



## RUNNER INFORMATION

**OCT. 11  
2026**

**BENEFITING**



# THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ATHHALF HALF MARATHON 2026 IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

*We hope your training has been fantastic and you're ready to run because we're ready for you! Here is everything you need to know about the race and the Health and Fitness Expo:*

## ► RACE PACKET PICKUP

Race packet pick-up is on Saturday, October 10th from 12pm-5pm at the Health & Fitness Expo, held at The Classic Center Pavilion, located at 440 Foundry Street. If you cannot attend, please send a representative with the QR code we will send out the week of the race. If you plan to transfer your bib to another runner, all bib transfers must be completed by Thursday, October 8th at 5 pm. There will be no bib transfers and no race day registration at the Expo.

## ► RACE T-SHIRT PICKUP

At the Expo, all participants will be given the shirt size ordered at registration. If the shirt ordered is too large or too small, or if we did not have your size available during registration, on Sunday you may visit the AthFest Educates T-shirt Exchange table in the hospitality area of the West Lawn to see if there is a shirt available in your size. Shirts must be unworn! If we have extra shirts available, we will gladly swap sizes.

## ► NEW ATHHALF START LINE

The start line for the 2026 AthHalf is located at the intersection of Washington Street and College Avenue in downtown Athens, GA.

## ► GEAR CHECK

At the Health and Fitness Expo you will receive a gear check bag courtesy of our title sponsor: Walton EMC. Bring this gear check your bag, containing your belongings to the UPS Gear Check Truck near the start line at the corner of Washington Street and College Avenue, and we will transport your gear to the finish line celebration area. Pick up your bags at the UPS truck behind the main stage and in front of the Zell Miller Learning Center.

**AthHalf does not guarantee the safety of any items.  
We strongly advise against leaving anything of value in your bag.**

## ► PARKING

Parking in Athens and on the UGA campus is free on Sundays. We encourage you to park in the College Avenue parking garage (287 College Avenue).

**Do not park in the Tate Center Lot. That lot is closed from 5:30am until 11:30am. If you work your way into that lot, you will not be allowed to leave until all runners have cleared the Tate Center area at approximately 11:30 am.**

## ► TROLLEY FROM FINISH TO START

There is a trolley to take you from the finish line to the start line. The trolley runs from the intersection of Hull Street and Baxter Street (intersection near the finish line) back to the College Avenue parking garage. For 2026, we are proud to offer Trolley service from our friends at Athens Trolley Tours. The trolley spot can be a bit tricky to find, but it's as close as we can get to the finish line without getting stuck in traffic. To get to the trolley pick-up spot, cross Lumpkin at the Lumpkin/Baxter intersection and walk one block west on Baxter to Hull. You'll see the red and white sign that says AthHalf Trolley on the corner of Baxter and Hull. There will be two trolleys making a continuous loop from 9am-12pm.

## ▶ **START TIME**

The race begins at 7:30am. We have five corrals: A, B, C, D, and E. Your assigned corral will be printed on your bib which you pick up at the Expo. We will do a staggered release of each corral so that the course does not become too congested. We encourage you to be in your corral by 7:20am. No strollers or dogs will be allowed.

## ▶ **PRE-RACE SERVICE**

First Presbyterian Church will be holding a brief pre-race service on October 11th from 6:30am-7am. Everyone is welcome. The church is located at 185 E. Hancock Avenue—just two short blocks from the start line. Running attire is welcomed and encouraged! The service will be held outdoors.

## ▶ **HYDRATION STATIONS**

Hydration stations will be located at miles 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and the finish line. All hydration stations will have water and Powerade to drink and portable toilets for runners to use as needed. GU energy gels will be available at the mile 4 and mile 8 hydration stations.

## ▶ **FIRST AID STATIONS**

First Aid stations and supplies will be located at the waterstops for miles 6 and 10. A medical tent manned by medical personnel will be located at the finish line along with an ambulance and EMT's.

## ▶ **PORTABLE TOILET LOCATIONS**

Portable toilets are available at the Start Line, Miles 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and at the Finish Line.

