

## WCRC Coronathon Course Notes for both Full Marathon and Half Marathon

1. The start line is adjacent to the southwest corner of the Winner's Circle Sports Bar and its orientation is north to south. Runners are lined up behind the building to start the race, they proceed straight up the small embankment and straight across the adjacent parking lot, they cross Merrill St. and bear right, take a left at the Rt. 110 intersection, then quickly bear left onto the Garrison Trail. This same section is used to begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> loop as well. The purpose of this "unusual" section is to provide runner safety and reduce vehicle traffic on the course – it eliminates the need to run through the busy 110 intersection.
2. Logistics: After the start the start/finish line is pivoted clockwise to an east/west orientation and becomes the official finish line for both the half and full marathon.
3. At approximately 1.5 miles (14.6 miles) runners bear left and go up the ramp to exit the Garrison Trail (which runs along Rt. 95) and then turn right onto Ferry Road and head towards Maudslay State Park.
4. Runners exit Hoyts Lane (just after miles 3 and 16) and turn left into traffic along Rt. 113 in Newburyport, they must cross 113 (there will be assistance on the road) and turn right onto Dennett Dr. The distance between Hoyts Lane and Dennett Dr. is approximately 1/10 mile.
5. At approximately mile 5.75 (and 18.85) runners take a sharp right from Hale St onto Malcolm Hoyt Dr. and enter the Industrial Park.
6. At approximately miles 7 and 20 runners turn left onto the Clipper City Trail. This trail has a single street crossing, use caution when crossing. Shortly after mile 8 (and 21) the trail forks, runners should stay left and proceed down the trail's slope. To your right is the Gillis Bridge over the Merrimack River. You will proceed all the way down the trail, bear right and go under the bridge. From there runners turn right and run along the bridge embankment to the small ramp that carries you onto the sidewalk that crosses over the bridge. Turn right onto the bridge.
7. The Gillis Bridge is an active draw bridge, although it's pretty inactive in October. In the event that the bridge does open we will have a timer (race official) on the Newburyport side of the bridge near the gate closing. Runners must run to the timer making their presence known. The timer will record your bib number and your stop and start time. Your "stop time" is the time when you stop at the gate and are acknowledged by the timer. Your start time is when the gate goes up and you are allowed to proceed. If there are more than one runner waiting, the same start time will be applied to all runners. Each runner's total down time will be deducted from their overall race time. NOTE: it is recommend that runners continue to jog in the immediate area while the bridge gate is down, this will keep you loose and warmed up.
8. At the far end of this bridge the course turns right and proceeds under the bridge.
9. After finishing the Marsh Trail section and crossing over Rt 110 in Salisbury, you proceed down to the end of Railroad Ave and bear left onto the next trail section. The first part of this section is a wooden boardwalk (brand new, very nice), it transitions to paved trail. You are approaching the Ghost Trail on your left (90 degree turn onto hard dirt surface), **runners go past the Ghost Trail** and proceed along the paved section of trail for approximately 200 yards where they turn around at the cone (or other visible course marking) and head back to the Ghost Trail, runners turn right onto the trail.

10. Runners exit the Ghost Trail at Rabbit Road, turn left, then left again onto Old Elm St. Runners proceed all the way to the end of Old Elm St and bear right onto Rt 110 (Elm St). Runners must stay on the road through this section, no cutting through any parking lots. Runners are now heading west on Rt 110 with the Winner's Circle Sports Bar ahead on the left side of the road. Runners must cross Rt 110 when safe to do so (there will be assistance on this section of road). Runners enter the parking lot of the WCSB and go to the right, the finish line is just ahead. Half Marathoners cross the line and finish their race. Marathoners proceed to their second loop of this same course.