

Thanks for your interest in the 2nd Annual MCF Scholarship Marathon.

How did this come about?

Since I am the webmaster of the PaceSetters website, I noticed that in 2011 with the addition of Sandbox Indoor Marathon in February and the Trailbreaker Marathon moving to April, that left March & December as the only months without a marathon in Wisconsin.

Fresh off the success of 2 Green Bay backwards event (MBG) in November, I contacted several of my marathon maniac friends to see if there was any interest in trying to do the Community First Fox Cities Marathon course in reverse... 6 months before the actual event... and falling on March 17th.

Ann Scholl and I contacted Dean Peterson, a board member of the FCM and the winner of the MBG event, to contact the race directors of the FCM to determine if they would be interested. We got their blessing and off we went....

Why are the PaceSetters doing this?

The PaceSetters are a natural host. The PaceSetters provide training runs for the Community First Fox Cities Marathon annually. We hope this event brings some attention to the training runs we provide and of course the FCM.

We, the PaceSetters, are all about building cooperative efforts with other groups (this time, the Green Bay Running Club) to get more people active & outside all year round.

Also, the PaceSetters started a scholarship fund in 2010. We gave 2 \$500 scholarships to high school seniors heading to college and active in track. The problem, we had almost a 100 applicants for area high schools. We had no idea. So, I decided that since we are not charging for this event, we will ask participants to donate to the PaceSetters Scholarship Fund so we can give out more scholarships this year. The inaugural MCF event collected over \$1000 for the PaceSetters Scholarship Fund. Because of the inaugural MCF, the PaceSetters were able to award 4 \$500 scholarships in 2011.

For those who have never done a "backwards" event before, I would describe it as "an urban-trail-ultra-training-fun run". I know... it's a mouthful.

The urban part is obvious, it's a street course (the 2011 Fox Cities Marathon course in reverse (actually the way they used to run it)).

The trail part is because trail runs usually have obstacles to overcome. In this event, the obstacles can clearly be defined as "traffic". The entire course is open traffic and our runners must expect delays at intersections and be aware of traffic around them at all times. I even was delayed in Green Bay by a 100+ car train.

The ultra part is because each participant will be required to carry their own water bottle, supplements, food, etc. or stash them along the course before hand. Expect no amenities like portolets along the way. There are of course gas stations, fast food restaurants and the like for use if necessary. We will provide 5 spaced water refill locations along the route.

The training part is because this is an opportunity to do a long run, with friends, in training for spring events like Boston and 10 other Wisconsin marathons that follow this event. There is no requirement or expectation to do this event any faster or slower than you want. In our inaugural event, we had a first time marathoner to veterans who have completed all 50 States and even a few of us who are trying to complete all the marathons in Wisconsin. We expect a similar mix.

Thus, it truly is a fun event. We are keeping the event small for safety reasons. So those participating will be able to boast of being part of a unique event. Because it is a backwards event, the winners are the last 3 that finish... great for those "back of the pack"-ers. We hope to have finishing medals and event shirts (looking for a sponsor) for all participants. Times will be posted on the PaceSetters website.

More details will be emailed to participants as we approach the race date. For those interested in saying they were part of this inaugural event, they should visit the PaceSetters website www.PaceSettersRun.org and sign up soon.

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