

**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.

**\*\*\*SWITCHING DISTANCES\*\*\*** Calico Racing permits the switching of distance without an administrative fee (upgrade in distance fees apply) but YOU MUST TELL US! If you would like to switch distance from what you are registered for, please email me **NO LATER THAN Wednesday of race week at 11:59pm.** [calicoracing@hotmail.com](mailto:calicoracing@hotmail.com). Failure to comply will mess up the results and awards- so your cooperation is expected.

### **PACKET PICK UP:**

**Packet pick up is race morning only, at the start line.** The bus will drop you off at Red Rock Canyon right where you will collect your race packet, just steps from the start line.

- **Bib Numbers:** Bibs should be worn on your front. 4 pins will be included with your race packet.
- **Timing Chips:** *Chips must be worn on your shoe, only.* Two beaded zip ties will be in your race packet to secure your timing chip to your shoe through your laces. Your loaner timing chip needs to be returned at the finish line. A volunteer will be on site to assist. Failure to return your timing chip immediately following the race will be subject to a \$10 fee. \*Please: If you do NOT plan on racing, do NOT take your TIMING CHIP\*
- **Event Shirts:**
  - **Marathon & 5K:** You will receive your event shirt during packet pick up prior to the race. \*I suggest bringing **your own bag**, labeled with your name and putting your shirt in your bag on the tarps.
  - **½ Marathon:** You will receive your event shirt at the finish line, as your race is point to point. You may still have a clothing bag for your warm clothes. See below.

### **Getting to/ from the race:**

**Saturday January 24, 2026: 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, or be DROPPED OFF.**

- **BUSING/ PARKING:** All runners and spectators MUST park at the off-site parking location (or be dropped off). The MAIN FREE parking and busing is from **WEST CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY located at 11945 W Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV 89135**. This area is conveniently located on Charleston Blvd just west of the I-215. We will load on the EAST side of the building. A map is provided on the event website. The

one-way bus ride will take ~10 minutes, and there is a bathroom on board. There will be an attendant there helping to load the buses, starting at 5:30am. 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. **The first bus will depart the main (free) location at 5:45am for the marathon start line and will run on a rotation thereafter.**

**Note the bus schedule below.** Please load and unload quickly and take all belongings with you. 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. I *roughly* anticipate the first bus departing Red Rock after the race around 9:15am.

**NOTE that different distances have different start lines!!! Marathoners: arrive to the main busing area no later than 5:35am; 1/2 marathoners no later than 6:45am; and 5K no later than 7:35am. If you arrive later, do NOT expect to get to the start on time! You are highly urged to arrive early to ensure enough time to collect your packet and ready yourself at the start line.**

**1. Main Bus (West Career and Technical Academy/ WCTA) loading schedule:**

- **5:35am- 5:45am:** Marathoners only
- **5:50am- 7am:** Half Marathoners only
- **7am- 7:45am:** 5K only (*I suggest being on the bus before 7:15am.* There is likely a gap of buses between 7:15am- 7:40am. If you don't want to be rushed getting your packet, arrive to the bus before 7:15am)
- **7:45am- 8:30am:** Spectators to the finish line
- **10am:** Spectators to the finish line (no volunteer attendant will be on site)

2. **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.

- a. Half Marathon:** Starts at the Visitors' Center for Red Rock Canyon (see directions). Drop off quickly, 1 minute or less and walk up the 0.4 mile to the start line, **YOU MUST SHOW YOUR RACE EMAIL CONFIRMATION** (digital or printed). Direction from the park: Drop offs at the fee gate: "This is alright – but **should not be used widely**. Nobody should be parking at the fee gate or on 159 – **drop offs only**." **No parking** at the Visitors Center.
- b. Marathon & 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. There is **NO PARKING**. Drop off in 1 minute or less, out of the way of the buses.

