09:00
Sunday, 4 October 2026



Run For Wildlife
Autumn 2026

African Penguin 5K
Information Pack



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Welcome!

We are delighted to return to The Yorkshire Wildlife Park this Autumn with our favourite 5k running safari!

The team at Curly's Athletes & The Yorkshire Wildlife Park are excited to bring 1500 eager athletes to the amazing venue that is The Yorkshire Wildlife Park! As well as being a fantastically unique place to run, every entry supports The Wildlife Foundation, which is based at the park!

The Foundation have a key aim - "To create a better world for wild animals, by creating dynamic communities, who promote, conserve and sustain biodiversity and improve animal welfare." If you would like to find out more, have a look at their website https://wildlife-foundation.org.uk or ask one of the team at the park. You can create a just giving page when you enter, or you can visit here to raise sponsorship.

At Curly's, our goal is to promote active lifestyles by providing people with inspirational, fun, great value and professionally run physical challenges. We know the benefits of this to individuals and community are huge; both in terms of physical and mental well-being.

If you would like to look for your next challenge, or find out more about Curly's Athletes, then pop along to our website: http://www.curlysathletes.co.uk

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The 2026 Chosen Star Animal.....

The African Penguin!



The newly arrived colony of 20 penguins are enjoying life in their brand new Boulders Beach habitat and have settled in really well.

The WildLife Foundation is an active supporter of a key projects across the globe, so we make sure each event theme helps to support this by raising awareness about our focus animals and helping support fundraising.

“African penguins are fantastic birds with lots of character, and we know they’re going to be a real favourite with visitors. They’re also known as Jackass penguins because of their loud braying call.

“Sadly, this species of penguins was changed from endangered to critically endangered status earlier this year. They’re facing huge challenges in the wild and conservation breeding programmes like this are incredibly important for the future of the species.“We hope their arrival will help more people understand the threats they face and inspire them to support the penguin conservation.”

Now classified as critically endangered, scientists predict that African penguins could become extinct in the wild by 2035 if current population declines continue.Their biggest threats include habitat loss, climate change, pollution, reduced fish stocks and predation.

The penguins have joined Yorkshire Wildlife Park as part of the European breeding programme, which works with zoos and parks across Europe to support long-term conservation. They are the only bird species at Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

Learn more about our penguin pals HERE



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Finding us & Parking

Use the postcode DN9 3QY for sat-nav or What3words /// port.rooftop.poetry for directions to the visitor carpark entrance.

Once you reach the destination, please follow the signs directing you to Yorkshire Wildlife Park car parking.

Vehicle access is NOT PERMITTED via Warning Tongue Lane or Brockholes Lane.

Yorkshire Wildlife Park can be easily accessed by car from the A1 and M1 via the M18. Exit the M18 at Junction 3 and follow signs for the airport. Continue along the Great Yorkshire Way (A6182) until you reach the second roundabout. Take the 1st exit and stay on Great Yorkshire Way for approximately one mile. At the next roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Hurst Lane and continue straight. Once over the railway bridge take the left lane and first exit at the roundabout, follow signs to Yorkshire Wildlife Park car parking. Priority / accessible car parking is also available.

Registration & T-shirts

Find us in the Hive area - signposted from the car park :)

You will be able to collect your number on Saturday 3rd October, or on race day. As you can imagine, with 1500 runners, it gets incredibly busy at the registration tent, so if you are able to, please come and see us on Saturday the between 2-30pm- 4.30pm.

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS - numbers are allocated in surname order but it helps for a super smooth registration if you know your number, these can be found in the final few days before the event on the website here: https://runforwildlife.com/run-for-wildlife-5k-1 (we will send a note out when they are available). Then simply tell us your number at registration.

At registration you will be able to collect any numbers plus pre ordered t-shirts and any spectator passes. These will all be packed together (t shirts will be separate, but details will be printed on your envelope to take to the t-shirt tent next door) You can collect pre ordered t- shirts before or after the race. We will have some spare t-shirts priced at £11 on the day (but not many)!

On Sunday, registration will be open from 7.30 am until 8.50 am You are able to collect on behalf of friends or family members, but we will ask for details i.e DOB & postcode You are able to buy additional spectator passes on the day, from the Wildlife park ticket booths in the hive. These must be done before the race starts or you will be charged normal park entrance prices.

