

Run the River Spring Challenge

September 27, 2026

Package pick up and race day info

Half marathon early start: 9:30 (for people who plan on taking 2 ½ hours or more to complete. This is intended to have everybody finished by 12:30)

Half marathon start: 10:00

10km start: 10:10

5km start: 10:20

Legendary junior event: 10:00 – 11:15

Please read through all of this information carefully.

Race package pick up: is on Saturday, September 26 at Fast Trax Run and XC Ski Shop (7326 101 Ave NE) from 10:15 AM – 2:30 PM.. We ask you to please sign up for a package pick up window of time to reduce congestion. [Please click here to sign up for your preferred time](#). You can pick up for more than one person but please select the appropriate number of spots. *Our out of town runners can pick up on race morning.*

There is no race package pick up required for kids doing the junior event. They will get their goodies on race morning.

Race Start and legendary juniors location: all race distances start and finish at the lower level of Louise McKinney Riverfront Park. 9999 Grierson Hill NW. The legendary juniors event will also be set up in the park area on the lower level. If the ground is too wet for the kids, we will set them up on the deck level about River Valley Adventures.

Race day parking: There is limited parking at the upper parking lot off of Grierson Hill. There are many downtown parking lots nearby. Please see the map below for start/finish area and parking suggestions. Visit Impark Edmonton to see a map with all of the nearby parking. You can find rates by clicking on the lot info links.

Race bibs: you will receive your race bib at package pick up along with your t-shirt. The race is chip timed and the chips are on the back of the bibs. Please do not bend the bib chips. *Also be sure to wear your bib on the outside of your clothing on your chest on race day so they're easily visible by course marshals and timing crew.*

Headphones: We prefer that you don't wear headphones but, if you must, please be sure they are not noise cancelling and that you can hear directions of course marshals.

Race routes and start times: please consult the maps that you can find on our website and also on Race Roster. All distances start at the lower level of LMRP and go east on the pathway along the river.

Half marathon: *For anybody who anticipates taking longer than 2 ½ hours to complete the half marathon distance, we will have an early 9:30 start.* Please only take advantage of the 9:30 start if you will be 2 ½ hours or more. The purpose is to have everybody finished the race by 12:30 PM.

10:00 start for the rest of the ½ marathon runners. The route goes east on the pathway from LMRP to Dawson Park and completes three loops between the two turn around points before returning to the finish. Please consult the map for turn around locations.

10KM: Start time is 10:10. The route goes east on the pathway from LMRP to Dawson Park and completes two loops between the two turn around points before returning to the finish. Please consult the map for turn around locations.

5KM: Start time is 10:20. The route goes east on the pathway from LMRP and is a direct out and back. Once you turn around at the designated turn around point, you will come straight back to the finish. Please consult the map for the turn around location.

Course marking: Each km will be marked with signage. The 5 & 10 km routes have km signs that indicate their distance. For example, you'll see a sign that says 3km of the 5km. Half marathon markers just have the km distance. Each turn around is marked by a flag and cone and we will also have a marshal at each turn around. The route is very straight forward but there are occasional arrow signs and chalk on the ground to help you find your way.

Aid station: There is one aid station near the 5km turn around point. The station has water only so please bring any additional nutrition supplies you may require. We will have cups but encourage you to bring your own bottle which you can refill at the station. 10km runners will pass the station 4 times, ½ marathon runners will pass it 6 times. 5km passes it once.

Post race food and beer: We have a post race BBQ which is included in your entry fee! Our friends at the River Valley Adventure company will be serving you up BBQ smokies and hot dogs for the kids. We will have additional snacks and water available at the finish line. The BBQ is included for kids registered in the junior event as well. You can purchase extra BBQ tickets if you have family cheering you on. Registered runners will receive a meal ticket with their race bib. Kids will have a mini legends goody to identify them as registered.

River Valley Adventure company will also have beer and other beverages available for purchase.

Legendary junior event: Please have the littles there by 10:00. They will be split into groups of 10 and led through our Mini legends stadium games by our legendary crew from 10:15 – 11:15. Please ensure there is a parent or guardian on site during the junior games. Please go to the check in station upon arrival for further instructions.

Cheers, Cheryl
Race director
Athletics Alberta