

PEACHTREE

ROAD RACE MAGAZINE

BIG
MOVES FOR THE
PEACHTREE

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FOR RACE
ROOKIES

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50 YEARS
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CENTER



The Atlanta
Journal-
Constitution



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Visit our Peachtree Road Race hub for race-day tips as well as places to eat and things to do. Here's to making 2025 the best AJC Peachtree Road Race yet!

Start reading at [AJC.com/peachtree](https://ajc.com/peachtree).



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A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS: Paul McPherson, Paul Ward, Matthew Demarko, Stephanie Heath, Kevin Morris and MarathonFoto

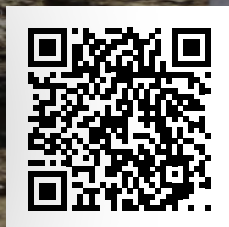
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BOSTON 13



SHOP MEN



SHOP WOMEN

WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Peachtree Participants,

On behalf of Atlanta Track Club's staff, board, and the thousands of volunteers, sponsors and City of Atlanta personnel who help bring this event to life, it's my honor to welcome you to the 56th Running of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race.

Whether this is your first Peachtree or your fiftieth, we're grateful you've chosen to spend your Fourth of July with us. This year, more than ever, the Peachtree is more than a race—it's an experience. From your first steps at the start line at Lenox Square to your final stride into Piedmont Park, your journey is part of a long-standing Atlanta tradition that continues to evolve.

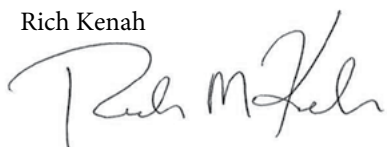
For years, we've envisioned transforming the start line into more than just a launching point—it's now the center of a full Peachtree celebration. In 2025, we're excited to bring key race events to Lenox Square, including the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix, the Chick-fil-A Peachtree Junior and—for the first time in nearly a decade—fireworks in Buckhead on July 3. With expanded hotel offerings, new dining and retail options and family-friendly activities throughout the weekend, the Peachtree is no longer just a single-morning event. It's a multi-day celebration where participants, families and spectators can fully engage in the spirit of the race.

As always, your safety and enjoyment remain our top priority. We encourage you to review race instructions and logistics on our website and in your race communications to ensure a smooth experience from start to finish.

Thank you for being part of this historic day and this new chapter in the life of the Peachtree. We look forward to seeing you on the start line—and celebrating with you every step of the way.

Happy Fourth of July,

Rich Kenah



Race Director and CEO of Atlanta Track Club



Rich Kenah, Race Director and CEO of Atlanta Track Club



PEACHTREE REIMAGINED: ATLANTA'S JULY FOURTH TRADITION GETS A BOLD NEW LOOK

Natalie Cabanas

Atlanta's Fourth of July tradition returns in 2025 with a mix of old and new. The 56th Running of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race will bring tens of thousands to the start line while also introducing a reimagined race-week centered at Lenox Square. With a new location for the Expo and Peachtree Junior, expanded hotel partnerships and the return of fireworks, the event includes updates aimed at improving the overall participant experience.

In a strategic shift, the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix moves from the Georgia World Congress Center to climate-controlled tents in the Macy's parking lot at Lenox Square. The change addresses long-standing participant feedback about the cost and inconvenience of downtown parking and prepares for the 2026 FIFA World Cup coming to Atlanta, which will restrict downtown access.

"By moving the Expo to Lenox Square, we're creating a vibrant hub where runners can connect, dine, shop and preview the start line before race day," said Rich Kenah, CEO of Atlanta Track Club and race director. "It's about making Peachtree a full multi-day celebration, not just a single morning event."

The celebration begins July 2, when Peachtree Road—from Lenox Parkway to Lenox Road—closes to traffic, transforming Buckhead into a walkable, days-long festival space.

"The Peachtree Road Race is one of the most highly anticipated events in Atlanta and beyond," said Robin Suggs, general manager of Lenox Square. "Now as home of the Expo, we're excited to kick off the runner's experience with new opportunities to explore retail and dining and create memories at our property."

This year also introduces the largest hotel block in race history. Eight partner hotels, all within walking distance, are offering special rates to help participants stay close to the start line. "It's the best way to immerse yourself in the Peachtree," said Kenah. "Skip the travel stress and enjoy everything this iconic event offers, just outside your door."

Another major addition to Lenox Square's race-week is the relocation of Peachtree Junior from Piedmont Park to Buckhead. Now presented by Atlanta-area Chick-fil-A restaurants, this move will allow kids 14 and under to run beneath the same iconic start line as the Peachtree.



RACE DAY SCHEDULE

- 6:14 a.m. – Wheelchair
- 6:25 a.m. – Push Assist
- 6:38 a.m. – National Anthem
- 6:42 a.m. – Elite Women
- 6:50 a.m. – Wave A, Seeded, Elite Men,
- 6:55 - 8:30 a.m. - Wave B-Way Y (Waves starting approximately every 5 minutes)
- 8:30 a.m. – Start Line Closes

**The Atlanta
Journal-Constitution**

Coverage begins at 6:00 a.m. via livestream
at ajc.com and the AJC News app.

"It's about creating a shared, family-centered experience," said Caryn Lamphier, manager of youth events and race director of Peachtree Junior. "We want young runners to feel the energy and legacy of this race and imagine themselves coming back for the full 10K."

To support this integration, the Expo will open early on July 3 to welcome Peachtree Junior families. Sponsors and vendors will provide child-focused activities, including a coloring station. "We're bringing the same excitement and engagement to our youngest runners," Lamphier said. "It's an investment in the next generation."

The excitement builds on the evening of July 3, when fireworks return to Buckhead for the first time since 2016. At 9:15 p.m., a 15-minute choreographed show set to music will light up the sky from the Macy's parking deck.

"What's more Atlanta than the Peachtree Road Race and a sky full of fireworks?" said Denise Starling, executive director of Livable Buckhead. "We're thrilled to help bring the boom back to Buckhead."

The Expo wasn't the only part of the Peachtree that organizers needed to rethink. Last year, the race was cut short and moved



to “black flag” status, a designation in the event alert system signaling extreme conditions, when mid-morning heat in Piedmont Park created risks for participants.

In response, Atlanta Track Club reimagined a few aspects of the race with cooling and recovery top of mind. This includes cold towels in the finish area, more access to fluids throughout Piedmont Park, additional misting stations and a slightly earlier start time for all waves.

“July 4 in Atlanta is always going to be hot—and the Peachtree is always going to be on July 4,” said Kenah. “That’s why we’ve taken deliberate steps to keep the celebration alive while putting participant safety first.”

The redesigned finish line in Piedmont Park emphasizes recovery. Participants will be welcomed with commemorative and cold race towel provided by Dasani and Delta Air Lines—a long-missed tradition making its return—alongside water and Georgia peaches.

The member-exclusive party at Park Tavern has been replaced with a new, inclusive celebration in the meadow. SweetWater Brewing will serve beer to those 21 and older, while three shaded areas with live DJs will offer participants a cool, festive place to recover and celebrate.

Entertainment isn’t limited at the park. More than a dozen performances, including bands, DJs and dance groups, will line the course, creating a high-energy atmosphere from the first step to the final stretch.

“Crossing the Peachtree finish line is a milestone for thousands every year,” said Enrique Tomas, director of events. “We’re elevating what happens next—not just with music and celebration, but with thoughtful spaces to recover, cool down and connect safely. It should be the kind of moment that stays with you.”

For those cheering from afar, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution will broadcast three hours of live coverage beginning at 6:00 a.m. on AJC.com and the AJC News app. The program aims to bring the race-day excitement to audiences across the city and beyond.

Course Entertainment: Your Miles, Our Music

Crank up the energy and leave the earbuds at home. Peachtree’s live course entertainment is louder and livelier than ever. With more than a dozen bands, DJs and dance crews turning the 6.2-mile route into a non-stop party, the soundtrack to your July 4 run will be all heart, soul and Southern swagger.

Atlanta's favorite host and emcee, Ronnell Blackmon & DJ	
Entertainment on the Course	Start Line Mile Location
Talent 1 - DJ Baptiste + Musician	0.9
Talent 2 - Andrew Holley Band	1.2
Talent 3 - Danceanado Band & Dancers	1.5
Talent 4 - Out Of Office	2.3
Talent 5 - Kiya Lacey	2.6
Talent 6 - Komansé Dance	3
Talent 7 - Ethel & Oliver Inc.	3.5
Talent 8 - Playmakers Avenue	4
Talent 9 - Delta Air Lines DJ	4.3
Talent 10 - Proper Frequency	4.5
Talent 11 - AJC Live Band	4.9
Talent 12 - DJ Unruey	5.3
Cheer Host Party - Union Fit Hub	5.3
Talent 13 - ATL Hawks Cheerleaders with DJ Brab	5.5



Finish Line Entertainment	Location
DJ 4:12, Joined by Ronnell post-race DJ Q-Tip	Main Stage Sponsor Employee Hospitality
DJ Jarian	Stage 1 in the Meadow
DJ Genres	Stage 2 in the Meadow
DJ Flow Jo	Stage 3 in the Meadow

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PRO FIELDS: A FAST ROSTER OF RACE ROOKIES

Barbara Huebner

Five men ranked among the Top 10 road racers in the world and two of the best female marathoners on the planet as well as defending champion Stacy Ndiwa will highlight the professional field for the 56th Running of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race.

You might have watched Hellen Obiri and Yalemzerf Yehualaw battle into the late stages of the Boston Marathon this spring. They would end up second and third, but neither is a stranger to the top step of a World Marathon Major podium: Obiri, representing Kenya but now living in Boulder, Colorado, won Boston in 2023 and 2024, as well as the TCS New York City Marathon in 2023 and an Olympic bronze medal in 2024, while Yehualaw in 2022 was the youngest woman ever (23 at the time) to win the TCS London Marathon.