*** Please note that **there is no bag drop** at this event and please **do not** leave any unattended bags whilst you are running. Bags/ belongings should be left in your vehicle or with your spectators :) ***

Event Timings

14:30 - 16:30 - Saturday Registration
07.30 - 08.50 - Sunday Registration
09.00 - 5K starts
10.00 - Junior Fun Runners (start at the finish line)
10:45 - 11:00 - Prize giving at the HIVE amphitheatre
10:30 - Park opens to the public so you can go visit your animal chums :)

Please arrive with plenty of time as it may take 5-10 mins to walk to registration & toilets and then 5 minutes to return to the start. It will also be busy with lots of cars arriving, so be nice and early (you can always have a nap in the afternoon) :)

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Curly's Shop!



OUR NEW SHOP THAT DOES 'GOOD THINGS' will also be popping up at registration

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the kit we bought to get active also helped others get active - by buying this kit, you'll help us make a start in 'moving with purpose'. When you buy lovely things from us, you're creating micro-grants that help people get active. These are focussed on the local area based on where you collect, buy the item from or have the item delivered to (delivery options coming soon!)

When you buy something from us, 10% of the price you pay goes directly into our micro-grants. Which we award locally.

We have a specially designed hoodie, a snuggly bobble hat and our snood :)

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Athlete Well-being

If you feel unwell or injured then it's your responsibility to make sure you withdraw from the event-please don't put yourself at risk.

- Medics-our expert medical team will be on hand throughout the event and based at the 1/2 way point, in a sweeper vehicle and will also be at the finish.

- Dress for the weather-please ensure you dress appropriately for the weather conditions and always bring a change of clothes for after the event. We do not have kit storage facilities so please leave your belongings in the car or with a spectator (ideally one you know!)

- Water- There will be water at the end of the race

- Rubbish-if you decide to run with a water bottle or gel please ensure you bring everything away with you that you take onto the course. We will disqualify anyone for littering, but more importantly we want to ensure no rubbish finds its way into an animal enclosure.

- Warming up-please use the paths alongside the car park road. Do not warm up on the road as we will be using this for team access in the lead up to the event start. Take care when crossing the park road, as it is open to vehicles

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The Main 5k Event

We've attached a map of the park with key event areas highlighted. It will be manned by our support team, volunteers and well signposted and sectioned off so you shouldn't get lost!

We will also have a lead bike (and maybe a lead red panda!) in place and support vehicles and medical team members following the event.

The run for wildlife events are designed to be for people of mixed abilities,. We will have 1500 people taking part which means it's going to be busy and at times overtaking will be difficult. So please be courteous of your fellow athletes not everyone is there for a PB and vice versa so please be aware if you've an athlete that wants to come past don't suddenly stop or block the path because you've just seen a Rhino (although we appreciate on a normal run that would be a reason to stop!!!)

NOTE: The 'bridge' is an out and back section, so when you see a keep left sign please KEEP TO THE LEFT hand side as you may have runners coming back towards you (keeping left is good practice for the whole race)

Park access will be restricted until after 10:30 so please don't go wandering into the park ahead of the main event, this is for your safety in addition to the safety of our team, the animals and your fellow athletes. You've the whole day afterwards to enjoy the park. You will not have access to the route until the race starts..

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Junior Athletes

At 10:00, as the other runners have nearly all finished we round up the juniors ready for some fun! The Junior event will take place starting and finishing from the main finish line, heading into the park and we head off to visit the animals! The fun run is designed for junior athletes aged 4-10 (we don't mind if any older ones are booked on) We recommend parents join their little ones on the course if under 11. The route is between 1.5 and 2km in length :) At the end we've got sweets, an amazing medal and your special animal wrist bands :) As with all our junior events we love the chaos, enthusiasm and cheering! This is a just for fun event and we won't be timing the juniors or issuing any trophies for positions.

The route will be marshaled as we know that our junior athletes will have a lot to take in, this means we will enthusiastically shout instructions and direct them the right way :)

Spectators

Spectators will have no park access until after 10:30.This is to make sure the experience of the athletes isn't compromised. We also have some animal work to be doing :)

The start and finish is in the same spot and you don't need access to the park to watch your runners.

Quite simply that means if a barrier or cones are across, please don't bypass or sneak down. The hive is of course fully open so plenty of coffee opportunities while your runner is off enjoying themselves!!

Please ensure you arrive with your runners to ensure you can get set up to watch them start and finish .

Remember you are near a car park area so be aware of moving vehicles. Our marshals may give you a friendly shout if you're stood on the run route ;)

Please plan to spectate around the start / finish area… you can nip to the café in between!

You can add spectators onto your event entry when booking your race entry for a discounted rate. We will also have spectator entry available on the day from the Wildlife park ticket booths near our registration.