### 3. The Contracted STRIP BUS:

- a. For those of you that purchased a bus ticket for the Contracted Strip Bus, your pick-up point is **Horseshoe Las Vegas (formerly Ballys)** located at **3645 Las Vegas Blvd**, Las Vegas, NV 89109. Use the **FLAMINGO ROAD side of the property** to board the bus. \*\*\*If you are standing on the corner of Las Vegas Blvd and Flamingo, with Horseshoe Las Vegas (formerly Ballys) on your right side, turn RIGHT and walk about 200' along Flamingo Road. There is an incline in the sidewalk to the bus loading area. The one way trip takes about 30-45 minutes via bus depending on traffic. 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](http://www.calicoracing.com), click on the event, then "Confirmed Bus Tix" to confirm that you are on there.
  - i. **The MARATHON bus will DEPART at 5:15am,**
  - ii. **The ½ Marathon bus will DEPART at 6am**
  - iii. **The 5K bus will DEPART at 6:45am.**
  - iv. **Return buses** will return to the same spot departing the finish line at *roughly* at 9:45am, 10:45am, 12pm, and 1:50pm.
  - v. **If you have not yet purchased a Strip Bus ticket and would like to ADD the Strip Bus only**, use the "Register Online" button on the website and selection the option: "Strip Bus Ticket ONLY" (available thru Thursday, January 22 at 12pm noon).

### **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!
- **\*7:45am- 8:30am\*** Spectator Buses from the main FREE lot at West Career and Technical Academy to the FINISH LINE only.
- **8:30am- 10am:** NO Buses running for spectators.
- **\*\*10am\*\*** Final Spectator Bus from the main FREE lot at West Career and Technical Academy to the FINISH LINE only. This departure will not have a volunteer attendant. Spectators should wait on the east side of the property 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.
- **Spectator Responsibility:** Please note that as the runner, it is your responsibility to inform your spectators of the race logistics.

- **No Spectators at the ½ Marathon start line.**
- **There is no event parking at the canyon.** Spectators should use the race provided shuttle. Cars parked at the finish line and along the highway is highly discouraged from the park and is a ding against my permit.
- **No athlete or spectator should be walking along the highway** between the finish line and ½ Marathon start line. It is highly discouraged from the park and is a ding against my permit.

#### **Spectators on the paid Contracted Strip Bus:**

- Spectators who paid for a Strip Bus ticket on the 6am ½ Marathon Bus: When you arrive at the half marathon start line, please get off the bus and stay in the starting area. At approximately 7:15am we will start loading ½ marathon runners' gear bags onto a specific bus. Please board this gear bag bus no later than 7:20am. It will transport you to the finish line. Please listen for announcements.

#### **Clothing Bags:**

- Runners may have a bag for their warm clothes. Please **use your own bag and label it with your name**. 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. Note these are not checked nor guarded, so no valuables please.
  - **½ marathoners**: bags will be loaded directly onto a specific bus in the baggage bays, corresponding to the first letter of your last name. **This specific bus will arrive ~ 7:15am. 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.

#### **½ Marathon Start:**

- Note that the ½ marathon starts at the Visitors Center. Water, cups, basic first aid, and portable toilets will be available. A volunteer will be attending to the ½ marathon start line from 6am. I will be arriving at the ½ marathon start around 6:55am after I start the marathoners at 6:45am 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.
- **Half Marathoners will collect their event shirt at the finish line, near food service.**

### **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.
  - ½ marathoners will be designated in GREEN.
  - 5K in PURPLE.

### **Aid Station:**

- Aid Stations are roughly every 1- 2.5 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!
- CUPPED Water and Gatorade (various flavors) will be provided; though the volunteer will be happy to fill your bottle or hydration system if you wish to carry one.
- Cups will be filled and laid out on the table for you to grab directly off the table- only touch what you take.

### **Portable Toilets:**

- Portable toilets will be available at the marathon/ 5K start and finish line, ½ marathon start line, Visitors Center, and at locations at Red Rock Wash, the Scenic Overlook, near Pine Creek, 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 0.28 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 1.18 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!

- A medic 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!

#### **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, 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](mailto: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 mid 30s** 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 low 50s 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.
- **½ Marathoners: Remember to collect your event shirt post race, as they will not be mailed.**

**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!

**Lastly:**

- I want to take a moment to express my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for attending the 19th 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