

2006-07-16

At the risk of repeating myself:

Don't even bother going to this website if you aren't running Internet Explorer. Anything else won't run properly (links don't work for the rest of the race info) and it says so right on the home page. I thought that I had seen the last of such nonsense...oh, well. If you are using a Mac and are on a Microsoft avoidance diet, if you are running Linux or any flavor of Unix, you are SOL. I have firsthand knowledge that it won't work in Firefox or Opera. Without Internet Explorer, you won't know that you have to enter either online, via active.com, or in person, at late registration, the day before the race...no mail-ins. You won't know that there is a fleece pullover for everyone who enters by Sept. 15 (last year's fleece shirt was very nice!). You won't know about the long-sleeve t-shirt, which will have the size guaranteed if you enter by Oct 21. You won't know all the other details.

I will see what else I can find out about this issue. And yes, to many runners it is an issue. Although I don't have a blog or any kind of forum on my site, yet, I am willing to publish emails from any of you who might want to say something about this, as long as it is something more than just a foul-mouthed tirade. If you wish to remain anonymous, I can arrange that. If you wish to be accessible to the public, I can arrange that, as well. Send your email to runningfool@tykie.com. I will read it and, if appropriate, post it, as soon as I can. Please, be patient, as I have a day job, like most everybody.

2006-11-03

Sometime in the last couple of months, the part about requiring Internet Explorer to view the web site was fixed. I have personally viewed it using Opera and using Mozilla Firefox. It works fine. As a matter of fact, part of it is more readable in Firefox than in IE, although it's not quite as nice to look at. It appears to have been done hurriedly, but, this time the info is there, and that is what matters. It's a big improvement over the sucky old site.

Of course, that won't help anybody who doesn't go on line. They will only know what they are told. Don't they count? Aren't they part of the community that healthyhuntington.org purports to want to involve in their own health care? They must not count, since they aren't on line. They sure won't be able to use active.com.

I used active.com, in 2004 and most of 2005. At that time, it cost \$50 per year to join, plus 2.50 processing per race, with a \$2 price reduction for each race except this marathon, which was \$20 cheaper. Last fall, when it came time to renew, I didn't. It just wasn't cost effective. There is some indication that the \$50 joining fee is not required, now, but, I can't be sure. I've heard conflicting stories, where that is concerned.

Now, in all fairness, I must say that there are some things I like about the race. Some I mentioned on the calendar, but, I must add that there are goodly quantities of water stops and restroom facilities. The facilities are so numerous as to be almost a luxury (I've been to races where there are none.). I just hope that they are clearly marked.

The marathon web site offers a reason for requiring online entries. The policy supposedly eliminates much human error. I think that it is a lame excuse. I've been to too many races who use active.com, mail-ins and walk-ins, as well, and continue to do so. I personally know runners and even race directors who have no online presence, at all. What about them?