Presentations, Photos & Results

At the end of all the running we will be up at the auditorium in the hive around 10:45-11:00. We have lots of trophies for the adult event, we will also be recognising age group winners and giving you all a shout out. Please come along, cheer on your fellow competitors and listen to any news we may have about future events and I'm sure we will have some stories to share from the day.

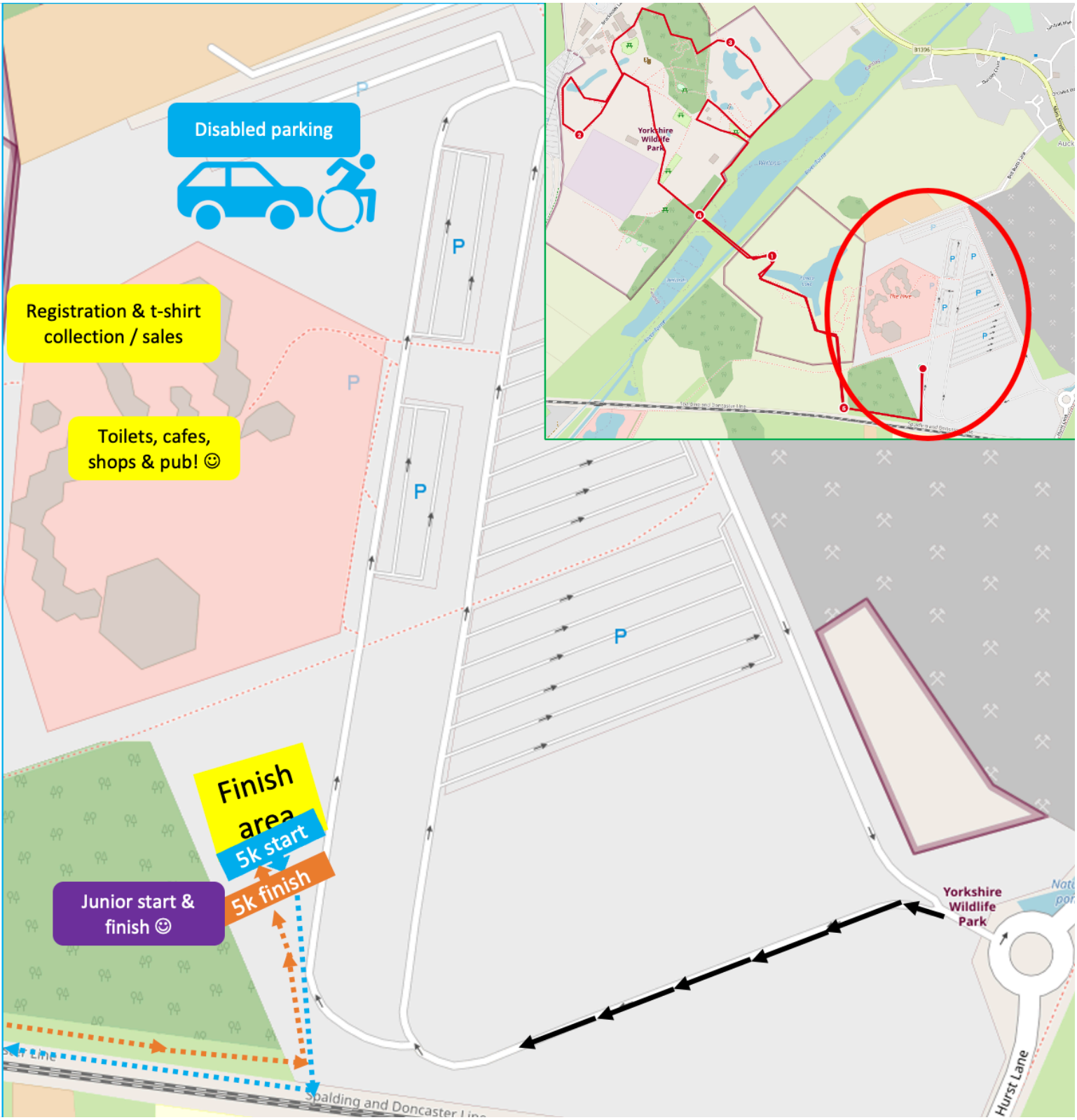
Volunteer photographers will be down on the day. The photos will be shared on Facebook post event and we also encourage you to share your photos throughout the day on our main Facebook page.

As the event is chip timed we will have the results will be live on the day and there will be a link on our website page HERE.

The week following the event we will also e-mail out a summary including a link to the results, any photos and anything else we think you might be interested in from the day so don't worry you wont miss anything !

