



Welcome to the 2nd Annual La Crosse Fitness Festival!

Information for Participants in the St. Clare Health Mission Half Marathon

**Start Time and Location:** The St. Clare Health Mission Half Marathon will start with the La Crosse Marathon and marathon relay runners at 7:30 a.m. sharp from the westernmost entrance to Pettibone Park (on Hwy. 61 and 14).

**Bus Service to the Start Area:** Shuttle busses to the starting line are available at the intersection of 3rd and State Street in downtown La Crosse and from Mitchell Hall (1820 Pine St.) on the UW-La Crosse campus. Busses will begin running at 5:45 a.m. and leave when filled. The last bus will leave from Mitchell Hall at 6:45 a.m. and from the downtown location at 6:50 a.m.

**Race Numbers:** Your race number must be worn on the front of your shirt or shorts and be visible at all times. Do not alter the race number in any fashion. For your personal safety, please complete the requested medical information on the back.

**Timing Chips:** A disposable timing chip will be attached to your race bib. It is imperative that you wear your race bib from the start of the race until after you finish. You are not required to turn in your chip after the half marathon.

**Warm-up/Sweat Bags:** Bag drop service will be offered in the staging area near the starting line. Bags will be delivered to Myrick Park and can be picked up at the designated area near the finish line. If needed, the plastic bag in which you picked up your race packet should be used for this service. Be sure to have the bag securely closed with your race number visible. **Do not put valuables in the bag** -- LFF will not be responsible for the loss of any items.

**Water/ aid Stations:** Water and Gatorade will be available at stations located at 2.5 miles, 5.3 miles, 6.2 miles, 8.4 miles, 10.8 miles, and at the finish line.

**Medical Services:** Medical support and services will be available at stations located at 6.2 miles, 10.8 miles, and at the finish line.

#### **Timing Clocks on Course**

Timing clocks with the course time will be located at 5 miles and 10 miles.

**Portable Toilets:** Portable toilets are available at the start line and at mile 1.0, 1.4 miles in downtown La Crosse, as well as near all the water/aid stations -- *please respect private property.*

**Mile Markers:** Each mile along the course will be marked with signage.

**Finish Area:** Mylar blankets, food and water, medical services, sweat bag retrieval, changing tents, and an official photographer are available in the area restricted to runners. Bags not claimed by 2:30 p.m. on race day will be taken to the Parks and Recreation Department on the first floor of the La Crosse City Hall to be picked up during normal business hours. Bags will be kept for two weeks and then located to a local charity.

**Showers:** Showers are available to runners from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Mitchell Hall (1820 Pine St.) on the UW-La Crosse campus. You must provide your own towel.

**Award Ceremonies:** Presentation of awards for the *half marathon* will begin at 10:30 a.m.

**Severe Weather:** For the safety of the runners, volunteers and spectators, race officials will be in continuous contact with the La Crosse Weather Service before and during the races. Although it is unlikely, all runners should be aware that the start of the races may be delayed due to the threat of severe weather, such as strong thunderstorms or tornado warnings. After the races are underway, it may be necessary to halt one or both races should severe weather suddenly threaten the race course. Should this occur, race officials will notify the staff at the water and medical stations, police officers, and the finish line will be closed. Runners on the course should attempt to find shelter, and race officials will attempt to provide busses to pick up runners as necessary. Please note that *if the race is halted, it will not be possible to re-start it.*

**Excessive Heat and Humidity:** Although high heat and humidity are rare in La Crosse during the first week of May, it does remain a possibility, especially later in the day. The Medical Director has the responsibility for notifying the Race Director if he believes that the heat/humidity combination is such that it presents a risk to the health of the runners. If this should occur, heat advisories will go out to runners still on the course and the Race Director will make all decisions on when to close the finish line.