Both bring impressive credentials at shorter distances, as well. Yehualaw, from Ethiopia, set the world record at 10K on the roads (29:14, still #3 all-time) in 2022 and is the fastest woman in the Peachtree field; Obiri, 35, is a two-time World Champion at 5,000 meters and the 2019 World Cross Country Champion. Both are making their Peachtree debuts.

“Peachtree is such an iconic race, and we can’t wait for her to go and race there,” said her coach, Dathan Ritzenhein, adding that they were looking for difficult 10Ks this summer to work on her marathon finish. “She is so strong on the hills, and I think she will be amazing.”

Ndiwa, meanwhile, was a surprise victor here last year. Now 32, the two-time Los Angeles Marathon winner (2023, 2024) bested a strong field to win in 31:12. Among those close behind were fellow Kenyans Grace Loibach Nawowuna (3rd in 31:20) and Cintia Chepngeno (5th in 32:02). Both are expected back this year, with Nawowuna coming off a victory at the Bolder Boulder 10K on May 26.

On the men’s side, the top returning finisher from last year is Kenya’s Daniel Ebenyo, runner-up in 28:05. Ebenyo, 29,



COURSE RECORDS

Rhonex Kipruto	27:01	2019
Brigid Kosgei	30:22	2019



PRIZE MONEY

1st	\$12,500
2nd	\$7,500
3rd	\$5,000
4th	\$3,000
5th	\$2,500
6th	\$2,000
7th	\$1,500
8th	\$1,000

closed out 2024 as the #6-ranked road racer in the world, and was a silver medalist in both the World Championships 10,000 meters and the half marathon in 2023.

He will be challenged by a powerhouse quintet of Peachtree rookies:

- **Isaia Lasoi** (Kenya, age 25). This will be only his second 10K, but he has finished off the podium only once in 11 career half marathons (PB 58:10) and is ranked the #3 road racer in the world.
- **Alex Matata** (Kenya, age 27, ranked #5) has won eight of his 10 career half marathons, including the prestigious RAK half in February ahead of Peachtree rivals Gemechu Dida and Lasoi.
- **Gemechu Dida** (Ethiopia, age 25, #6) won the Berlin Half Marathon in April in 58:43, third-fastest in the world so far this year. His 10K PB is 26:54.
- **Rodrigue Kwizera** (Burundi, age 25, #7) won the Prague Half Marathon in 58:54, a national record, to beat Lasoi. His 10K PB of 26:54 ties him with Dida for fastest man in the Peachtree field. Fun fact: their PBs were set as they duelled each other in the adizero Road to Records 10K this April.
- **Vincent Langat** (Kenya, age 24, #9) has a PB of 26:55, making him the next-fastest in the field.

Professional fields as of June 2.

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DEFENDING CHAMPS RETURN AS SHEPHERD CENTER MARKS MILESTONE

By Barbara Huebner

Shepherd Center and the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race have been linked from the outset: In 1975, Dr. David Apple Jr., medical director of the just-opened Shepherd Spinal Center, said he would run if friends donated to the hospital. He finished the race, and a \$100 check from George Johnson became the first donation from anyone not involved in the hospital's founding.

As the world-renowned rehabilitation facility – located about halfway down the course – celebrates its 50th anniversary, the connection has only deepened. About 60 athletes compete each year in the Shepherd Center Wheelchair Division, with a first-place prize of \$12,500 equal to that of the footrace. In 2019, the partnership even made history when it awarded \$50,000 bonuses for breaking the course record, offering the biggest payday in the history of wheelchair racing.

And this year, in honor of the center's mantra, a commemorative street sign will rename Cardiac Hill as "Hope Hill."

"Hearing the patients cheering while I'm climbing that steep incline always gives me extra incentive to push hard," said **Daniel Romanchuk**, the 26-year-old course record-holder, who will return in search of his eighth-consecutive win. "At the same time, patients can see what's possible for their future, so "Hope Hill" is a perfect name all around!"

One of those patients is Stuart Ziler, who as a Heritage Prep sophomore in 2023 suffered a stroke after crossing the finish line of Atlanta Track Club's Wingfoot XC Classic seconds after finishing 35th out of 329 runners. Rushed to the nearest trauma center, he then spent five weeks as an inpatient followed by two months in day rehab at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. He has since undertaken outpatient treadmill, aquatic and speech therapy at Shepherd, and recently began its intensive "Beyond Therapy" program.

His mother, Virginia, said the whole right side of her son's

body was paralyzed at first, and he'd lost his ability to speak. Stuart is still working to regain full use of his right arm and hand, but his voice is strong ("It's incredible to think how far his speech has come," said Virginia) and he's on his feet.

"I like the therapy to be more intense, more like sports action," said Stuart, who just finished his junior year of high school, of Shepherd. His background as a competitive runner, he believes, "is helping me with mental toughness and goal-setting."

To kick off race day, Shepherd Center CEO Jamie Shepherd – the son of one of its founders – will serve as official starter of the wheelchair race.

"For as long as I can remember, the Peachtree has been an integral part of Shepherd Center's history, culture and mission of helping people with life-changing injuries rebuild their lives with hope, independence and dignity, advocating for their full inclusion in all aspects of life," he said. "Serving as the official starter is humbling – both to be in the presence of such dedication and athleticism, but also to recognize the strength and endurance of the partnership between Shepherd Center and the Peachtree."

In that race, **Susannah Scaroni** will join Romanchuk in defending their 2024 victories. Scaroni has a streak of her own – the 34-year-old American is seeking her fourth-consecutive Peachtree victory, and fifth overall. She is coming off her second Boston Marathon win.

Among the other top athletes set to compete are **Tatyana McFadden** (USA), an eight-time Peachtree champion and the most-decorated U.S. Paralympic track and field athlete in history; **Kendall Gretsch** (USA), a four-time Paralympic gold medalist in Nordic skiing and triathlon; **Josh Cassidy** (CAN), a two-time Peachtree champion (2010, 2013); **Geert Schipper** (NED), a two-time Paralympic medalist in triathlon; and **Aaron Pike** (USA), a six-time Paralympian, winter and summer.



David Apple and James Shepherd, one of the Shepherd Center founders. Courtesy of the Shepherd Center.

EGYPTIAN PIONEER HOPES TO PAVE THE WAY FOR OTHERS

By Barbara Huebner

From her village of unpaved roads in northern Egypt, Hoda Elshorbagy saw it for the first time.

Wheelchair racing.

“I hadn’t heard about it at all,” said Elshorbagy, now 35, eyes widening as she relived watching the 2016 Paralympics on TV. “Nothing. Immediately I recognized ‘this is my true passion, and I want to start doing this sport.’”

Seven years later, in Chicago, she became the first Egyptian wheelchair racer to complete a major marathon. On July 4, she will race for the second time in the Shepherd Center Wheelchair Division of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race, after finishing sixth last year.

Paralyzed at 8 months old after receiving a polio vaccine (an extremely rare side effect – about 1 in 3 million doses – seen only with an oral vaccine not given in the U.S. since 2000. There is NO risk of paralysis with the inactivated form of the polio vaccine.), Elshorbagy underwent 13 surgeries to help restore mobility and can walk with crutches.

“My mother took me to physical therapy three times a week for 16 years,” Elshorbagy said. “She kept trying to have me get better so I can have a good future and be independent.”

Already involved in weightlifting and the discus when she discovered racing, the newly energized athlete asked adaptive sports leaders in Cairo how she could get started, thinking they might have equipment and coaching, maybe a team. They didn’t, nor did they offer support.

“But when I heard no, no, no, I just heard it as yes,” she said.

She found a friend to build a rudimentary racing chair and make gloves. She googled in Arabic for training information, finding nothing. She came across tutorial videos on YouTube featuring an American coach named Adam Bleakney. She stared at them, uncomprehending. She enrolled in courses to learn English so she could understand him. She moved alone to the nearby city of Mansoura, where she found paved roads on which to train. She got out at 5 a.m., to avoid traffic. She was upset when people mistook her for a beggar, but after she explained her

purpose they offered encouragement instead of coins.

In 2019, Elshorbagy discovered the Challenged Athletes Foundation and applied for a grant. When coach Carlos Moleda contacted her to measure for a new racing chair, she

asked if he would also guide her. He invited her to the U.S. for a week; here, she finally found other people doing her sport.

“I went back to Egypt and I kept training and I kept watching Coach Adam on YouTube and dreaming to come back again to train with him in person,” she recalled. “But how can I make this happen?”

Randomly contacting people on Facebook, she eventually stumbled across former University of Illinois wheelchair coach Marty Morse, who soon put her in touch with Bleakney to help her get fitted for another chair. She asked if she could come in person, rather than giving measurements remotely. Training under Bleakney’s guidance, even for just three days, would be her dream come true.

She never left – Moleda launched a GoFundMe to pay her tuition at a community college in Champaign before she transferred to the University of Illinois, where she’s studying for a master’s degree in kinesiology under “Coach Adam.”

“Exactly what she told me she was going to do, she did,” said Bleakney, in testimony to the athlete’s laser focus.

Still her country’s only female wheelchair racer, Elshorbagy hopes to compete in the 2028 Paralympics and return to Egypt to put her degree to work serving the disabled.

As she writes in her bio: “I want to be the one to bring about change.”



Courtesy of Asics Falmouth Road Race.



Courtesy of Hoda Elshorbagy.



ANDREW MORSE

By Barbara Huebner

“It sounds almost like Forrest Gump, but one day I just got up and started running.”

