



parks · recreation · cultural services

June 22, 2024

Greetings Blue Moon Trail Run Series participants and supporters,

With the passing of the spectacular Strawberry Moon and the official arrival of summer, we are excited to stage for you the second leg in the trail run series this Friday evening. Featured will be the 5k course of last month, an 8k course that includes some additional areas within Ute Valley Park, a bicycle strider course and .25, .50 and 1.3 mile kids race and a Mexican food-themed dinner with infused waters and root beer floats for all competitors.

To best prepare, and for your maximum safety and enjoyment Friday, here are a few items to pass along:

- There is a favorable, albeit warm forecast, at the time of this writing, with a race time temperature in the low 80s degrees, some cloud cover and less than a 15% chance of precipitation. But this is Colorado and should a sudden shift in weather occur that may feature wind, hail and/or lightning, we may need to impose a delay until it is considered safe to return. Listen for the sounding of an airhorn, which signals first a delay and then a 15-minute warning of the return to activity. Safe passage in your personal vehicle or under the park pavilion is advised in this situation. If unable to safely return due to conditions or darkness, the series will be based on the first and third races in May and July.
- Bib pickup and race day registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. at the Piñon Valley Park pavilion. Kids races are first and will run concurrently at 5:30 p.m. There is no fee to participate but day of registration is required. This will be followed by the 8k trail run at 6 p.m. and the 5k run at 6:15 p.m. Each race is chip timed and will begin when you cross the final rubber matting and finish when you cross the initial matting within the corral west of the Piñon Valley Park pavilion. The chip is

affixed to the back side of each bib, which should be worn front and center to be tracked by both the timing equipment and course marshals.

- Parking is free and along residential streets near Piñon Valley Park, 5585 Mule Deer Drive 80919.
- The 5K and 8k courses are the same as past years and can be found on the race website. These loop courses begin and end in the same location in Piñon Valley Park and will be marked with flagging and signage. The orange flagging follows the first loop, with green flagging placed along the smaller second loop. Both flags present indicates that that section of the course is repeated i.e., common to both loops. Marshals will be placed along the course in critical turn areas to help guide you.
- Water stations will be placed atop the service road at M0.25, M2.9 and M4.8 and at the Vindicator Drive trailhead at M1.8. Water will also be available at the park pavilion. Please stay properly hydrated throughout race day!
- There will not be imposed cut off times but water station and course marshal support will not be guaranteed after 7:30 p.m., provided that races are not delayed by inclement weather. Please plan accordingly. Headlamps and self-carry of water is advised for those who intend to walk and potentially be on the course past dusk.
- This is a true trail run which can include slick spots, tree roots, jugged rocks and very disengaged and disinterested rattlesnakes. Please plan accordingly.
- Race results can be found on the Pikes Peak Road Runners site (www.pprun.org).
- Online registration closes 5 p.m. Wednesday. Thursday 10 a.m.-Friday noon onsite registration is available at Meadows Park Community Center, 1943 S El Paso Avenue 80905. Day of registration (additional \$15) again is at the Piñon Valley Park pavilion beginning at 4:30 p.m.
- Awards will be provided to all kids race finishers and to first place winners in the men's and women's 5K races. Overall, age group and finisher awards for all who complete the full series will be provided following the final races on July 26.
- All race and performance information, including FAQ's and course maps can be found at the race website: www.coloradosprings.gov/bluemoon.

We look forward to seeing you Friday and thank you for supporting your Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. Be happy and be well!

Brian Kates

Race Director

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