walking the Full Marathon within a 6 hour clock is nearly impossible and is discouraged. Because of the 6 hour clock walking however the Half Marathon is very doable and quite fun. Walkers are asked to use racer etiquette, this includes lining up after the runners at the start lines, to stay on the right hand side of the course and please, do not walk three or four abreast on the trail. Make sure you allow runners to pass on the trail.

What type of Sport drink is available on the trail?

Lemon-Lime PowerAde is the Sport drink provided at the aid stations on the trail, water will be available as well.

Where can I park on race day?

There is ample parking in various parking areas within 3 blocks of the Finish line – Bay Area Civic Center. We ask that you choose these options and leave Main Street open to shoppers. Designated areas are as follows;

East of the Bay Area Civic Center:

M & I Bank
Select Benefits
Superior Choice Credit Union
Chequamegon Clinic Area
Annex Building

North of the Bay Area Civic Center

The Ashland County Court House
Northern State Bank

North and West of the Bay Area Civic Center:

Parking Lot on the corner of 6th and Main Street
Dallenbach & Anich Law Offices

Can I run with... my pet, baby stroller...?

No automobiles, bicycles, baby joggers, roller skies, inline skates, pets or unofficial participants will be allowed on the race course.

Can someone join me on my run?

No. Unless they are a paid participant no one should run the course with you.

Can I use my Ipod?

Yes the WhistleStop Marathon allows ipods on our course. However we asked that you play it so you are still aware of your surroundings. The WhistleStop course is narrow and runners may be passing you and you need to be respectful of them.

Address for the Bay Area Civic Center

320 4th Ave West, Ashland, WI 54806

Can I drop clothing along the course?

We suggest if you are going to shed clothing you do so at an aide station. The items will be brought to the Finish line area where the bag drop is located, inside the Bay Area Civic Center. The earliest this clothing would make it to the Bay Area Civic Center would be 3pm. *WhistleStop organizers are not responsible for lost clothing.*

How many runners does WhistleStop have?

In 2009 the WhistleStop Marathon had 1019 registered runners and the Half Marathon had 1747 registered runners.

10/21/2009