

Capital City Marathon Association - History

"It's a runner's race and people appreciate that." CCMA Former President and Board member Jim Lux

A list of "firsts"!!!

1982 – First year marathon is run; 493 finishers

CCMA Board becomes integral part of effort securing the Olympia area as site for the 1st ever US Women's Olympic Marathon Trials

1983 – First year of the CCMA training group

1984 – Two marathons held: US Women's Olympic Marathon Trials (May) and Capital City Marathon (July)

1986 – TAC Masters National Marathon Championships are held in conjunction with Capital City Marathon. Event sponsored by National Coffee Association with the slogan: Make a break for it. Master winners are from Washington state: John Jordeth (Seattle – 2:32:42) Charlotte Swanson (Morton – 3:02:04)

1987 – First year for pizza at the finish line

1988 – New course; start and finish in downtown Olympia (Previous course started near the Westwater Inn on hill overlooking Capital Lake and finished near Marathon Park.)

1989 – Marathon moves from July to May

New runs added to marathon weekend:

Kids fun run – 2 miles long 8K – Won by Larry Weber & Sue Havens

1993 – Half Marathon first included in marathon weekend activities; 371 finishers

1996 – CCMA race info first appears on the internet through Denny Brooks page

1998 – First race in Washington to use computer timing chips on shoes

1999 – First year of on-line registration for the marathon

The Ultimate Guide to Marathons lists Capital City as one of the top 100 destination marathons

2000 – First year of free post-race massages; Body Mechanics new providers

- 2003 – Matt Ruhl becomes first person to win all three CCMA events
 Marathon – 2000 Half Marathon – 2001 Five mile – 2003
 (John Riak also completed the win trio in 2010 with a marathon victory)
- First year runners' shirts fully made of technical performance material
 (before Seattle, Portland and Boston marathons offer tech shirts)
- 2004 – Boston Marathon Qualifier (BMQ) designation first appears in race day
 results for those meeting their age group qualifying standard
- 2005 – First year CCMA provides \$1,000 grants to seven area high school cross-
 country teams to recognize student volunteers providing weekly CCMA
 training group water stops; grants support team travel and other team needs.
- 2007 – First year college scholarships (female and male) awarded to graduating
 high school runners
- 2008 – Marathon finishers provided track pants instead of finisher shirts, starting a
 trend for being known as race with unique swag; jacket provided in 2009
- 2010 – First race in Washington to use timing microchip attached to race bib instead
 of shoe; antenna transmits data
- 2011 – First year to use race pacers during marathon
- CCMA Foundation established to support healthful living in our community
- 2012 – First year to use recyclable cups at aid stations; 16,000 cups donated by Dart
- First husband and wife sweep in the marathon (Jesse and Jenny Stevick)
- Former CCM Race Director Lesley Roberts honored as Woman of Distinction
 at 40th anniversary celebration of Title IX by Olympia YWCA
- 2013 – First year to provide free photo downloads to all race participants
- 2015 – First year kids fun run becomes free to all participants
- Linda Huyck becomes first woman to win all three CCMA events
 Marathon – 2015 Half Marathon – 2003 & 2007 Five mile - 2012
- 2016 - CCM Foundation awards first major grant to Bears and Wolves Swim Camp to
 increase summer fitness opportunities for middle school girls
- 2017 – Competitor.com names Capital City as one of twelve best Boston qualifiers
 CCMA Hosts first movie night Marathon weekend, screens "Tracktown."

"We care about the experience." Lesley Roberts, Race Director, 1993 – 2011

CCM Race Directors

Dave Kent 1982-1986

Jim Cashman 1987 – 1989

Allyson Wilkinson 1990

Russ Chadwick 1991 - 1992

Lesley Roberts 1993 - 2011

Nona Snell 2012 - present

Did you know?

