



125TH BOSTON MARATHON[®]



125th Boston Marathon Facts & Storylines

NOTABLE STORYLINES

- The Boston Marathon is the oldest annually run marathon in the world, with this year's race being the milestone 125th running. The race's history and heritage will be showcased through banners in Boston, archive displays in Copley Square, and at Boston Marathon Fan Fest presented by Amazon.
- This year's race on October 11 will be the first fall edition of the Boston Marathon, and first time the race is held outside of its traditional Patriots' Day date in April. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the race was postponed from its usual third-Monday-in-April date to October 11. This will be the first in-person Boston Marathon in 910 days, as the 2020 edition was held as a virtual experience in September, 2020. This year's race falls on October 11, which is International Day of the Girl and also increasingly recognized as Indigenous Peoples' Day in cities and towns along the marathon route.
- The Virtual 125th Boston Marathon will be held October 8-10, 2021 in neighborhoods around the world, as nearly 30,000 athletes complete 26.2 miles at home. The virtual component of this year's race was open to anyone 18 years of age or older, and features athletes from 114 countries and all 50 states. Combined with the in-person race, this will be the largest Boston Marathon in history with nearly 50,000 entrants.
- The 125th Boston Marathon will feature the first ever [Para Athletics Divisions](#), offering prize money and awards to athletes with visual impairments, lower-limb impairments, and upper-limb impairments. The Boston Marathon is the first major marathon to offer prize money and awards for Para athletes in all three categories. A total prize purse of \$27,500 will be available, including \$1,500 for first place in all three divisions for men and women. Among the 30 athletes competing as part of the Para Athletics Divisions are Paralympians, world record holders, and ultramarathoners.
- 13 Boston Marathon champions will be competing as part of the John Hancock Professional Athlete Team: Des Linden (USA/MI), Geoffrey Kirui (KEN), Edna Kiplagat (KEN), Lemi Berhanu (ETH), Lelisa Desisa (ETH), Atsede Baysa (ETH), Caroline Rotich (KEN), Daniel Romanchuk (USA/IL), Manuela Schär (SUI), Marcel Hug (SUI), Tatyana McFadden (USA/MD), Ernst van Dyk (RSA), and Joshua Cassidy (CAN). Additionally, 1968 winner Amby Burfoot will be running and serving as an official starter in Hopkinton.
- Five 2020 Tokyo Paralympic gold medalists will be competing in Boston: reigning men's wheelchair champion Daniel Romanchuk (gold in the 400m); two-time Boston winner and wheelchair course record holder Marcel Hug (800m, 1500m, 5000m, marathon); reigning women's wheelchair champion and course record holder Manuela Schär (400m, 800m); five-time winner Tatyana McFadden (4x100m Universal Relay); and Japan's Misato Michishita (T12 marathon).

COURSE RECORDS

- Men's Open Division: 2:03:02, Geoffrey Mutai, Kenya, 2011
- Women's Open Division: 2:19:59, Buzunesh Deba, Ethiopia, 2014
- Men's Masters Division: 2:11:04, John Campbell, New Zealand, 1990
- Women's Masters Division: 2:27:58, Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova, Russia, 2002
- Men's Wheelchair Division: 1:18:04, Marcel Hug, Switzerland, 2017
- Women's Wheelchair Division: 1:28:17, Manuela Schär, Switzerland, 2017

A \$50,000 course record bonus is available for both open and wheelchair divisions. The Boston Marathon is the first major marathon to have equitable course record bonuses for open and masters divisions.

COMPOSITION OF THE FIELD

- 18,252 total entrants of the in-person 125th Boston Marathon
- 3,492 entrants from Massachusetts
- 16,441 entrants residing in the United States of America
- 104 countries represented by participants in the Boston Marathon
- All 50 U.S. states represented by participants in the Boston Marathon
- Youngest entrants: 18 years old, Enchee Xu, Conor Beswick, Rachel Calderone, and Angel Robles, all of Massachusetts
- Oldest entrant: 84 years old, Volkert Bobeldijk of Canada
- 28,612 total entrants of the Virtual 125th Boston Marathon

HEALTH & SAFETY

- This year's field size has been reduced by 36% compared to recent years (from 31,500 entrants to 20,000)
- In an effort to enhance social distancing and minimize wait times, Athletes' Village has been eliminated in Hopkinton this year and a rolling start has been introduced for the first time in race history.
- 95% of all Boston Marathon volunteers are vaccinated.
- 100% of Boston Marathon medical volunteers are vaccinated.
- All participants are required to provide proof of a WHO-recognized vaccination OR a produce a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of bus loading.
- A health and safety bracelet will be provided after proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test results are verified. The bracelet must be worn throughout race weekend and through the finish line.
- Masks are required indoors, on event transportation, and within the start area until participants cross the starting line.

BY THE NUMBERS

- \$876,500 in prize money will be awarded to top finishers by principal sponsor John Hancock. Included among the prize awards is \$27,500 for Para Athletes.
- 8,500 B.A.A. volunteers will contribute to this year's Boston Marathon and race related events
- 26.2 miles (26 miles and 385 yards; 42.195 kilometers) will be run through eight cities and towns (Hopkinton, Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Wellesley, Newton, Brookline, and Boston)
- An estimated \$20 million (USD) will be raised through the 125th Boston Marathon for charities as part of the B.A.A.'s Boston Marathon Official Charity Program and the John Hancock Non-Profit Program

FACES IN THE FIELD

- Danica Patrick, NASCAR and Indy Car driver, will run for the Matt Light Foundation
- James Develin, former New England Patriots fullback and Super Bowl champion, will run as part of the Joe Andruzzi Foundation
- Chris Nikic, the ESPY-award winning Ironman triathlete who in 2020 became the first person with Down syndrome to finish an Ironman triathlon, will race his first Boston Marathon.
- Brian d'Arcy James, Broadway star in *Shrek the Musical* and *Hamilton* and actor in *Spotlight*, will race his first Boston Marathon.

B.A.A. RACING APP

- The B.A.A. Racing App is free and available to download today. The B.A.A. Racing App features live participant tracking, leaderboards, results, interactive course map, race information, and more. Search 'Boston Marathon' in your mobile app store and download today.