That’s Andrew Morse, president and publisher of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, when asked for his origin story. It was 2010. Morse was living in New York City, with two little kids, an intense job as an ABC News producer and not much time for himself. He began getting up at 4:45 a.m. to hit the path along the Hudson River. Soon he was doing 4 miles, then 4 became 5 and 5 became 6 and just a few months later he ran his first race: the TCS New York City Marathon.

Morse saw it as a bucket-list thing. Never again, he said when he finished. That was almost 15 years plus 12 marathons, 3 ultramarathons and an Ironman ago.

When Morse drew the movie comparison, he was almost certainly thinking of the adult Forrest, who unceremoniously stepped off his Greenbow, Alabama, front porch one day and ended up running for 3 years, 2 months, 14 days and 16 hours.

But it goes deeper. You remember the earlier scene when young Forrest is hobbling away from bike-riding bullies and suddenly his leg braces disintegrate, their broken bits flying off and scattering on the dirt road, letting him run unencumbered? It’s more like that.

Unlike Forrest, Morse has no plans to abruptly stop and go home. He loves it too much.

“Something happens to me when I run where the first 6 or 7 miles, I’m cycling through all the problems of my day, and all the stresses and all the hassles,” said Morse, now 51, who in 2023 took over the helm of the AJC to lead its multi-platform expansion. “And then my head just clears, and I reach this really incredible place.”

Says his wife, Ana: “Whatever magic happens out there is evident when he comes back.”

Seven years after that first spontaneous run, a friend gave him the Haruki Murakami book “What I Talk About When I Talk About Running.” In it, the Japanese novelist writes: “I run in a void. Or maybe I should put it the other way: I run to acquire a void.” Reading it, Morse instantly understood why he loves running so much.

“It’s the one activity I do,” he said, “where frankly I can find peace.”

A Maryland native, Morse began his career in college on the Cornell Daily Sun, going on to work as an ABC News

producer for 15 years with stints in London and Hong Kong. In 2011, he went to Bloomberg News as head of U.S. television before moving to CNN two years later, ending up as executive vice president and chief digital officer.

Along the way, assignments included filming a trek to a Mount Everest base camp, sailing a maxi-catamaran trying to break a transatlantic sailing record and reporting stints in Afghanistan and Gaza between 2000 and 2004.

In both war zones, he would occasionally run a few miles with colleagues. “Your feet hit the ground, and it was kind of a reminder of who you are and where you came from,” he explained. But the act of running for running’s sake didn’t take until later.

Since it did, it has echoed Morse’s career as well as balance it: If I can do a marathon, can I do a triathlon? OK, now a half Ironman? Full? Alright then, now 50 miles? What about a 100-miler in the summer of 2026?

“I do like a challenge, and so professionally I think I’ve sought out opportunities, whether it was a chance to move overseas or cover wars or have jobs that put me on the cutting edge of digital media or to moving to Atlanta, I’ve tended to gravitate toward roles that have been personally challenging and much as they’ve been professionally challenging,” he said.

By early 2022, when he was spearheading the new streaming service CNN+, Morse was a convert. It was a stressful time: first the pressure of getting the concept off the ground, then the upheaval of its cancellation just weeks after its launch when ownership of the news giant changed hands.

“It was a time when I ran a lot,” he said. “I woke up in the morning and went for really long runs and I worked through the problems so that it enabled me to be in a better place.” Sometimes a work situation can feel like the late stages of an ultramarathon, he said, when you have to figure out “how am I going to finish this? How am I going to get through it? A lot of those lessons apply.”

Morse acknowledges that he doesn’t know how he would cope with professional challenges if he weren’t a runner. Some of his colleagues aren’t sure, either.

Erin Malone has worked closely with Morse at both CNN and the AJC, where she is the chief operating officer. While at CNN, she recalls conspiring with the communications director to make sure Morse got in a run the day before any speaking engagement, especially one in which he would need

IS RUNNING TOWARD A QUIETER MIND

to be on his toes to answer questions on almost any subject. That's carried over to the AJC, where he conducts monthly Town Halls.

"By taking care of himself, he is better to, and for, everyone else from a leadership perspective," said Malone, who ran the AJC Peachtree Road Race with Morse last year.

For a man who is dedicated to running alone – and who last year raced the 50-mile option at the Salt Flats Endurance Runs, which featured a total of 105 runners across four distances in the desert of northwestern Utah – the world's largest 10K pretty much represents the other end of the spectrum.

"It was one of those added perks," he said, of taking the helm of the race's title sponsor. "I showed up for the job and they said, 'here's your badge and here's your office and oh, by the way, you partner with Atlanta Track Club on one of the biggest events of the year,' and I said 'that's incredible.'"

Rich Kenah, the Club's CEO, agrees: "Atlanta Track Club has proudly partnered with the AJC since 1975. But it feels serendipitous to now have a publisher there who knows as much about the positive impacts of running as he does about leading a news-focused media company."

Lining up on July 4 for the first time in 2023, Morse ran with his son, Holden, now 17. (He also has a 19-year-old daughter, Cecilia.) He likens the joy, the camaraderie, the way the Peachtree is as much about the city as it is about the runners, to the New York City Marathon. The world's best professionals blazing ahead out front, the people dressed in full costume, people doing shots along the way, people taking the race seriously, people having just plain

fun and everything in between – Morse calls the Peachtree "the most egalitarian race I think of, which makes it perfect for Atlanta." He also calls it a blast.

Yet even in the mass of humanity running the five boroughs of New York City or amid the 50,000 runners celebrating the Fourth of July, he is able to acquire the void.

"Most races, I do focus inward," he said. "I put on music and go. But with New York City and Peachtree, in particular, I get energy from the crowd. Still, I'm able to really escape to a pretty special place of peace when I'm running."

In November, Andrew Morse will be running the TCS New York City Marathon as part of Atlanta Track Club's Kilometer Kids Charity Team. For more information or to donate, visit atlantatrackclub.org.





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In Spring 2025, Kilometer Kids reached 2,725 kids at 69 schools and sites across metro Atlanta.



Learn more at atlantatrackclub.org/kilometerkids.



Senator Raphael Warnock and Mayor Andre Dickens with 2024 winners Kristopher Strong and Georgy Helmers.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES FOR GEORGIA'S ELITE HIGH SCHOOL RUNNERS

By Denali Lerch

For the second consecutive year, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race will spotlight 36 of Georgia's top high school distance runners in its Elite High School Division. Introduced in 2024, the division offers young athletes a rare opportunity to compete alongside some of the best professional runners in the world. Participants in this year's field hold a combined 11 state titles and multiple records across a range of events.

Some return after competing in last year's inaugural division, while others are set to debut on July 4. Sarah Burwell, the concept's originator and two-time Atlanta Track Club All-Metro honoree, said she's encouraged by the season's results. "Looking at this year's times and watching how significantly they were dropping, we were shocked but excited to see how competitive it is," said Burwell, who ran cross country and track and field at Georgia Tech.

The field is composed of the top 18 boys and girls from the classes of 2026, 2027 and 2028 who live in Georgia. The 2025 field reflects broader geographic representation than in its

inaugural year, following standout performances by 2024 winners Kristopher Strong of Stockbridge High School and Georgy Helmers of St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. Strong clocked 33:04 and Helmers 37:09 in last year's 10K.

But it's not just the race that draws athletes to the division. The experience includes access to the professional field, exclusive adidas race kits and accommodations near the start line.

Lili Beemer, a rising junior from Evans High School in Augusta and the reigning 1600-meter state champion, returns this year after a standout season.

"It's amazing being a high school athlete with these opportunities," Beemer said. "I knew I wanted to be invited back, so I put in the work and ended up getting PRs in most of my events this year."

For others, Peachtree has long been part of their running journey. Midtown High School rising senior Cameron Collier, who found his footing at the Peachtree Junior in 2016, will

Continues on Page 19



ATLANTA TRACK CLUB'S X ADIDAS EXCLUSIVE SUMMER COLLECTION

If you missed shopping at the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix, no sweat. We'll be in Piedmont Park after the race! Stock is limited, so grab yours while it lasts. Missed race day? Shop the collection online starting July 5.



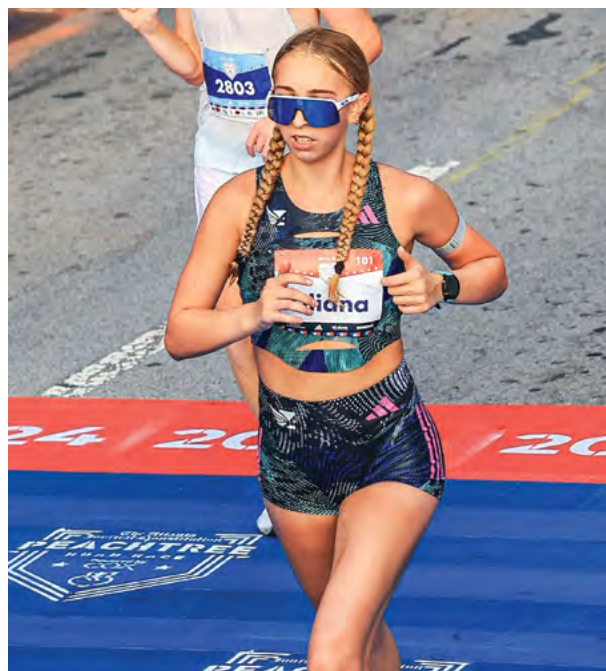
Continued from Page 17

make his Elite High School debut this year.

Collier later joined Atlanta Track Club's Youth Team and now trains with Midtown High School. His recent improvements culminated in a runner-up finish in the 1600 meters at this year's state meet.

"I'm happy to be grouped with such a high-level field of athletes," Collier said. "It's confirmation that I am at that level and deserve to be here, and I can make enough improvements to be seen at an elite level."

