

St. Louis Children's Hospital Make Tracks for the Zoo

Frequently Asked Questions

Registration

After May 16, how do I register?

All registrations after May 16 can be registered over the phone at (314) 646-4771 or online at www.stlzoo.org.

When will packages be mailed?

If you have paid an additional \$10 to have your race materials mailed, you can expect them to arrive at your mailing address between May 25 and May 29. The final date to request that your race materials be mailed is Friday, May 22. All packages will be mailed by Friday, May 29.

What materials are included in the mailed packages?

All racing materials will be included in your mailed package. Race materials include your bib number, safety pins, event t-shirt and timing chip. If you had your package mailed and have received all of these items, you are welcome to go directly to the start/finish line and bypass registration. Additional programming notes will be available as you come in through the South Entrance of the Zoo.

What if I am missing materials or have not received my package?

If you are missing materials or have not received your package by Wednesday, June 3, please contact the Zoo Friends Office at (314) 646-4771. Every effort will be made to resolve your issues in a timely manner.

I have registered additional family members beyond that of the four allotted family registrations, will they get all of the same benefits?

Yes, all additional family registrations are considered full participants and receive all of the same benefits. This includes all racing materials, breakfast and entry for attendance prizes.

Is any of the Make Tracks registration fee tax deductible?

Unfortunately, the value of the deduction is so nominal that this information is irrelevant to provide.

Are strollers allowed in the race?

Strollers are permitted on the course; however, we would ask that all runners pushing strollers place themselves at the back of the pack for the safety of all participants. New this year – runners with strollers are encouraged to participate in the 1-Mile Fun Run!

No dogs, rollerblades, bikes, skates or skateboards permitted on courses.

I requested a t-shirt size and it is too small or too big, may I exchange it?

Yes, you may exchange the t-shirt at Saturday or Sunday registration if the desired t-shirt size is available.

Chip Timing System

What is Chip timing?

Chip timing is a system that tracks the net running time of each individual race participant through a plastic device attached to the runner's shoe.

Can you explain Chip Time versus Gun Time?

Gun Time: The time from the sound of the starter's signal to the time when the runner crosses the finish line. Also known as the Official Time.

Real Time, Chip Time: The time from when the runner crosses the starting mats at the start line, to the time when the runner crosses the finishing mats.

What are the advantages of Chip timing?

For Participants:

- Fast and accurate results at each event
- Net times: the chip can register every individual start time, even when participants are at the back of the pack
- Free flowing finish, no more restricted space at the finish

Where do I get my chip, and where do I return it?

Your chip is supplied to you for the event in your run packet—which you pick up on Saturday, May 31 or Sunday morning, June 1, before the race with your bib and t-shirt unless your packet has been mailed to you.

Chips must be returned at the completion of the event. Volunteers will be in the finish chute collecting chips from runners as they finish.

You must return your chip when you finish. **Participants who do not return the chip will be assessed a \$30 fee.** If you accidentally leave with your chip, or pick up your packet and not attend the event, please return the chip to:

TERC
P.O. Box 4357
Carmel, IN 46082

How do I wear the Chip?

In your run packet will be included a short plastic zip strip (like a twist tie) to attach the chip to your shoelaces.

Bear in mind: no chip, no recorded time. Only participants wearing a chip will be timed. The reading distance of the chip system is limited. Therefore, the chips should be located as close to the red tracking mats as possible.

Use the plastic strip to attach the chip to the bottom portion of your shoelaces.

It is important to use the zip strip as it is easier for the finish line crew to remove it when you finish. If you tie the Chip into your laces you will have to untie your shoe when you finish, or have your laces cut.

How are the winners determined?

Overall Awards are based on gun time. All age division awards are based on CHIP TIME—the racers net time.

Who receives a Chip?

Only those runners participating in the 5k Run/Walk will receive a timing chip. All other races are untimed, non-competitive.

Race Etiquette

At Starting Line

- Line up according to your pace with 5-minute per mile runners in the front row. Slower runners and walkers should position themselves at the back of the pack.
- Listen to the pre-race instructions. What you hear will guide you through the course and keep you safe.
- Pin your race number on the front of your shirt. This is where it is most visible for race officials.
- If you drop something as the race begins, don't stop and pick it up. You'll endanger yourself and others.

During Race

- Much of the 5K course is out-and-back, runners going in both directions on the same street. Please stay to the right side of the streets to allow runners going in the opposite direction a clear and safe path.
- Do not walk or run more than two people across as others may want to pass you and will find it difficult to do so. If you would like to run or walk in a group, stay towards the back of the pack.
- Please move to the side if someone behind you says, "Excuse me", "Coming through" or "On your left" as this is a sign that you will about to be passed. It is common race etiquette to let that person pass.
- If you need to stop to tie your shoe or for any other reason, please move to the side of the road.