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MAPS! - the start & finish



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MAPS! - The 5k route



Find all our upcoming events here: https://curlysathletes.co.uk/our-events

Keep up to date post event: https://www.facebook.com/curlysathletes/

We love this event and the feedback from every event has been amazing... in fact it's won national wards (including the best in the UK!)

So whether you're here to race (remember it's fully UK Athletics licensed and distance certified) or your just to their to see the animals and have a bit of fun then our courses are always designed that they can be raced or walk/jogged and of course we will support you all the way round with our amazing support crew!

HAVE A GREAT DAY!

From all of the team at Curly's Athletes & The Yorkshire Wildlife Park we wish you the very best of luck and we will see you on the day :)

Go check out all our events currently open for entry here: http://www.curlysathletes.co.uk

CURLY'S ATHLETES

Terms & conditions

The Yorkshire Wildlife Park: Terms and Conditions

- Guest that you bring to the park will have restricted access to the park before around 10:00 and are not allowed to take part in the event.
- UK Athletics considers 5k too far for under 11s to "race". So competitors must be aged 11 or over for the main event. We do have a junior fun run event happening after the main 5k for ages 4 and over.

No pets or dogs are permitted into the Park but dogs are permitted in Safari Village, kennel facilities are not provided. Dogs cannot be left in vehicles.

The Park is a non smoking area and smoking is not permitted anywhere within the Wildlife Park. This includes all types of e-cigarettes and vaping devices.

A Smoking Area has been provided in the Safari Village.

Children under the age of 16 years must be accompanied by a adult.

Balls are not permitted in the Safari Village or Wildlife Park.

No barbecues or open fires are allowed in the Safari Village or Wildlife Park.

No bikes, scooters or skateboards are allowed in the Safari Village or Wildlife Park. Bike Racks are provided in the Disabled Car Park and the Safari Village Courtyard – Bikes are left at owners own risk. We do not provide facilities to recharge mobility scooters or electric wheelchairs.

The speed limit in the car park is 15 mph and must be kept to at all times.

Security

CCTV Cameras are in operation throughout the site for the purpose of security and the protection of visitors.

Yorkshire Wildlife Park reserves the right to ask any participant to leave the site should they behave in an inappropriate or unsafe manner.

Digital Recording and Photography

Any photographs, digital images or video recordings made during a visit to the wildlife park may only be for personal use. The sale of photographs, digital images or video recordings for profit can only be done with prior permission. Please contact info@yorkshirewildlifepark.com. The use of Aerial Drones, radio controlled helicopters and UAV devices of any design and configuration is strictly prohibited.

By accepting these terms of entry, you agree that Yorkshire Wildlife Park may use any photographs and/or video or other recordings taken at Yorkshire Wildlife Park for sales and promotional purposes without expressed permission.

Booking Online – Day Pass

Yorkshire Wildlife Park operate an online ticket system which allows you to book for a specific date prior to visiting day. Tickets are only valid on the date for which they were purchased. These tickets are non refundable. The ticketing system can be accessed directly at https://myaccount.yorkshirewildlifepark.com. Users of the ticketing system will need a valid email address and an active credit/debit card to make payment. Users will be asked to create an account so that details of the orders placed can be accessed at a later date. The ticketing system can be accessed from mobile devices, smart phones and tablets.

When attending Yorkshire Wildlife Park the Day Pass must be presented at the "Pre-Paid & Annual Pass" ticket Kiosk. This will be sign posted. You can either print out your email receipt or present your smart phone with a copy of the email receipt open on the screen. A member of the Yorkshire Wildlife Park Visitor Services Team will then scan your ticket to validate it.

Booking Online – Special Events

Yorkshire Wildlife Park operate an online ticket system which is used to provide tickets for special events such as (but not limited to) Summer Safari Nights. Tickets purchased for specific events are only valid for those events and will only be valid on the dates specified on the ticket. These tickets are non refundable and subject to the terms specified for the event.

Refund Policy

Once you have booked a ticket online, you are unable to cancel your order or obtain a refund except for exceptional circumstances.

Refunds are not available for any Experiences, gifts or Annual Pass purchases.

Changes to published Information

Yorkshire Wildlife Park reserves the right to alter the itinerary on any given day due to animal welfare or health issues, but will ensure that if this is the case then the activity will be replaced with another similar task.

Yorkshire Wildlife Park reserves the right to alter dates, times and prices or facilities for any reason without any prior notice.

The management reserves the right to move animals or make alterations or improvements. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Annual Memberships Terms and Conditions

Annual Passes are valid for one full year from the date of purchase unless otherwise specified.