To learn more about the division, visit atlantatrackclub.org.



ELITE HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION ATHLETES

BOYS

Name	School	City
Dash Brackin	Carrollton High School	Carrollton
Johann Brink	Athens Christian School	Athens
Bo Colpaert	Etowah High School	Woodstock
Cameron Collier	Midtown High School	Atlanta
Riley Comstock	Harrison High School	Kennesaw
James Daniel	Clarke Central High School	Athens
Carson Dobur	Northgate High School	Newnan
Walker Elrod	Grace Christian Academy	Fayetteville
Jacob Grant	Denmark High School	Alpharetta
Hayden Hermansen	North Gwinnett High School	Suwanee
Clint Huggins	Harrison High School	Kennesaw
Jacob Jacquot	The Westminster Schools	Atlanta
Mason James	Brookwood High School	Snellville
Lucas Johnson	Westminster Schools of Augusta	Augusta
Alex Loffredio	Dunwoody High School	Dunwoody
Nate Pacetti	Starr's Mill High School	Fayetteville
Jameson Pifer	Collins Hill High School	Suwanee

GIRLS

Name	School	City
Ella Alberici	Cambridge High School	Milton
Liliana Beemer	Evans High School	Evans
Harriet Blaha	Pace Academy	Atlanta
Bailey Brackett	Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School	Rabun Gap
Paige Comstock	Harrison High School	Kennesaw
Kat Creasman	Mill Creek High School	Hoschton
Grace Danser	Maynard Jackson High School	Atlanta
Caroline Debutts	The Westminster Schools	Atlanta
Aislynn Dunn	Pope High School	Marietta
Josie Hutchinson	Pope High School	Marietta
Averi Lowen	Bowdon High School	Bowdon
Emily McDonald	Alexander High School	Douglasville
Summer Muxlow	North Hall High School	Gainesville
Mary Nesmith	Marietta High School	Marietta
Mallory Old	Walton High School	Marietta
Alyssa Trevino	Marietta High School	Marietta
Effie Ward	Harris County High School	Hamilton
Kennedy Wardle	Brookwood High School	Snellville
Ella Williams	Lakeside High School	Evans



CALLING ALL THE STARS FROM EVERY STRIPE.



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MEMBERSHIP

MEANS MORE THAN MILES

By Lauren Weiner

For some runners and walkers in Atlanta, race registration is only the beginning. Atlanta Track Club membership offers a broader experience, one that includes structured training, community connection and long-term goal setting. Through the voices of several Club ambassadors, it's clear that the benefits extend beyond race day.



Erika Ambrocio-Vasquez, Taylor Thompson and Ali Knuckles



Ali Knuckles, Member since 2020

Ali Knuckles became a member for accountability but stayed for the camaraderie. "Running can be a very individual sport," she said. "But having that community [within membership] really makes it feel like a collaborative sport."

Over time, she's built lasting friendships with what she affectionately calls her "I'll sign up if you sign up" crew - friends who challenge her, motivate her, and help her grow.

"Atlanta Track Club membership is an investment in yourself," she said.

Muthiah Chandrasekharan, Member since 2021

After relocating to Atlanta, Muthiah Chandrasekharan was looking for more structure in his training. Membership offered both a built-in calendar of events and a welcoming community.

"Running is always good to do in a group," he said. "Membership keeps me on a consistent calendar and helps me plan my races [with] all of the different distances throughout the year."

For Chandrasekharan, membership feels like an extended family. "There is no judgment, there is no competition," he said. "Just people helping each other improve while achieving their goals."

Dwight Crawford, Member since 2021

Dwight Crawford, a member since 2021 and a frequent racer, uses Atlanta Track Club's event calendar as the foundation of his training year.

"I base my running year around [Atlanta Track Club] events," he said. "Every race is helping me prepare for the next one."

He credits the Club's events and membership perks for making it well worth the cost. "[Atlanta Track Club] has the best races in the city," he said. "You get your money back within the first couple of months."

As an adult seeking new ways to stay active, Crawford added, "[Membership] is one of those outlets that I have as an adult to keep me active."



Each of these members shares a different reason for joining, but common themes emerge: structure, consistency and community. For some, membership has helped establish a running habit; for others, it's provided support during major life changes. Across backgrounds and experience levels, the Club offers a space for progress, one mile at a time.



Alannah Pahnke and Anna Jiang

Alanna Pahnke, Member since 2019

When Pahnke moved to Atlanta after college, she didn't know anyone. Joining Atlanta Track Club helped her build a network and connect through movement.

"I've been able to involve my husband and my kids, so now we have a family membership," Pahnke said. "We did the [Invesco QQQ] Thanksgiving Day 5K as a family. My two-year-old even started doing the kids' dashes."

Pahnke has continued running while pushing a stroller and started volunteering. "After having two babies in three years, I'm not chasing personal records right now," she said. "But [Atlanta Track Club] races have carried me through pregnancy and postpartum."



Chris Carino, Member since 2020

Chris Carino moved to Atlanta from Seattle during the pandemic and quickly found community through Atlanta Track Club, especially in its Grand Prix Series.

"It exposes you to things you may have never tried before and has a great variety of different events," he said.

Now a three-time Grand Prix finisher, Carino "likes the challenge of them all."

Before joining, Carino said he "had no intention of running a marathon, but [membership] helped me chase goals I never knew I had."

He's since completed both the Triple Peach and Ultimate Peach Series multiple times and paced runners at the Publix Atlanta Marathon. "I love being [a] cheerleader as [people] are running," he said.



INSIDE ATLANTA TRACK CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Atlanta Track Club membership supports runners and walkers across metro Atlanta through year-round access to events, training and community programming. Membership starts at \$45 annually and includes benefits such as free races, discounts, partner offers and more. The combined value of these perks exceed \$350, depending on participation.

Guaranteed Entry and Free Events

Members receive guaranteed entry into the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race with start wave placement in A through M and the lowest available registration price. Membership also includes free entry into six member-exclusive races in the Grand Prix Series and two guest passes for friends or family.

Training and Discounts

A 13% discount is applied to all training programs and events. Members also receive 10% off at local running retailers including Big Peach Running Co., West Stride, Road Runner Sports, Fresh Clean Kicks and Fleet Feet.

Community and Support

Group runs and walks are held across the city and led by Atlanta Track Club ambassadors. Members also have access to social meetups, educational seminars and information sessions throughout the year.

Recognition and Rewards

Members receive a complimentary one-year digital subscription to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and seasonal partner offers, such as reduced admission to the Georgia Aquarium. The 2025 member gift is an adidas hat.

Membership offers tools to stay consistent, set goals and engage with Atlanta's running and walking community year-round at a monthly cost of less than \$4.



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PEACHTREE WITH PURPOSE: PEACHTREE'S CHARITY PARTNERS MAKE EVERY STEP COUNT

By Natalie Cabanas

For many, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race is about crossing the finish line. For others, it's about making every step count.

The Atlanta Track Club Foundation, through an application process, selects up to 10 non-profit organizations every year to participate in the Peachtree with a Purpose Official Charity Partner Program. Each organization receives guaranteed race entries and the opportunity to fundraise for their specific mission or cause. Their participants not only earn their place at the world's largest 10K—they support causes that impact lives across Atlanta.

"As the Peachtree has grown, so has its potential to uplift our community," said Rich Kenah, CEO of Atlanta Track Club and race director. "Through this program, runners don't just participate in a tradition—they create change."

To be eligible, organizations must operate a local Georgia chapter and support work in one of the following areas: animal welfare, the environment, healthcare and research, health and wellness, homelessness or social justice and equity. Runners commit to raising at least \$1,000 for their selected nonprofit in exchange for their race entry.

"For us, it's about more than visibility—it's about creating opportunities," said Lea Rolfes, Executive Director of Girls on the Run Georgia. "When girls are given the space to grow, run and lead, they discover what they're truly capable of—and so does the Atlanta community around them."

That passion runs deep across the cohort. "Health education doesn't always reach every community," said Jennifer L. Owens, President and CEO of HealthMPowers. "Being part of the Peachtree helps bring our mission to life by empowering thousands to move, connect and celebrate healthy habits together."

For veteran nonprofits and newcomers alike, Peachtree with a Purpose is both a platform and partnership. "We believe parks have the power to strengthen communities," said Shannon Roudebush of Park Pride. "Being part of Peachtree lets us connect with people who already care deeply about wellness, green space and quality of life in Atlanta."

As of May, the 2025 charity partners have collectively raised more than \$10,000. Every dollar supports local impact—and every runner's fundraising journey becomes part of something bigger.

To learn more about the program or see if there are still entries available visit <https://www.atlantatrackclub.org/charitypartners>



THE 2025 OFFICIAL CHARITY PARTNERS:



BECOME AN ATLANTA TRACK CLUB MEMBER **WHERE ATLANTA RUNS TOGETHER!**



Membership Benefits:

- Discounts on all Atlanta Track Club events and training programs
- 2025 member gift - adidas hat
- FREE entry into three events of the member-exclusive Grand Prix Series
- Two one-time guest passes to provide family and friends for entry into the Grand Prix Series
- Group runs and walks across the city hosted by Atlanta Track Club's ambassador team
- Discounts at local specialty running stores across the city, including Big Peach Running Co., Fleet Feet and West Stride
- Discounts for various local favorites, including Georgia Aquarium
- Free one-year digital subscription to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution
- Access to exclusive member seminars, info sessions and meet and greets
- Exclusive member deals from Atlanta Track Club partners



PRICING

- \$45 - Individual
- \$75 - Dual
- \$90 - Family



SAVING LIVES TOGETHER: CPR, COMMUNITY AND THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP

By Natalie Cabanas

Officer Alain Augustin doesn't see himself as a hero. But on July 4, 2024, at the intersection of Peachtree and Juniper Street during the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race, he helped save a life through hands-on CPR.

