



FAQ and Quick Facts: Iraq Half Marathons

Where and when are the Iraq Half Marathons?

Three separate half marathons (13.1 miles) will be held in Iraq at the following military bases:

- Victory Base Camp in Baghdad, 9/27/09 at 0600, 400 runners expected to participate with 100 volunteers. U.S. home base is Ft. Lewis, Washington.
- Warrior Unit, Iraq/Iran border, 9/27/09 at 0500, 50 runners expected to participate with 20 volunteers. U.S. home base is Ft. Riley, Kansas.
- Camp COBB/Adder at Tallil Airbase, Southern Iraq, 10/3/09 at 0400, 250 runners are expected to participate with 50 volunteers. U.S. home base is ONG Salem, Oregon.



How many people will participate in these events?

Approximately 700 runners and 170 volunteers will participate in total.

Who will participate?

Army, Marines, Air Force, DOD Civilians and Contractors. Most of the participating troops and volunteers are from Oregon and Washington.

Why is the Portland Marathon supporting these events?

The Portland Marathon cares about the health and well-being of troops whether they are at home or abroad. The organization's event director, Les Smith, has a service background and is passionate about supporting and thanking troops. He fused this, with his love for running to create the Iraq half marathons.

These events are positive ways family members and loved ones in Oregon and Washington can stay connected to troops in Iraq, as well as ways for troops to stay connected to an annual event happening in their hometown. (continued on page 2).

(MORE)



(continued from page 1)

Friends and family members of the participating troops plan to run, walk, and volunteer at the Portland Marathon events on October 4th to honor those in Iraq. Their donations, and funds donated by the Portland Marathon, will go to the Wound Warrior Project, one of the event's official charities. (<http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/>)

What will the Portland Marathon provide?

At no charge, the Portland Marathon is providing high quality/specially printed t-shirts, lapel pins, special bibs, medals and challenge coins as well as Volunteer Shirts. The Portland Marathon has worked closely with contacts at these bases to coordinate these events.

Where can I get videos, photos, or more information about these events?

For more information, please visit http://www.portlandmarathon.org/iraq_half.php. We update this site frequently with new videos and photos, and will have event footage available Sept. 29. We will also have more information available in our pre-event publication for the Portland Marathon, available at the Sports and Fitness Expo. For media inquiries, please contact Les Smith at lsmith@bullardlaw.com or (503) 816-3777. The Portland Marathon can help coordinate interviews with participating troops based out of Oregon towns, such as Albany, Salem, Eugene/Springfield, Hillsboro, Portland, Roseburg, and Medford.

What is this year's Portland Marathon, and how can I learn more?

The Portland Marathon will be held Sunday, Oct. 4 at 7AM in downtown Portland. The event includes a 26.2 walk/run, 5-miler walk/run, a 10k Mayor's Walk, and a kids' Marafun. The Sports and Fitness Expo will be held on Oct. 2 and 3rd at the Hilton Hotel, 921 SW 6th Ave.

The Portland Marathon, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to the health and wellness of its participants and community. More than 12,000 people run, walk, or volunteer with the event each year. Proceeds from event go to help local schools, charities, and non-profits. The event has been called the "best-organized marathon in North America" and has received national attention for being one of the first eco-friendly, "green" marathons. Sponsors for the 2009 Portland Marathon include: Sports Authority, exclusive Sports & Fitness Expo sponsor; Kaiser Permanente, 5-miler title sponsor. For more information, visit www.portlandmarathon.org, call (503) 226-1111, or e-mail info@portlandmarathon.org.