## ▶ **TIME LIMIT & SWEEPER**

The AthHalf course has a four-hour time limit and our sweeper will be at the back maintaining that time limit. You'll see her decked out in balloons! If you fall behind the sweeper, she will tell you that the course and amenities (i.e. hydration stations, police, finish clock, etc.) are being disassembled behind her. You are welcome to move to the sidewalk and complete the race, but please know that the regular amenities will not be available to you. If you cannot complete the course and need a vehicle to transport you, notify the sweeper or any volunteers and they will arrange a vehicle to pick you up.

## ▶ **LIVE MUSIC**

Live bands and DJs will be set-up throughout the course from the start line to the finish line to help you and your amazing fans and supporters stay energized. We have some high-energy bands out there for you, so be sure to sing along!

## ▶ **HOSPITALITY**

Please move to the West Lawn celebration and hospitality area after clearing the finish line chute in order to alleviate congestion in the finish line area. The runner celebration and hospitality area will be on the West Lawn of the Tate Student Center. The West Lawn is essentially above the Tate parking deck. You will need to go up the stairs (we're sorry about that) or take the elevator on the first floor of the parking deck, to access the West Lawn. Cross the finish line, receive your well-earned finisher's medal, then join us, and thousands of your fellow AthHalf-ers, for snacks, refreshments, and live music to celebrate your race! Family and friends are welcome, but please ask them to refrain from eating or drinking the refreshments. We want every runner—from the first to the last—to have access to the same refreshments.

## ► AWARDS AND RESULTS

At the end of the hospitality area near the stage and the awards, you will find results tablets where you can type in your bib number and see your results. There will be one award ceremony which will take place on the stage on the West Lawn at approximately 9:30am. If you miss the awards ceremony, visit the results tablets to determine if you will receive an award. Awards will be available until 11:30am. After that time, you may email [race@athfesteducates.org](mailto:race@athfesteducates.org) about coming into the Athfest Educates office to pick up your award.

## ► COURSE AND ELEVATION MAPS

The 2026 AthHalf course map and elevation map can be downloaded at:

<https://athhalf.com/half-marathon-course/>

A course map is also included at the end of this information packet.

## ► RACE RESULTS

Race results can be found on the AthHalf website, [athhalf.com](http://athhalf.com)—under the tab, “Resources”. Final results will be posted approximately 6 hours after the last runner crosses the finish line

## ► WARM UP and COOL DOWN WITH M3 YOGA

This year we’re partnering with M3 Yoga to provide pre- and post-race yoga sessions. Join us Saturday, October 10th from 10:00am-11:00am at M3Yoga’s studio for a one-hour pre-race stretch and activation class to help runners prepare for race day. Then after the race, come back on Sunday from 2:00pm-3:00pm for a one-hour post-race recovery and mobility class. **Please reserve your spot ahead of time by downloading the M3 Yoga App.**

## ► SPECTATORS

As a runner, you know that cheering fans can keep you going, so we hope you get your family and friends out there to support you and your fellow runners on race day. Spectators are welcome anywhere along the course with the exception of inside Sanford Stadium. UGA does not permit spectators inside the stadium. Spectators are not allowed in the finish chute. You may line up on either side of the chute to take pictures and to cheer on your runner. We have worked with local businesses and organizations to put cheer squads along the course. Let folks know you appreciate their support so they come back to root again next year!

## ► THEME ART

Each year, AthFest Educates selects an artist to create the theme art for our two major events, AthFest and AthHalf. This year’s theme artist is Maggie Baxter Dearth. Follow her on Instagram: [@makenicedesignco](https://www.instagram.com/makenicedesignco)

## ► RACE BENEFACTORS

The AthHalf is produced by the nonprofit AthFest Educates and all proceeds from the AthHalf go directly toward our mission of supporting high-quality music and arts education for the young people of Athens-Clarke County. To date, AthFest Educates has awarded over \$750,000 in grants to local schools, nonprofits, and government programs. Thank you for helping us advance the quality and quantity of music and arts education in our community.

## ► STAY CONNECTED

Follow the AthHalf on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the website—[ATHHALF.COM](http://ATHHALF.COM) to stay up-to-date on race and runner details!

## ► HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

If health and safety protocols are required at the time of the race, we will communicate the exact protocols to all runners in a separate email the week of the race. **HAVE A GREAT RACE!**



flagpole



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# ATHHALF HALF MARATHON MAP 2026





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