"I was helping another person who had passed out when another officer called me over," recalled Augustin, who marks his fourth year on the Atlanta Police Department this June.

He assessed the scene and it was clear: the man wasn't breathing. "That's when I knew we need to start CPR."

Augustin didn't hesitate. He dropped down and began compressions.

"I heard a couple of his ribs crack," he said. "That's when I knew I was doing it right. You're pushing hard enough to make a difference. I knew it would hurt later, but I also knew it might save him."

Thanks to Augustin's immediate response and continued care by Atlanta Fire and EMS who applied an AED, the runner regained consciousness. He made a full recovery.

"It's amazing, really," Augustin said. "Even now, I don't think I've fully processed it."

For his efforts, the American Heart Association and Atlanta Track Club presented Augustin with the Heartsaver Hero Award this spring at the Northside Beltline 3K-5K presented by Resurgens Orthopaedics. The award recognizes bystanders who take immediate action during cardiac emergencies, an intervention that can double or even triple a person's chance of survival.

Carla Smith, executive director of the American Heart Association in Metro Atlanta, called Augustin an "essential part of the chain of survival."

"So many people hesitate or don't act out of fear," she said. "That's why we train people in hands-only CPR—two steps: call 911 and push hard and fast in the center of the chest. Officer Augustin acted decisively. That action made all the difference."

While bystanders often hesitate to act, Augustin hopes his story empowers others.

"Trust your training," he said. "It can be stressful when you first learn, but when it happens, you just need to act. It doesn't hurt to try. You're giving someone a fighting chance just by doing something instead of nothing."

Augustin has encountered critical situations before. Originally from Long Island, New York, he moved to Clayton County at age 10. His roots in public service run deep—his grandfather immigrated from Haiti and worked hard to build a life for their family, a foundation Augustin credits with shaping his



Carla Smith, Officer Alain Augustin and Rich Kenah at the Northside Beltline 3K-5K

commitment to serve. He later joined the U.S. Army before becoming a police officer.

"It's a calling from God, honestly," he said. "To serve others. I've had a good life. I feel like it's part of my duty to give back."

He'll return to the Peachtree this year as part of SWAT, continuing in a role focused on public safety.

Augustin's actions underscore a broader initiative underway through a partnership between Atlanta Track Club and the American Heart Association. Through initial conversations with the Atlanta Track Club Foundation, the American Heart Association has enabled the Club to expand their focus on CPR education, certification and cardiac emergency response planning.

"This was a natural partnership," said Smith. "We're both about health and wellness. And whether it's empowering people to run a 5K or teaching them how to respond in an emergency, we're helping people take meaningful steps."

The collaboration includes funds to purchase additional portable AEDs to be placed at the Club's free youth program, Kilometer Kids, and adult In-Training locations, as well as site-specific emergency plans and expanded CPR certification classes for coaches and volunteers.

Madison Hafitz, associate director of youth & adult programming at Atlanta Track Club, says these efforts ensure preparedness is not just a concept, it's a daily practice.

"Every Kilometer Kids head coach is CPR and first-aid certified," Hafitz said. "But with this partnership, we've been able to offer more opportunities to get certified."

The partnership has also helped the Club purchase more AEDs, allowing devices to be dedicated to even more programs and events. Hafitz said the Heart Association's support in developing Cardiac Emergency Response Plans (CERPs) has made a significant impact as well.

"It's one thing to learn CPR in a classroom," she said. "It's another to walk through what an actual emergency would look like in the exact park or field where it could happen. Coaches feel more prepared than ever."

Preparedness, combined with action, can significantly improve outcomes. For Smith, that's the message to share with every runner, walker and supporter of Atlanta Track Club.

"Take 90 seconds to learn hands-only CPR," she said. "You could save a life."

Officer Augustin agrees.

"You don't have to be a cop or a doctor," he said. "Just care enough to act."

IT'S NOT JUST A T-SHIRT

By Isa Morales

What awaits finishers at the end of the 56th Running of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race? Excitement? Pride? Celebration? One of the most iconic T-shirts in the running community?

Yes. Yes. And absolutely yes.

The coveted finisher's shirt isn't just a reward – it's a symbol. And this year, it once again arrives with history, anticipation and an ever-growing prize.

Artists were invited to submit up to three designs to the Peachtree T-shirt Design Contest. From a record-breaking number of submissions, a panel of judges from the Club, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Atlanta's running and walking community, five finalists were selected. From March 10 to April 10, the public cast votes in the AJC News App to choose the winner.

Among the finalists were both familiar names, such as Russ Vann, a finalist in both 2022 and 2024, and new artists who offered a fresh perspective on the shirt design.

"The feeling of community is undeniable," said Nick Benson, the 2024 contest winner. "I think it's really fun to get as many people involved in the T-shirt design contest as possible. It's a really fun way to democratize it— anyone can submit their design, and anyone can vote on it."

The tradition of the T-shirt Design Contest also comes with a tradition of secrecy. The winning design is revealed only when the first Peachtree finisher crosses the line on July 4. Until then, the boxes remain sealed—even the winning artist doesn't know their design was chosen until they see it handed out at Piedmont Park.

Increased prize money, introduced in 2024, may explain the contest's rising popularity. Since the competition began in 1995, the winner received \$1,000. That number jumped to \$5,500 last year in honor of the 55th Running. This year, the top prize is \$5,600, with second- and third-place finalists earning \$3,500 and \$2,500, respectively.

Still, the value of winning goes far beyond cash. The T-shirt represents the spirit of the race and the culture of the city. On July 4, as tens of thousands cross the finish line, they'll be handed not just a shirt, but a piece of Atlanta's summer legacy— one they can truly call their own.



Artist: Beckie Dominick

Title of Design: On the Move

Hometown: Gainesville, GA

Occupation: Graphic Designer

Inspiration: *The bold, playful typography captures the excitement and passion of the race, bringing to life the energy and iconic sights that fill the streets from start to finish.*



Artist: Megan Kincaid

Title of Design: Retro Peachscape

Hometown: Greensboro, NC

Occupation: Graphic Designer

Inspiration: *My design pays tribute to the first Peachtree Road Race in 1970, blending inspiration from the era with a modern feel. I chose a retro-inspired color palette that reflects the tones of a peach, but also the colors of the sky. The goal was to create a simple yet bold design that would be instantly recognizable for such an iconic race.*



Artist: Michele Ronan

Title of Design: Peachy State of Mind

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

Occupation: Art Director

Inspiration: *I wanted my design to be fun and to reflect the energy and excitement that the AJC Peachtree Road Race brings to Atlanta every year. Even though it's a big city, Atlanta has a really strong sense of community that you can feel while you're running through each neighborhood, and being a part of it has become a tradition I look forward to every year.*



Artist: Bart Sasso

Title of Design: A Modern Classic

Hometown: Somerville, MA

Occupation: Creative Director, Designer & Business Owner

Inspiration: *The AJC Peachtree Road Race is the quintessential Atlanta event and the original shirt design from the 80s is one of my favorite T-shirts of all time - an absolute classic. This is my homage to that iconic T-shirt design - a modernized version that celebrates the rich history of the world's largest and most renowned 10K.*



Artist: Russ Vann

Title of Design: Atlanta Runs Deep

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

Occupation: Creative Director

Inspiration: *Atlanta Runs Deep is more than just a statement; it's a tribute to the many people who make the Peachtree Road Race happen every year. It takes an entire community to put on the world's largest 10K - runners, volunteers, cheering crews, cleanup teams, police officers, the City of Atlanta, Atlanta Track Club and the AJC. Every part of Atlanta plays a role in making the race the great event that it is. My design this year features the iconic peach with a road running deep through the middle symbolizing the way this race connects many parts of the city. It's not just about the miles, but the runners who participate and the people who make it happen. Atlanta Runs Deep.*



PEACHTREE JUNIOR IS ON THE MOOVE

By Isa Morales

The greatest kids' running event of the year is making a monumental move. Now the Chick-fil-A Peachtree Junior, presented by Atlanta-area Chick-fil-A Restaurants, the event is leaving Piedmont Park and heading to Lenox Square, joining the heart of Peachtree festivities. This shift marks a significant evolution in the event's legacy, aligning it with the multi-day celebration that includes the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix and the start of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race.

On July 3 at 9 a.m., young runners take off from the same iconic start line that tens of thousands will cross during the Peachtree the following day.

"With this new venue, the moment I look forward to the most is before we start the Mile, when our 'Oh Say Can You Sing' contest winner will serenade us with the national anthem. The big flag will fly over us and the allure of the Peachtree start line is about to be experienced by these children for the first time ever," said Caryn Lamphier, Manager of Youth Events and Race Director of the Peachtree Junior. "Beyond that, it's the smiles, the joy, the kids' sense of accomplishment after their big finish, and the colors of the race shirts and medals lighting up the event."

The event features a Mile open to ages 6 to 14 and a 50-meter Dash for 6 and under. Both races will begin from the Peachtree start line, with the Mile following an out-and-back course that begins and ends at Lenox Square. All activities are free, and all registrants will receive a medal and a short-sleeve adidas race shirt.

Families can expect a festive atmosphere with mascot appearances by Pete the Peach and the Chick-fil-A cows, plus a coloring station and photo ops. The energy extends into the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix, which opens early at 7:30 a.m. for Peachtree Junior participants and their families in the Lenox Square Macy's parking lot. Peachtree participants are welcome starting at 10 a.m., or at 9 a.m. as an Atlanta Track Club member.



Since 2023, the partnership between Atlanta-area Chick-fil-A Restaurants and Atlanta Track Club has focused on strengthening events and programs like the AJC Peachtree Road Race and the Club's Kilometer Kids program, which introduces thousands of children to running at no cost. Together, they aim to build community and inspire the next generation through movement.

