

FAQs

We have received many questions concerning the cancellation of the 2020 RunFest. While we acknowledge that this is an inconvenience for our participants, please understand that this decision was not made lightly and was entirely in response to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

Why can't you just postpone the race and see how things go?

There are many reasons why postponing is not an option for RunFest. We cannot simply take a wait and see approach with an event this large owing to the months of planning, the long lead time for race materials, and permitting (Municipality of Anchorage is unlikely to allow an event of this size to occur in August). We rely heavily on our local sponsors (currently closed due to COVID19) to pay race expenses. Since an event of this size will most likely not be able to commence in August, the responsible action is to cancel now. This decision is consistent with other large running events around the world.

Why can't race fees be refunded?

The race fees already collected directly support the race and have, quite simply, already been spent. A lot of planning and resources go into a race of this size. As soon as a race is finished, we start putting down deposits and purchasing material for the next year's event. We are an all-volunteer, not-for-profit race, run by unpaid volunteer race committee and race directors. Even by cancelling at an early date, the event anticipates a significant financial loss. The funds raised by RunFest each year go back into the running community, local charities, and our college scholarship program. We are confident that we will recover from this and be able to put on an amazing event in 2021.

What about the runner who needs to qualify for the Boston Marathon?

We understand that the cancellation of the 2020 RunFest means the loss of an opportunity to qualify for the Boston Marathon. We encourage you to seek guidance from the Boston Athletic Association about this situation. Many Boston qualifying races has been cancelled or at least postponed until after the application deadline. We are hopeful that there will be some consideration for those runners who are missing out on this opportunity due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Can you send me my race shirt and medal anyway?

We cannot send out race shirts and medals for the 2020 event. By cancelling RunFest at this time we avoided incurring a substantial portion of the race budget. Simply put these costs are usually covered by sponsorship funds that are unavailable due to COVID19.

What if I purchased an iTab or pasta feed ticket?

We can offer refunds for these because they are not race registration fees and do not support the event. RunFest passes these fees directly to the associated vendors. The cost of these items will be refunded in full.

Is there going to be a virtual event?

We do not have plans to hold a virtual race for this event.