

My Marathon

Pages: 97

Publisher: Leadstart Publishing Pvt Ltd (June 2, 2015)

Format: pdf, epub

Language: English

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My Marathon CA Tarun Mahajan First published in India 2015 by Frog Books An imprint of Leadstart Publishing Pvt Ltd 1 Level, Trade Centre Bandra Kurla Complex Bandra (East) Mumbai 400 051 India Telephone: +91-22-40700804 Fax: +91-22-40700800 Email: info@leadstartcorp.com www.leadstartcorp.com / www.frogbooks.net Sales Office: Unit No.25/26, Building No.A/1, Near Wadala RTO, Wadala (East), Mumbai – 400037 India Phone: +91 22 24046887 US Office: Axis Corp, 7845 E Oakbrook Circle Madison, WI 53717 USA Copyright © CA Tarun Mahajan All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the prior written permission of the publisher. Any person who does any unauthorised act in relation to this publication may be liable to criminal prosecution and civil claims for damages. ISBN 978-93-52013-15-9 Book Editor: Surojit Mohan Gupta Design Editor: Mishta Roy Layout: Chandravadan R. Shiroorkar Typeset in Book Antiqua Printed at Repro India Ltd, Mumbai Price — India: Rs 95; Elsewhere: US ․4 **Dedication** *My Marathon – For Astha, “my wife, love, friend, support, everything”* **About the Author** CA Tarun Mahajan is a commerce graduate. He did CA in year 1999. He is also a CFA Charterholder from CFA Institute (USA). He was the first to acquire CFA charter in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh at a time when there were less than 400 CFAs in the entire country. His academic excellence was well displayed since school days, he used to stand first in school and this came to light with his All India 10th Rank in CA Foundation. Using his academic excellence and quest for sharing his knowledge he took up teaching since the date he became CA in year 1999. He has been teaching CA, CS and CFA students. He has also written articles in financial newspapers. For students he is not just a subject teacher but a great source of inspiration. He is a good orator and also a motivational speaker. His thirst for accepting challenges made him run 42 kms in the Mumbai Marathon. He has also done long distance cycling. His mantra for success is “follow the excellence and success will follow you”. **Acknowledgements** I always praise engineers especially Information Technology people. Their inventions have made our life simple. I cannot imagine my life without computers, internet, Google, Facebook and various mobile apps. I could write this book without fear of spelling and grammar mistakes because of MS Word. I got connected to Leadstart Publishing and their valuable team after searching on Google. After completing the Mumbai Marathon when I thought about writing this book, it was hard to recall many things. Then I realized that I had done many practice sessions using “Runtastic” app on my mobile phone hence got many date wise data there and rest of the events I could recall with the help of a super computer, i.e., memory of my wife Astha. Memory of women is unmatched especially for emotional moments. Thanks to social networking sites, which helped me to reach my students and tell them about this book, *My Marathon*. Thanks to my family for giving me time from their portion of my time to write this book. **PROLOGUE** In this write up I am going to tell you my story of running a marathon; story of a person who, despite being a big zero in athletics from birth to 36 years of age, turned into a marathoner in his thirty-seventh year. It is never late. This story is not filmy. It does

not have the spices of drama, action, love, emotion, etc. But it will surely give you inspiration to believe in the power within you. It will inspire you to do whatever you desire to do. The only thing you need to have is a strong desire. Every word written in this story is true. I am sharing this because I completed the entire marathon and thereafter thousands of my students asked me to tell them the whole story. I could not do it in class. Hence I am writing it for all my students and for everyone. I got inspiration from many people: now it is my duty to give inspiration to many others.