The Chick-fil-A Peachtree Junior also serves as the first event of the Triple Peach Junior Race Series, modeled after the adult version. Young runners must register for the PNC Atlanta Mile & Dash on October 18, 2025, and the Invesco QQQ Thanksgiving Day Mile & Dash on November 27, 2025, to complete the series.

For more information
or to register, visit
atlantatrackclub.org



PLAN YOUR MORNING

Race number pickup inside the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix open at 7:30 a.m. You will want to arrive with plenty of time to pick up your child's number and try our kid friendly activities!

Miles	Age*
9:00 a.m.	6 & 7 year olds
9:05 a.m.	8 & 9 year olds
9:10 a.m.	10 & 11 year olds
9:15 a.m.	12, 13 & 14 year olds
9:50 a.m.	Mile Awards Ceremony

*Runners can "age up" in the start waves and run with older siblings or friends, but older runners cannot run in a younger wave. For safety purposes, we strongly recommend running in the age-appropriate wave.

Dash	Age
10:00 a.m.	Mascot Dash, 2 & Under
10:15 a.m.	3 & 4 year olds
10:45 a.m.	5 & 6 year olds

Get ready for a full morning of fun! This page is your canvas. Bring it to life with color and hang on to it as a colorful memory from race day. Don't miss the coloring station at the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo to create even more Pete the Peach and July 4 masterpieces!



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MOVING WITH PURPOSE

By Lauren Weiner

Established in May 2021, the Atlanta Track Club Foundation supports Atlanta Track Club's mission to create a more active and healthy Atlanta. The Foundation oversees all fundraising efforts tied to community programs and general operations and seeks to create meaningful partnerships to expand community engagement. The Foundation's work is vital to the Club's mission. Thanks to generous donations, collaborative partnerships and additional funding, the Club is able to maintain, grow and develop programs that support runners and walkers at every stage of life.

Here's how your donations make a difference:



Kilometer Kids: In 2024, more than 6,000 children across nearly 150 sites were introduced to running through this free, 10-week program. Guided by the motto "Work Hard. Be Kind. Have Fun," kids complete 13.1 or 26.2 miles through games and running activities.



Midweek Mile & Dash Series: This free four-event series lets kids 14 and under run a 50-meter dash or timed mile, with a Track & Field Zone offering javelin, hurdles and jumps alongside pros. New this year, the season wrapped at the adidas Atlanta City Games Youth Mile & Dash.



All Comers Track & Field Meets: A free Tuesday night series in May and June offering events like sprints, long jump and the 5,000 meters for all ages and abilities.



Atlanta Public Schools Partnership: Since 2018, the Club has helped grow APS track and cross-country with coaching support, athlete clinics, marketing help and event tools.



Atlanta Track Club Elite: Post-collegiate athletes receive coaching, facilities, travel and stipends as they train to compete at the highest levels.



Youth Teams: Founded in 2017, this team welcomes 4th–8th graders of all levels for spring Track & Field, winter Speed Academy and fall Cross Country. With a focus on long-term growth and sportsmanship, the program also offers scholarships to keep it accessible for all.



Adult In-Training Programs: These programs support runners and walkers year-round with targeted coaching for major events from beginner 5Ks all the way up to the marathon distance. All programs offer in-person sessions, personalized coaching, and a supportive community to help participants reach their goals.

Your support and donations to the Atlanta Track Club Foundation will continue to allow the Club to maintain existing programs and build new programs for generations to come.

Donations can be made online: atlantatrackclub.org/donate or via mail to Atlanta Track Club Foundation, 201 Armour Drive, Atlanta, GA 30324.

EXPO MOVES TO LENOX, PEACHTREE'S BIGGEST CHANGE YET

For the first time in race history, the Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix moves from the Georgia World Congress Center to Lenox Square, marking a bold new chapter for Atlanta's most iconic running tradition.

Set in climate-controlled tents in the Macy's parking lot, the new location brings the energy of race week to the heart of Buckhead. The move anticipates the arrival of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, which will occupy key downtown venues like the Georgia World Congress Center during Peachtree season. It also reflects participant feedback requesting an experience more connected to the race itself, with easier access and fewer logistical challenges. With free parking and proximity to the start line, Lenox Square offers a more convenient, engaging way to kick off the race experience.



From July 2 at 12 a.m. to July 4 at 11 a.m., Peachtree Road from Lenox Parkway to Lenox Road will be closed, turning the area into a festival-style experience. Runners can snap a photo at the iconic start line, grab race numbers, explore more than 25 exhibitors and enjoy Buckhead's dining and retail offerings—all within steps of the Expo.

Chick-fil-A Peachtree Junior families will enjoy the same energy, with bib pickup available at the Expo on July 2 and beginning at 7:30 a.m. on July 3. The early opening will be exclusive to Peachtree Junior participants and gives these young athletes a full taste of Peachtree excitement.

Make sure to stop by the SweetWater Brewing activation to get your ID checked in advance. Getting your ID checked in advance means you'll breeze past the lines at the post-race beer garden and head straight to the celebration. That simple step at the Expo unlocks access to a free, cold beer on race morning.

Gone is the member-exclusive Park Tavern celebration. In its place, a lively, open-to-all post-race experience in the Piedmont Park meadow, with DJs in shaded areas and an expanded beer garden. SweetWater beer will be available to 21 and older, with nonalcoholic options and Coca-Cola beverages for all.

EXHIBITORS

Peachtree Commemorative Medals

Atlanta Track Club Membership

Publix

Ameris Bank

SweetWater Brewing Company

BMW

Chick-fil-A

Northside Hospital

Delta Air Lines

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

adidas

Atlanta United

Atlanta Hawks

Atlanta Falcons

MARTA

Shokz

Race Dots

Namirsa

Vegan Strong

Atlanta Beltline Partnership

Flowell

Macy's

FreshJUNKIE

Big Peach Running Co.

Cooper River Bridge Run

Chiquita Banana

EcoSneakers

Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED

Peachtree Health & Fitness Expo presented by Publix Hours

When:

July 2: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

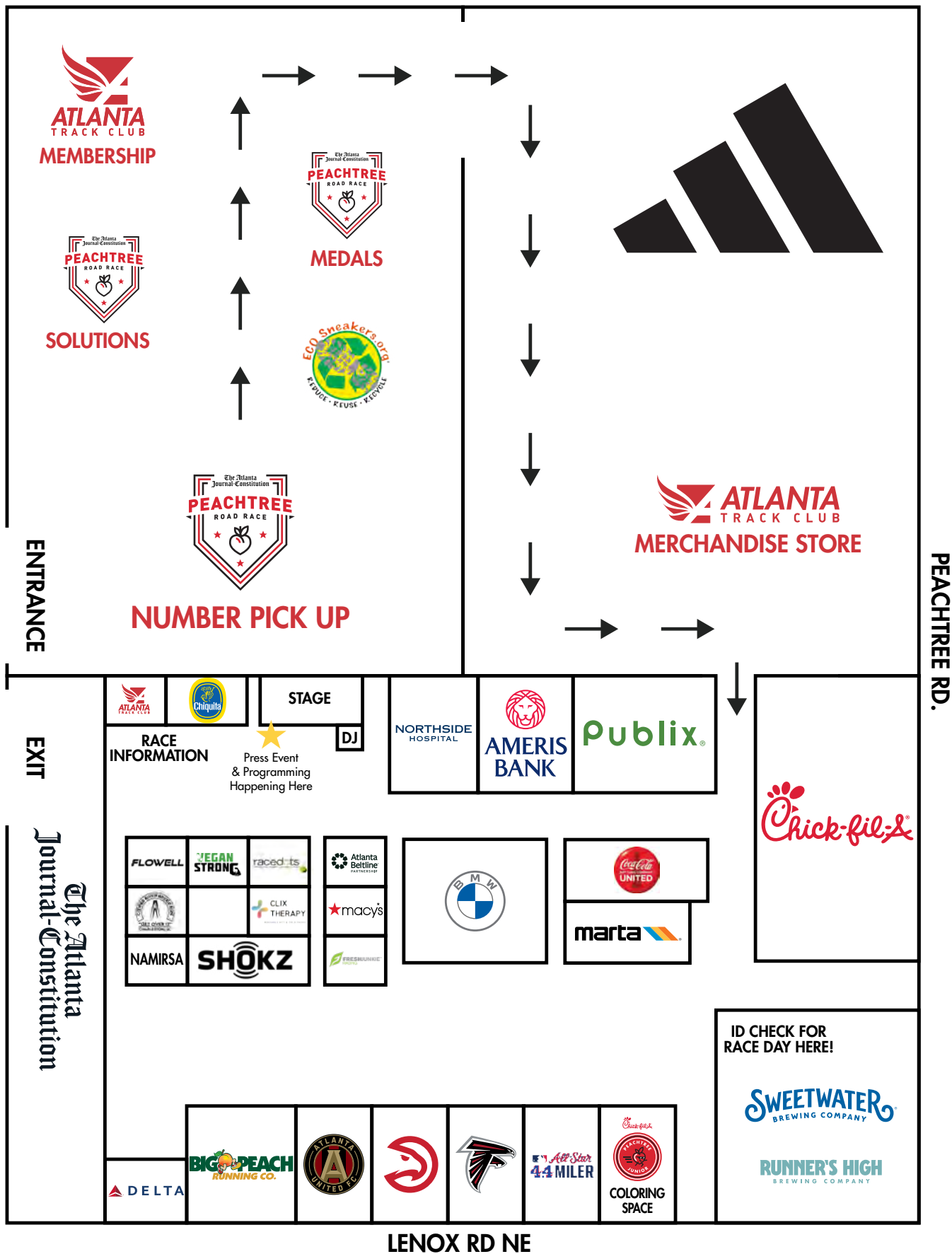
July 3: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (open at 7:30 a.m. for Peachtree Junior bib pickup)

Atlanta Track Club members only:
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. both days

See page 21 for special offers available to Peachtree participants from Lenox Square retailers.