Unlimited use throughout the year on normal days of opening at usual entry times 10.00 – 5.15 Main season, 10.00 – 3.15 Winter season. The Park is normally closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

New Annual Passes cost £55.00 Adult, £50.00 Senior (60+) £50.00 Child (3-15).

Animal Adopters can claim a 10% discount on an Annual Pass, in exchange for the 10% voucher included in the Adoption Box.

Payment can be made by cash, credit, debit cards, online, or by YWP Gift Vouchers.

Annual Pass Gift Vouchers can be purchased, to be activated within a three month period.

Children under the age of 3 get free entry to the Park and so do not require an Annual Pass.

Renewed passes run from the expiry date on the owners' previous card.

Passes must be produced on entry at the Ticket Kiosks and Yorkshire Wildlife Park reserves the right to refuse entry.

Annual Passes cannot be used in conjunction with Education or School bookings.

Annual Passes may be used for free entry to events organised by the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, however, some events may be excluded or have an additional entrance fee applied. Check website for details.

The wildlife park reserve the right to charge for parking during events. Details when appropriate will be included in the event promotion.

Each pass requires an individual digital photograph and this will be taken at the Information Station and stored on our secure system.

Pass holders contact details including name, address, phone number(s) and email address, will be recorded on our secure database, for use only by Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

Pass holders may indicate exemption from recording email addresses, on the Annual Pass application form.

Annual Passes will be available for collection from the Information Station.

Passes are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Expired passes cannot be used for entry to the Park.

Yorkshire Wildlife Park reserves the right to change opening times, dates and facilities without prior notice.

The Park may be closed due to extreme weather conditions.

All visitors to the Park, including Annual Pass holders, are subject to Terms & Conditions as set by Yorkshire Wildlife Park.

Our Visitor Services Team can help with any enquiries. Tel: 01302 535057

Curly's Terms and Conditions of Entry

*Entry amends / cancellations If you wish to amend your entry this must be done 14 days ahead of the event. Log into etchrock.com to update any details, if you're unable to attend the race then your can transfer to another event up to 14 days before. Partial refunds are only available until 28 days before (50%), full refunds are at 90 days ahead of the event. (For those transferring from Aprils it will remain at 50% refund)

You can also buy spectators tickets on the day of the event if you didn't purchases at the time of entry. Our registration team will need to support over 2000 athletes and spectators on the day of the event in a very short timescale so please ensure you check your entry and make sure you have everything correct before the big day. We can add spectators on the day but please try to get this done at the time you enter the race as on race day it will get busy!

•As an adult participating in an Adult event, I declare that I am 18 years of age or over on the day of the event

•As a junior participant under the age of 18 taking part in an event, I declare that a responsible adult has authorised my participation in this event and has read and accepted all the terms and conditions of the race on my behalf.

•I declare that I will not compete in the race unless I am medically fit on the day of the race. If you should test positive for covid, please send details to contact@curlysathletes.co.uk. We will be able to transfer you to next years' event.

•I enter this race entirely at my own risk. The organisers will not be liable for any personal injury or death, no matter how it was caused.

•I accept that the organisers and sponsors of the race, or any of their agents, will not be liable for any loss, damage, action, claims, costs or expenses which may arise in consequence of my participation of this event.

•Any belongings deposited at a bag drop are left at the owner's risk.

•I am fully aware of all associated risks involved with participating in this event

•By entering this race, I give my permission to Curly's, its sponsors, assignees & licensees to use or authorize others to use photographs, motion pictures, recordings, data or any other record of my participation in this event for any legitimate purpose without remuneration.

•I will listen to and respond to the advice given by race officials and marshals.

•Headphones must not be worn (unless otherwise stated.)

•Event Cancellation: If for reasons beyond the control of the Promoter, including an 'Act of God' due to unforeseen, naturally occurring events that were unavoidable, the event which applicants have entered is cancelled or postponed, the Promoters will issue a full Race Credit to the value of the original entry fee or transfer the applicant's entry to another race/events where requested. Alternatively, if an event is cancelled by the Promoter for non 'Act of God' reasons, the Promoters will offer a full refund.

• In the event of adverse weather or any other prevailing circumstances mean that

the race is to be cancelled, details will be recorded on the web site and on the

Facebook page.

Our refund policy is as such: We will refund entry costs to the tune of 100% 90

days prior to the event, 75% for 60 days before and 50% up until 28 days before.

After this date, we are unable to process refunds.

*Refunds for those transferring is based on the original event date however we will honour the 50% in the lead up to 28 days before the event. The system is set to 50% automatically so if you have entered the event and wasn't transferred then please get in touch so we can apply the correct amount.

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By entering this race, I am confirming that I have read and understood the above