- The race slogan in the mid 1980s and early 1990s was: U 2 Can Do 26.2
- For many years marathon race equipment was stored in the historic, original brick Olympia Brewhouse.
- CCMA has no paid staff. All marathon events are managed and staffed by volunteers. The CCMA Board, race director, committee chairs, and over 500 other annual volunteers give of their time and talents – and have since the beginning of the event.
- Since the marathon moved to May in 1989, race day temperatures have usually been within our moderate, spring “Mediterranean Climate” zone of 64 – 66 degrees for the high. But, on race day - May 17, 1992 - the high in Olympia was 85 degrees!
- The recyclable cup, (over 16,000 each year) used since 2012 at water stops, is approved by the EPA, FDA, Health Canada and Environment Canada as a nontoxic product that is not a danger to the environment or human health.
- The CCMA is committed to supporting its local community and purchases supplies, services and food locally at every possible opportunity. Our sponsors are community businesses and organizations.
- Over the years runner swag – or booty – has been inventive, “before their time,” and popular. Previous items include: shoelaces, zip-up running jacket, track pants, coaster, necklace, hat, cloth stuff bag, mesh bag, insulated lunch bag, headband. Age group awards have been made of recycled materials, marble, various acrylic materials with new printing/etching techniques, and fused glass.
- All three timed events – marathon, half marathon and five-mile – are run on courses certified by The Athletic Congress.

"Our hometown race is not just about running; it's about community and commitment." Nona Snell, Race Director

Race Participant History

Marathon

This race has been run 36 times; **15,053 have finished.**

Marathon race with most finishers: 1983 when 754 finished.

Marathon race with most wheelchair finishers: 1987 when 5 finished.

Marathon finishers by year:

1982	493	1990	479	2000	497	2010	373
1983	754	1991	552	2001	473	2011	355
1984	681	1992	548	2002	408	2012	299
1985	?	1993	459	2003	462	2013	293
1986	441	1994	552	2004	468	2014	274
1987	413	1995	493	2005	485	2015	294
1988	378	1996	397	2006	455	2016	314
1989	437	1997	409	2007	323	2017	305
		1998	455	2008	315		
		1999	390	2009	329		

Half Marathon

This race has been run 25 times; **20,178 have finished.**

Half marathon race with most finishers: 2013 when 1,256 finished.

Since 1998, more women than men have finished this race each year.

Half marathon finishers by year:

1993	371	2000	568	2010	1096
1994	467	2001	802	2011	1212
1995	407	2002	734	2012	1253
1996	444	2003	772	2013	1256
1997	441	2004	888	2014	1005
1998	612	2005	822	2015	963
1999	502	2006	916	2016	1124
		2007	798	2017	1014
		2008	833		
		2009	878		

Other Running Events

Over the years a number of other races have been run as part of marathon weekend. These have included: relay team race over the marathon course, 10K walk and run, 1-mile, 2-mile, 8K , 5.2-mile and 5 mile races. Kids runs have also been included and now have over 250 finishers annually.

Total CCMA event finishers - the total number of documented runners finishing all CCMA events - marathon, half marathon and shorter events, *except* kids' fun runs.

Annual number of finishers in all events, except kids races:

1982	493	1990	479	2000	1229	2010	2013
1983	754	1991	552	2001	1491	2011	2086
1984	681	1992	548	2002	1349	2012	2064
1985	?	1993	830	2003	1415	2013	2050
1986	441	1994	1178	2004	1609	2014	1763
1987	413	1995	1067	2005	1666	2015	1720
1988	378	1996	982	2006	1628	2016	1917
1989	437	1997	1160	2007	1352	2017	1861
		1998	1291	2008	1453		
		1999	1050	2009	1581		

Documented runners finishing CCMA races in last 36 years: 45,030

(**Note:** Statistics above do not include 1985 marathon finishers; 1989 thru 1993 five mile finishers as results for these races cannot be found. Given historical participation in these events, we believe we can safely say that over 46,000 runners have finished our event.)