# **Nutrition Guidelines**

#### **Pre-Race Nutrition:**

- Focus on consuming complex carbohydrates like whole grains, fruits, and vegetables in the days leading up to the race to fuel your muscles.
- Avoid heavy, greasy, or high-fibre foods that could cause digestive discomfort during the race.
- Don't forget to include lean proteins for muscle repair and healthy fats for sustained energy.

### **Race Day Nutrition:**

- Eat a light, easily digestible meal 2-3 hours before the race.
- Stay hydrated by sipping water leading up to the race but avoid over drinking to prevent bloating or discomfort.
- Consider consuming a small snack, like an energy gel or a piece of fruit, 30
  minutes before the race for an extra energy boost.

### **Post-Race Recovery:**

- Refuel with a balanced meal containing carbohydrates and protein within 30-60 minutes after finishing the race to aid muscle recovery.
- Rehydrate with water or a sports drink containing electrolytes to replenish lost fluids and minerals.
- Incorporate foods rich in antioxidants, such as berries and leafy greens, to reduce inflammation and support recovery.

# **Hydration Strategies**

### **Hydration Before the Race:**

 Start hydrating well in advance of the race by drinking water throughout the day before.  Aim to consume around 16-20 ounces of water 2-3 hours before the race to ensure you're adequately hydrated.

# **Hydration During the Race:**

- Drink small, frequent sips of water or sports drinks at each aid station to maintain hydration.
- Listen to your body's thirst cues and drink accordingly, but avoid overhydrating, which can lead to hyponatremia.

## **Hydration After the Race:**

- Continue to drink fluids after the race to replace fluids lost through sweat.
- Monitor urine colour, pale yellow indicates adequate hydration, while dark yellow may signal dehydration.