



Salem's Running Store • ActiveSalem.com

135 Commercial St. NE
Salem Oregon
Mon-Fri - 10-6
Sat - 10-5
Closed Sun
503-364-4198
800-423-3460

Most Common Race Director Problems

-  Insufficient lead/planning time allotted. Great runs take time to plan. Proactivity can save you many headaches. We recommend at least six months lead time!
-  Race director or race committee is spread too thin. Build an efficient teams and delegate. Be available to react to unforeseen events on race day. They will occur!
-  Not enough entries, too many T-shirts, or vice versa. A significant price increase for later registrations can help to reduce this. In addition, have a plan for how you will deal with any shortages.
-  Missing many volunteers on race day. Appoint a volunteer coordinator, and have a list of specific duties. Plug specific people into specific jobs. Confirm volunteers 2-3 days before event. Have a plan if unseasonable weather is expected.
-  Race day registration back up. Not enough or inexperienced volunteers, or poorly laid out registration. No one likes long lines.
-  Inaccurate course/splits. Course not marked well; runners get lost on course.
-  Not enough water stations or volunteers who don't know how to distribute water to runners.
-  Unorganized kids event. Parents want their kids to be safe! If you are going to do a kids run, you need to give it the same type planning as you would the adults event.
-  Not prepared or have inadequate volunteer help at the finish line. A backup at the finish can tarnish an otherwise great event.
-  Late finishers and walkers feel they are treated as second class citizens. Don't break the finish down too soon, and be sure to have sufficient refreshments for later finishers. They paid the same entry fee that everyone else did.
-  Unprepared for awards ceremony; slow results. Runners like to see their results quickly. Fewer people have the time or desire to hang around after a race. They want to get going. A time efficient and effective awards ceremony leaves a lasting impression.