



NEWS FLASH

Contact: Melissa Rey
Phone: 650.224.1699
mrey@halfmoonbayim.org

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2012 Half Moon Bay International Marathon Men's and Women's Champions Repeat, Shatter Own Records, at 2013 Event

Half Marathon Winners Also Set New Course Records for Half Marathon Distance

Half Moon Bay, CA – Over 1,200 runners from 40 states and six countries greeted a glorious morning sunrise preparing to run in the 3rd annual 2013 Half Moon Bay International Marathon (HMBIM) on Sunday, September 29, 2013.

“The excitement in the air was tangible,” said Eric Vaughan, HMBIM Executive Director. “All the runners warming up, the volunteers working diligently at their jobs, spectators lining up along the start line, so much adrenaline was pumping through the crowds, it was just amazing. And the 3rd time proved to be the charm, as everyone was treated to a spectacular Half Moon Bay weather day!”

Sporting special bibs which read “[Defending Champions](#)” under their names, 2012 Men’s Champion, Ryan Neely, and 2012 Women’s Champion, Kimberly O’Donnell toed the line and led from start to finish, shattering their own course records. Both Neely and O’Donnell received \$500.00 cash prizes from [HMBIM partner GoPro](#).

15 minutes after the 7:00 a.m. start of the Full Marathon, the Half Marathon runners were off led by elite athlete [David Roche, the 2012 USATF 10K Trail National Champion](#). Roche won the Half Marathon race by 7 minutes in his debut at the distance.

The 5K race served as the inaugural event of the [recently created Half Moon Bay chapter of the JUST RUN organization](#), featuring an amazing [display of kid power at the start line](#). The 5K championship was claimed by 12-year old Benjamin Noack of Tracy, CA.

Celebrated runner and [Runner’s World’s Chief Running Officer, Bart Yasso, served as the HMBIM special guest athlete](#) and spent the entire day cheering on the runners, presenting them with their special finisher’s medal and serving as a true ambassador for the sport.

The 2014 running of the Half Moon Bay International Marathon is scheduled for Sunday, September 21, 2014. Race organizers are already at work planning improvements to enhance what has become one of the most popular destination marathons in the U.S.

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About the Half Moon Bay International Marathon:

Featuring "26.2 Miles of Running Heaven", the Half Moon Bay International Marathon (HMBIM) was founded in 2011 to showcase the unique beauty of the California coast along with some of the best weather a marathon athlete could ever hope for. The inaugural event in 2011 featured athletes from 25 states and 4 countries and sold out in two months despite very little promotion, and doubled in size in 2012 with athletes from 37 states and 6 countries. The 2013 event continued the growth pattern, welcoming athletes from 40 states and 6 countries. An official Boston Qualifier event sanctioned by the USA Track and Field organization, the HMBIM also focuses on creating an eco-friendly event to consider the precious coastal community and worked to attain official status with the Council for Responsible Sport, receiving the coveted Gold Certification from this organization in the Event's very first year. The HMBIM features a full and half marathon and a free JUST RUN 5k event, all held on the same day.