

Army Ten-Miler has 30,000 runner cap

25th Army Ten-Miler has 30,000 runner cap, new packet pick up, EXPO location

ARLINGTON, Va., Jan. 26, 2009 - The Army Ten-Miler is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2009 and new and expanded programs will highlight the running of this historic, athletic event Oct. 4 in Washington, D.C., with the start and finish at the Pentagon.

Race officials announced that this year's field will be expanded to 30,000 runners.

"The race filled in a record 21 days last year so we increased the runner field to allow more people to participate in this year's 25th anniversary race," Jim Vandak, race director, said..

To accommodate the additional runners, the race's two-day packet pickup and EXPO will move to the D.C. Armory, while the well-established and popular pre-race GEICO Pasta Dinner, featuring the United States Army's noncommissioned officer leadership, will remain at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel with an expanded seating capacity.

This year's dinner will be a special event, race officials said, because the secretary of the Army, Pete Geren, and the Army chief of staff, Gen. George W. Casey Jr., have declared 2009 as the Year of the NCO.

Officials also confirmed that the Army Ten-Miler will use a wave start again this year to ensure a safe and competitive race.

"We have been able to incrementally increase the runner's field over the years and maintain safety and quality standards," Vandak said.

Adding, "Last year, 99 percent of our runners gave the race a good or excellent rating. We are very excited about this 25th anniversary race and will be working hard to provide a great race for all our runners."

The DC Armory, located at 2001 East Capital Street near RFK Stadium in Washington, is accessible from the Stadium/Armory Metro stop on the Blue and Orange lines.

The Lead Sponsors for the 2009 race are the Association of the United States Army and KBR, an

AUSA sustaining member.

AUSA is also the race's founding sponsor beginning its support at the first race on Oct. 12, 1985, when 1,379 runners crossed the finish line at the Pentagon's River Entrance.

In 2008, the Army Ten-Miler had 18,960 finishers -- with military and civilian runners coming from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Denmark, Brazil, Germany, South Korea, Romania and Canada.

Registration

Online registration for the race and pasta dinner reservations opens Wednesday, April 1, at www.armytenmiler.com <<http://www.armytenmiler.com/>> .

Despite the increased runner field, race officials expect the race to sell out by mid-May and encourage runners and teams to sign up early to assure entry.

Last year 99.8 percent of the runners registered online and the race closed out in a record breaking 21 days. The pasta dinner sold out in a record 16 days.

Military installations can pre-pay for team entries (no less than four, no more than eight runners) again this year.

After securing their pre-paid entries installations will have until Aug. 14 to register their final team roster for the October Army Ten-Miler.

2009 Army Ten-Miler

The 25th Army Ten-Miler takes place in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, Oct. 4, the day before the opening of the Association of the United States Army's Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

Produced by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, this Army tradition annually attracts runners from around the world to compete for top honors in over 27 individual and team divisions.

Acclaimed for its fast, scenic course filled with national landmarks and monuments, the Army Ten-Miler is the only running event to start and finish at the Pentagon.

Race weekend activities are open to the public and include a press conference, race EXPO with over 60 vendors, special clinics, static displays, youth activities and more.

For more information on the Army's premier running event visit www.armytenmiler.com
<<http://www.armytenmiler.com/>> .

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