EXPO MAP

LENOX PKWY





BE PART OF THE

20TH

RUNNING

OF PUBLIX
ATLANTA
MARATHON
WEEKEND!



Feb. 28 – March 1

2026



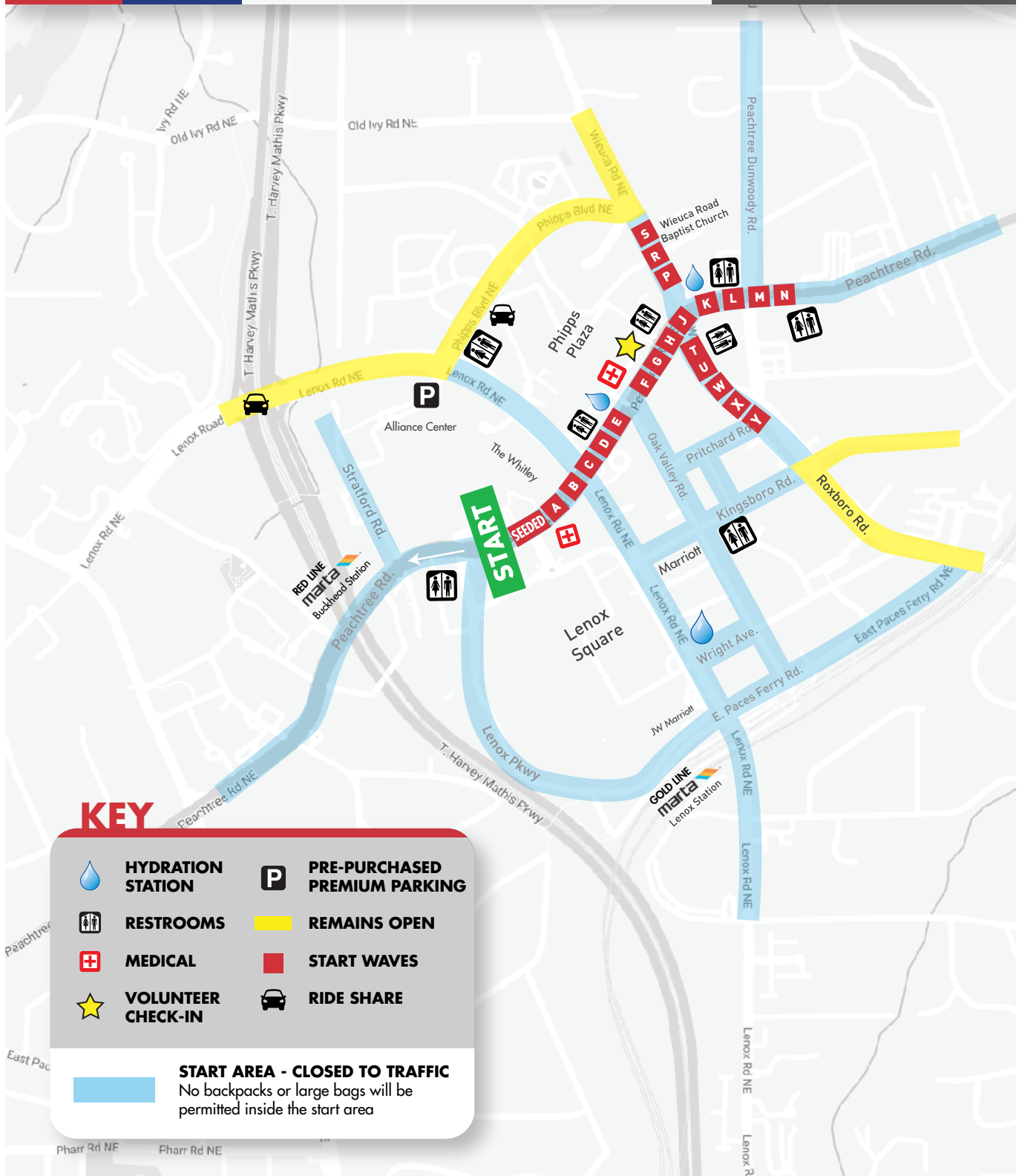
MARATHON | HALF MARATHON | 5K | KIDS MARATHON



START MAP

Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Peachtree Road Race

LENOX SQUARE MALL
3393 Peachtree Rd
Atlanta, GA 30326



HELPING YOU TO THE FINISH LINE

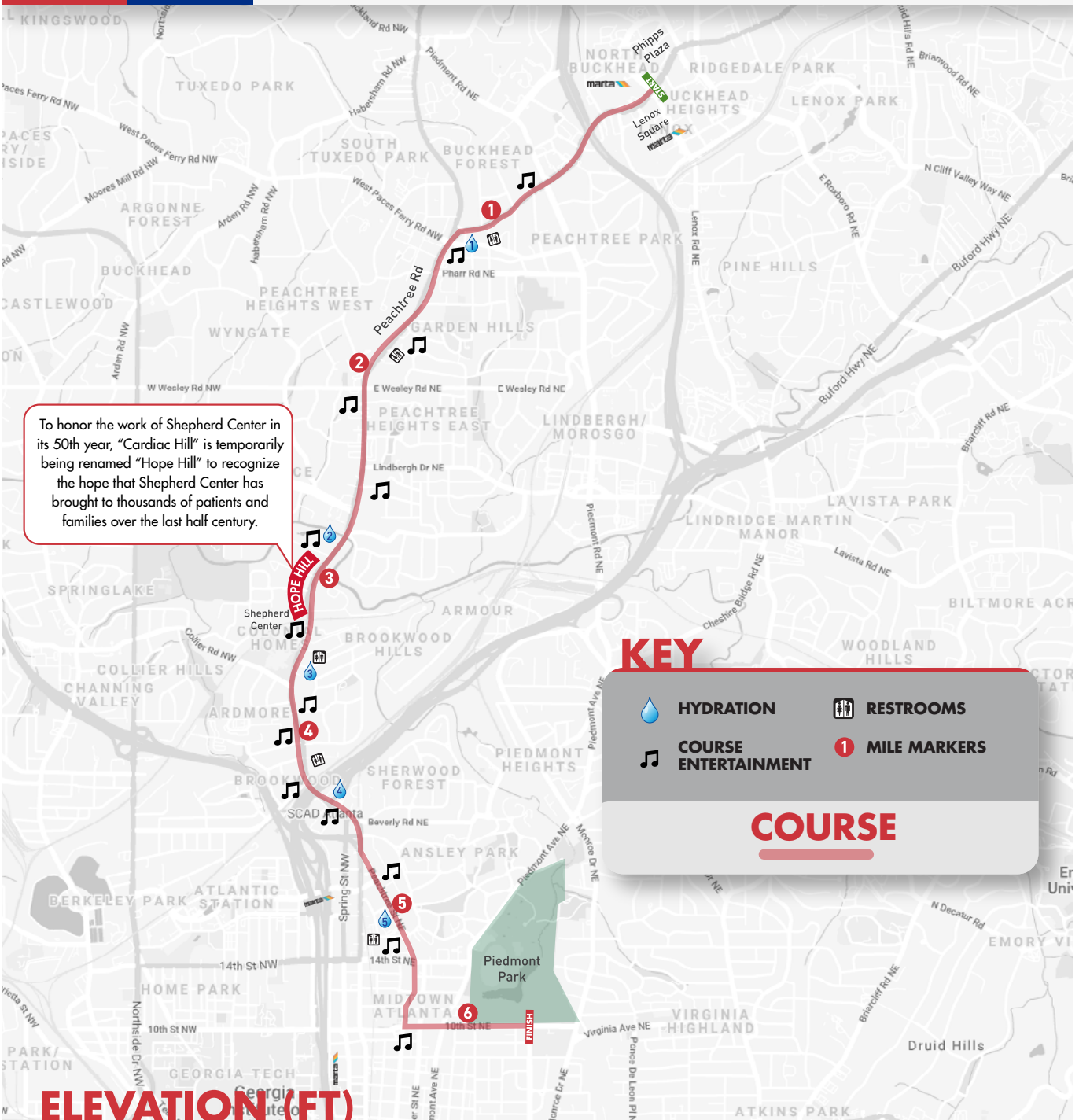
From The Peachtree Road Race
To Whatever You're Working On.



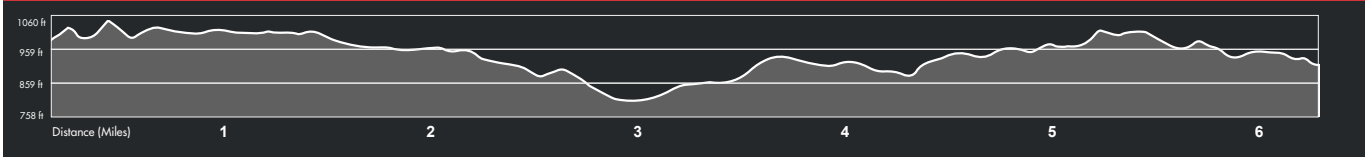


COURSE MAP

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race



ELEVATION (FT)





OFFICIAL PARTNERS OF
ATLANTA TRACK CLUB

BEER.



SWEETWATER BREWING CO • PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY

RUN.



