



To our Steamboat Marathon, Half & 10K Runners,

We know there have been many questions surrounding the status of the 2021 Steamboat Marathon, Half-Marathon, and 10K, and we thank you for your patience as we worked through many details and guidelines. We are excited to provide updates to our runners and help you navigate new plans and race weekend.

After carefully considering all our options, we have made the decision that the Steamboat Half-Marathon will shift to a full virtual event in 2021. When we opened registration for this year's races, we were hopeful to host all three distances in beautiful Steamboat Springs. We worked continuously with local and state officials to plan safe races. Throughout this planning process, it became clear to us that holding an in-person half-marathon would not be possible.

The half-marathon is a unique race that presents multiple challenges for an in-person event. It has a start line and staging area not suitable for social distancing and runners are bused to the start line. While we considered staggered start times, changing the course, and altering the date, these alternative options are sadly not possible. The full marathon and 10k races are able to continue in person due to significantly less runners, larger start areas, and the need for less, or no transportation of runners.

All half-marathon runners have the choice to move to the full marathon or 10K at no charge, or they will be automatically registered for the virtual event. In addition, full marathon and 10k runners will have the opportunity to opt into a virtual event for those distances. We are working hard to produce an incredible virtual experience that matches the excitement of an in-person race in a safe format. Our hope is to bring the Steamboat Half Marathon to you.

As a non-profit organization, we have worked tirelessly the last two years to produce the best 40th anniversary race possible after the cancellation of the 2020 race. At this point in time, we have paid our partners and vendors and purchased shirts, medals, and more. We have always had a no refund policy in place and that will remain in place this year to preserve the future of the Steamboat Marathon, Half, and 10K.

Commitment to Runner Safety

We are thrilled to welcome the 2021 Steamboat Marathon and 10K runners in-person to Steamboat Springs this summer. This is the first large event that will return to Steamboat in over a year, and we are committed to the health and safety of all our runners, staff, and community. Because of this commitment, some things will look different this year. All in-person runners, volunteers and vendors will need to sign a social contract agreement stating they will adhere to all health and safety requirements.



Our pre-race expo will be held completely outside at Ski Haus and all attendees will be required to wear a mask while picking up their bags and bibs. Runners will need to select their t-shirt size in advance to limit crowding. There will be no race day packet pickup this year.

To spread out runners and maintain social distancing, we are implementing staggered start times for both the full marathon and 10K. Runners will receive an email detailing how they can select their starting heat and what time to arrive. We use chip timing for our races which means your time does not officially start until you cross the starting line. Masks will be required at the start and finish lines, aid stations, bathroom areas, and in any place where social distancing cannot be achieved. Runners will not need to wear a mask while racing but will need to keep their masks with them to use at aid stations and the finish line where we will have a “grab n’ go” process for medals, post-race food, and other items.

We are proud to continue the tradition of our small-town race which would not be possible without your continued support, especially in this challenging time. We will continue to communicate additional updates to you and look forward seeing you on June 6!

- Paul Sachs, Steamboat Marathon, Half & 10K Race Director