Tarun Mahajan B. Com., CA, DISA, CFA (from CFAI USA) Faculty of finance at NPA, Indore Email: tarunmahajanca@gmail.com Ph: +91-9893040600 (SMS/Whats app only) **Contents** [Part-1](#) [My Marathon](#); [Chapter 01: My Schooldays](#) [Chapter 02: Seed of Marathon](#) [Chapter 03: Turning Point](#) [Chapter 04: Journey Started](#) [Chapter 05: Journey Continued](#) [Chapter 06: Practised with Workload](#) [Chapter 07: Reached another Milestone](#) [Chapter 08: Man Proposes, God Disposes](#) [Chapter 09: Registering for the Race](#) [Chapter 10: New Experiences](#) [Chapter 11: Reached New Heights](#) [Chapter 12: Restarted with New Zeal](#) [Chapter 13: Found Lost Treasure](#) [Chapter 14: On the Roller Coaster](#) [Chapter 15: The Day of the Marathon](#) [Part-2](#) [Life is a Cycle](#); [Chapter 01: After Shocks](#) [Chapter 02: Cooling Period](#) [Chapter 03: Swimming Lessons](#) [Chapter 04: Started Life Cycle](#) [Chapter 05: Whooping 200 kms](#) [Chapter 06: Emotional U Turn of People](#) [Chapter 07: Started Randonneuring](#) [Chapter 08: Becoming Randonneur](#) [Chapter 09: Epilogue](#) **Part-1** [My Marathon](#); **Chapter 1 My Schooldays** It was probably the month of December. A cricket match was organized by the school between class seventh and class eighth. Class eight was the senior most in the school. The match was not on a proper cricket ground. It was on an open land with lot of date trees and the *pugdandi* (pathway) was assumed to be the pitch. I was in the team of class seventh. I remember the captain of my team was my classmate Naresh Angalani. I found a place in the team because they were short of one. The entire class was cheering [Naresh-Naresh](#); when he was on the strike. He scored several fours and sixes. I was on the other end. Our team was chasing the target. When the over changed, I came to strike. I was afraid of fast balls, even though we were playing with a tennis ball. My bat could not even touch the ball. Though I tried but it was in vain and finally one ball hit the stumps and I was declared out. Even though we won the match because our captain played very well, my contribution in the win was zero. It was still not a disappointment for me because nobody (including me) expected a wonder score from someone of my calibre in cricket. Cricket was something which everybody used to play those days, but I was not a good player. For me it was limited to a plastic ball in the narrow corridor of my friend's house, which was hardly 18 feet in length and 3 feet in width. Football, badminton and other games were a distant dream. In fact I never participated in any athletic activities or games in my schooldays. I was a shy guy who would hardly talk to people; a sincere and studious student. I used to stand first or second in school in all exams. Up to second standard I was the topper of the school. In third standard a girl took admission in my school. Her father had a transferable job, which is how he got transferred to Dewas. From third to seventh she stood first in class and I was at the second position and the only reason was my bad handwriting. In eighth board I again topped the school. Besides studying I also participated in many competitions but my participation was limited to debates, elocutions, essay writing, drawing, etc. My physical fitness was below average; in fact it was poor and this resulted in at least one major health issue every year. In fifth standard, during Diwali vacation while I was playing on the rooftop of my friend's house, I slipped on the floor and broke my arm bone. Before sixth grade examinations I faced severe jaundice. In seventh standard double Typhoid. In ninth standard I fell down from my cycle and broke my left arm again; it was in plaster for one and a half months. Even I appeared in my exams with my hand plastered. In tenth standard I suffered from measles and was prescribed one month of bed rest. Apart from these bigger devils my body was also host to many other diseases. Tonsillitis was one of them. I suffered from the disease right from childhood and still continue to do the same. Almost every 2 months I used to visit a doctor for my tonsil problem. A hen born in a cage may not feel the pain of being in a cage because it has never seen the world with freedom in the same way. I was also not puzzled with all these ailments and diseases. Maybe because I was like that from the beginning and I had accepted who I was. I recall that I was in eleventh or twelfth grade when my fast friend Sanjay told

MY MARATHON is a true story of a person who was a big zero in athletics from birth to 36 years of age turned into a marathoner in his thirty seven year of his age. It is never late.

This story is not filmy. It does not have the spices of drama, action, love, emotion etc. But it will surely give you inspiration to believe in power within you. It will inspire you to do whatever you desire to do. The only thing you need to have is a strong desire.

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