



PRESS RELEASE

Fort4Fitness, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization committed to inspiring healthy living through fitness in the Greater Fort Wayne Region.

For immediate release: October 1, 2017
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2017 Fort4Fitness Race Results

Fort Wayne, IN - Race weekend was complete with optimal running weather, a 10th anniversary year, and exceptional volunteer support for the 10th Annual Fort4Fitness Fall Festival events. The Kids Marathon and Seniors Marathon reached record numbers in 2017 with 1,103 and 339 registered in each respectively.

Note on the marathon course: The marathon course is a series of four loops--3 mile, 10K (6.1 miles), half marathon (13.1 miles) and 4 mile (in that order). A lead on the marathon course took a wrong turn within the first loop of the race which led all marathon runners to follow. The turn put the runners on the 4 Mile loop rather than the intended 3 Mile loop. The mistake was noticed immediately by Fort4Fitness officials and the information was passed on to Race Director Zac Compton who reacted quickly and determined a course of action. The 3 Mile loop was switched to the end of the race by a shift in directional signage and communication to the runners on the course to reach the overall distance of 26.2 miles.

There were several new competitors and also familiar faces for the top overall winners of each race. The Marathon was won by Michael Ridenour, 33, of Fort Wayne with a time of 2:55:54 and Nadine Rager, 34, of Fort Wayne in 3:35:01. Neal Niezer, 38, of Fort Wayne was the wheelchair division winner with a time of 3:40:41 (Niezer was the Half Marathon wheelchair division winner in 2011, 2013 and 2015).

The Half Marathon was won by Matthew Helm, 31, of Fort Wayne with a time of 1:10:33 and Mariah Jordan, 22, of Fort Wayne, with her time of 1:23:37. Kevin Weingartner, 26, of Indianapolis was the wheelchair division winner with a time of 1:49:36. Weingartner was the previous wheelchair division winner for the Half Marathon in 2016.

The 10K Run/Walk winner John Wamhoff, 22, of Fort Wayne, won with his time of 33:54, and Liesl Muehlhauser, 30, of South Bend won in 39:31. The wheelchair division winner for the 10K was Alex Haag, 13, of Fort Wayne, with a time of 1:01:30, who was also last year's 10K wheelchair division winner and the 2014 4 Mile wheelchair division winner.

Dashon Smith, 31, of Fort Wayne, took first in the 4 Mile Run/Walk in 24:59, and Ashley Case, 27, of Angola won with a time of 25:03 and set a course record. Lazero Rodriguez, 20, of Warsaw, took first in the wheelchair division with a time of 55:28.

2017 Fort4Fitness Snapshot

Total Finishers for all 4 races: 5,967	Total Finishers in the 10K: 1,704
Total Finishers in the Marathon: 149	Total Finishers in the 4 Mile: 2,612
Total Finishers in the Half Marathon: 1,502	

Registration for the Fort4Fitness Fantasy of Lights 5K on November 18th and new Family Walk 2K on November 19th is open at Fort4Fitness.org. The price increases on October 5th. Sign up today!

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