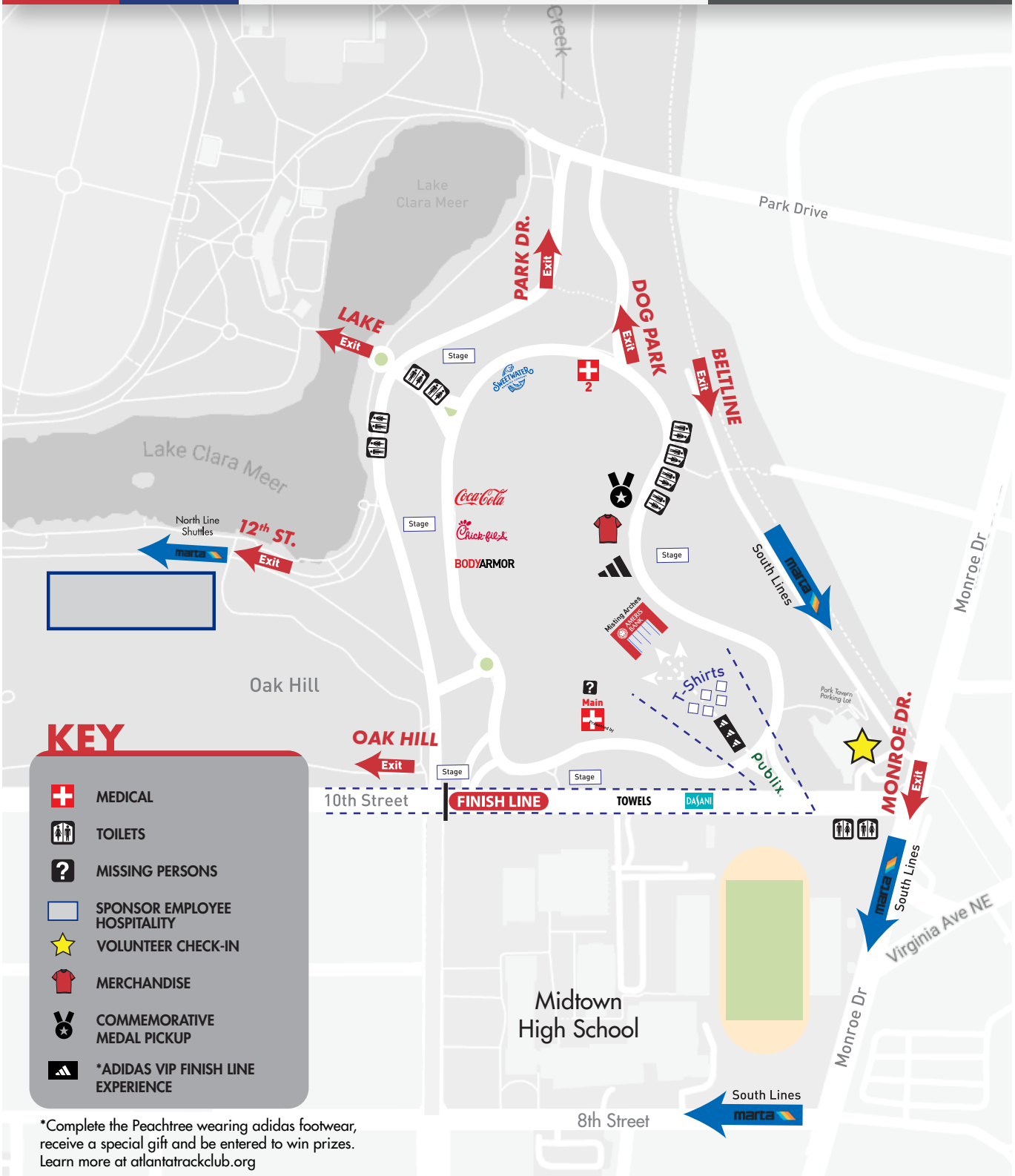
THE NEXT LEVEL  NON-ALC BREW



FINISH MAP

Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Peachtree Road Race

PIEDMONT PARK
400 Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30326



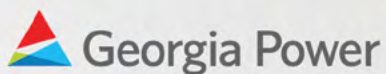
KEY

- MEDICAL
- TOILETS
- MISSING PERSONS
- SPONSOR EMPLOYEE HOSPITALITY
- VOLUNTEER CHECK-IN
- MERCHANDISE
- COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL PICKUP
- *ADIDAS VIP FINISH LINE EXPERIENCE

*Complete the Peachtree wearing adidas footwear, receive a special gift and be entered to win prizes. Learn more at atlantatrackclub.org



► The energy you want on race day.





SAFETY & SECURITY

Safety is Atlanta Track Club's top priority. With Event Alert System, the help of the City of Atlanta and various local, state and federal agencies, we've done extensive planning to ensure the safety of our participants, spectators, volunteers and partners.

On this page you will find information about some of our security measures, as well as simple things you can do to help make the 2025 Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race a great event.

- **Substantial law enforcement presence** will exist at the start, finish and post-event areas, as well as along the course.
- **There will be clearly defined restricted areas** at the start and at the finish areas. Additional fencing with designated entry and exit points will be in place around the post-event area. Anyone entering a restricted area with a backpack, bag, purse, etc. will be subject to search.
- **Piedmont Park** will again be open to spectators, family and friends. There will be six security checkpoints to get into the park. No bags or coolers will be permitted. Anyone carrying a bag will be required to empty the contents into a clear plastic bag that will be provided.
- **See something, say something.** Be vigilant. If you see something suspicious, contact the nearest police officer or call 911.

Event Alert System

ALERT LEVEL	EVENT CONDITIONS	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS
EVENT CANCELLED Follow Official Event Instructions	Extreme conditions Event cancelled	Participation stopped/ follow official event instructions
HIGH Potentially Dangerous Conditions Follow Official Event Instructions	Dangerous Conditions	Slow down/ observe course changes/ follow official event instructions/ consider stopping
MODERATE Be Aware of Worsening Conditions	Use Caution	Slow down/ be prepared for worsening conditions
LOW Enjoy the Event	Good Conditions	Enjoy the event/ be alert

Event Alert System

Event Alert System colored flags will be located at the start line, along the course at the water stations and in the finish area. The flags will communicate the specific alert level, which could range from low (green), to moderate (yellow), to high (red), to cancelled (black), and are based primarily on weather conditions.



THANK YOU

Atlanta Track Club would like to thank all the people and organizations that make the 2025 Atlanta Journal-Constitution Peachtree Road Race possible.

The Atlanta
Journal-Constitution



***A special thank you to the 175 crew chiefs and more than 3,500 volunteers.
Without your support, this Independence Day tradition would not be possible.***

- Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens
- Atlanta Police Department
- Atlanta Department of Parks
Recreation and Cultural Affairs
- Atlanta Fire Rescue
- Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency
Management Agency
- City of Atlanta Watershed Management
- City of Atlanta Public Works
- Grady EMS
- MARTA

- Piedmont Park Conservancy
- Pegasus
- Lenox Square & Phipps Plaza
- Buckhead Community Improvement District
- Livable Buckhead
- Midtown High School
- Atlanta Hawks
- Atlanta Braves
- Atlanta United
- Atlanta Falcons
- The many organizations, businesses, churches
and residents of Buckhead and Midtown

UP

COMING EVENTS

2

**SATURDAY
AUGUST**



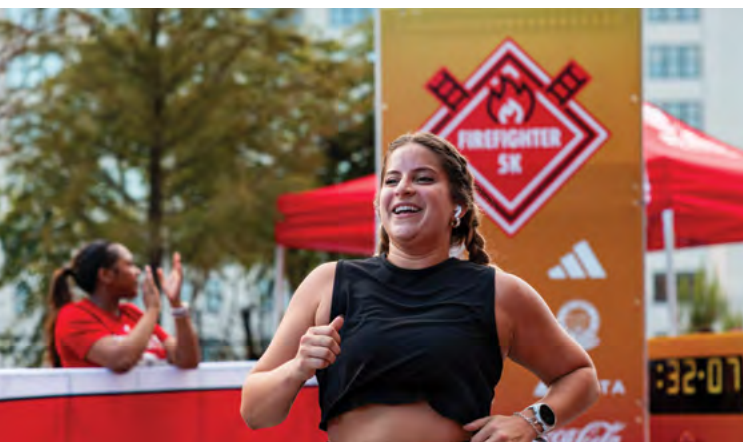
WESTSIDE BELTLINE 5K-8K PRESENTED BY RESURGENS ORTHOPAEDICS

7:00 a.m., Westside Beltline

- Second event in the Race the Loop Series
- All participants receive an adidas shirt
- Competitive 8K (ages 9 & older)
- Non-competitive 5K (ages 8 & older); strollers and dogs are welcome
- Post-race party with free beer from Monday Night Garage and nonalcoholic options



After you've celebrated your Peachtree finish, check out these future Atlanta Track Club events at atlantatrackclub.org!



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**SUNDAY
JULY**



MLB ALL-STAR 4.4 MILER

7:30 a.m., Center Parc Stadium

- Celebrate MLB All-Star Week and honor Hank Aaron with a 4.4-mile run
- All participants receive a shirt and medal
- Includes one (1) ticket to the HBCU Swingman Classic on Friday, July 11
- Includes one (1) ticket for single-day access to Capital One All-Star Village (valid July 12-15)

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**SATURDAY
AUGUST**



ATLANTA'S FINEST 5K

7:30 a.m., Pemberton Place

- Join the Atlanta Police Foundation to thank local heroes
- All participants receive an adidas shirt
- Support and honor local law enforcement and public safety officials

6

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER**



FIREFIGHTER 5K HOSTED BY ATLANTA'S BRAVEST

8:00 a.m., Fire Rescue Station 1

- Show your support for Atlanta's Bravest
- All participants receive an adidas shirt
- An annual tradition, run each year on the Saturday before September 11

SUPERCOMFORT SUPERNOVA



SUPERNOVA RISE 2



SHOP MEN



SHOP WOMEN