

White River Marathon for Kenya's official statement as related to COVID-19 and the 2020 WRM

The 2020 White River Marathon (Marathon, Half, and 5K) for Kenya race will be run in Cotter, Arkansas on November 21, 2020 as planned, barring any extreme and legal restrictions as related to COVID-19. As of August 31, 2020, the race is going forward as planned. Below are the modifications that are being made to race weekend given our current COVID-19 climate.

Note that the race will be run on our beautiful and flat course and will not be converted into a virtual race at any point. WRM staff have made modifications to the extra activities as related to race weekend. If COVID-19 turns life upside down to where extreme or legal restrictions prevent the race from happening, we're prepared to give all those pre-registered 80% off the 2021 WRM. This is a fund raiser for a 501C3 and no refunds will be given for 2020.

Note: While a plan is in place and modifications have been made, we cannot police every athlete, volunteer or spectator at all times. It is up to all individuals to adhere to distancing rules. If you feel that you have a compromised immune system or are nervous that others are not taking all precautions, we ask that you do not attend WRM 2020.

Pre-Race Pasta Dinner & Packet Pickup: WRM has cancelled the Pre-Race Pasta Dinner. It is not socially responsible for us to put 250 people in one room at once.

- A refund for any pre-purchased Pasta Dinner tickets will be handed out at packet pickup.
- **Local runners** are directed to pick up packets the week of Nov. 16-20 at [Fit.1](#) in Mountain Home, Arkansas. We would like to space everyone out, we ask that local runners please come in Monday, November 16 through Thursday, November 19.
- **Out of town runners** can pick up packets as well, understandably the day before the race, Friday, November 20 at Fit.1. Fit.1 will stay open until 8:00 pm on Friday the 20th to accommodate athletes.
- WRM is working with local restaurant(s) for pre-race fuelling and dinner deals. As this shakes out we will communicate with athletes.

Race Morning: Packet pickup will still be held race morning

- Instead of congregating in the Cotter School Cafeteria, we will have a **"grab-n-go"** style packet pickup. This means you will enter through the south set of doors, pick up your packet and then proceed to exit through the north set of doors. Runners will be single file, six feet apart, and asked to have their **temperature taken** as well as sign a **COVID questionnaire**.
- Race Start: We may need to have a wave start, start the different races started at different times, or have one really long line of runners that will pass through the chip readers. Current guidelines & restrictions may dictate what this process ultimately looks like.

On Course: It is still a race, of course:.

- You're supposed to stay 6-feet apart from other runners unless you're passing them.
- Aid stations: Volunteers will be wearing rubber gloves and masks and handing out hydration, fuel, etc.
- Any runner is welcome to run with a hand-held or bladder pack.

At the Finish: Pretty close to what you're used to seeing at WRM.

- Finish Line: All runners will receive their awesome finisher's medal! We will have beverages and light snacks at the finish line as well as a medical tent.
- Runners and spectators will be directed to the open field alongside the finish area to spread out and wait for friends and family.
- Transportation back to the school will be the same manner as year's past, shuttle vans, however since we cannot distance ourselves inside of vans, all those being transported back will be required to wear a face mask. We will have disposable masks available for all passengers, of course you are welcome to wear your own. Side note: when done with your mask, please dispose of it in a trash can!

Post-Race at the School: The renowned post-race meal will likely not be happening this year.

- We are working on post-race food for runners that may be a sack lunch-style grab-n-go food.
- Will it be as awesome as past years?...Not at all. We'll do our best to come up with something to accommodate all runners.
- Awards will be handed out to overall and division winners as soon as results are available.
- We will not hold results for an awards ceremony, we will distribute as results come in.
- Showers: Runners have been accustomed to having showers available post-race, we plan on having this available this year as well, however this is one of those things we may have to remove from this year's amenity list.

WRM 2020 Schedule at a Glance	
Nov 16-19 Mon - Thrus 10:00am – 6:00pm	Packet Pickup at Fit.1 in Mountain Home, AR Encouraged for local runners Fit.1 905 South St. Mountain Home, AR 72653 www.fitpointone.com
Nov. 20 Fri 10:00am – 8:00pm	Packet Pickup at Fit.1 in Mountain Home, AR for all runners Fit.1 905 South St. Mountain Home, AR 72653 www.fitpointone.com
Nov. 21 Sat 5:00am – 6:40am	Packet Pickup at Cotter Schools
Nov. 21 Sat 7:00am	Races start
Nov. 21 Sat 2:00pm	Race cut-off time