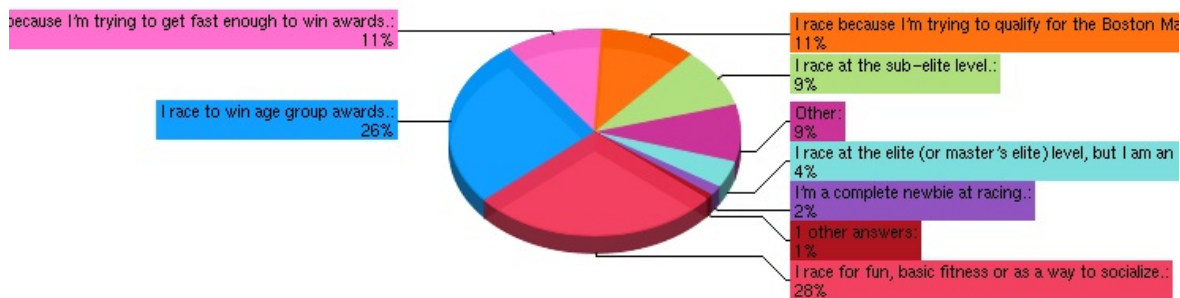


Summary Report – Sep/16/2010

Why do you run in road races?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Avg. Rank	Rank
See a new place when I travel	Count: 11 2.9%	Count: 18 4.8%	Count: 24 6.3%	Count: 42 11.1%	Count: 49 13%	Count: 46 12.2%	Count: 46 12.2%	Count: 47 12.4%	Count: 53 14%	Count: 42 11.1%	6.36	7
Get myself outside on the weekends	Count: 2 0.5%	Count: 7 1.9%	Count: 13 3.5%	Count: 33 8.9%	Count: 50 13.5%	Count: 64 17.3%	Count: 64 17.3%	Count: 55 14.9%	Count: 43 11.6%	Count: 39 10.5%	6.72	8
Break up the monotony of -- or as part of training for -- longer events	Count: 25 6.6%	Count: 50 13.2%	Count: 64 16.8%	Count: 52 13.7%	Count: 49 12.9%	Count: 50 13.2%	Count: 21 5.5%	Count: 37 9.7%	Count: 23 6.1%	Count: 9 2.4%	4.76	4
Socialize with my runner friends or teammates	Count: 11 2.9%	Count: 37 9.8%	Count: 37 9.8%	Count: 52 13.8%	Count: 51 13.5%	Count: 59 15.6%	Count: 58 15.3%	Count: 42 11.1%	Count: 22 5.8%	Count: 9 2.4%	5.40	5
Meet new people	Count: ~0 0%	Count: 1 0.3%	Count: 12 3.2%	Count: 12 3.2%	Count: 31 8.4%	Count: 44 11.9%	Count: 76 20.5%	Count: 91 24.6%	Count: 74 20%	Count: 29 7.8%	7.35	9
1 Compete against others or the clock	Count: 195 49%	Count: 67 16.8%	Count: 46 11.6%	Count: 32 8%	Count: 27 6.8%	Count: 7 1.8%	Count: 8 2%	Count: 6 1.5%	Count: 9 2.3%	Count: 1 0.3%	2.43	1
Win awards or other recognition	Count: 9 2.4%	Count: 41 10.9%	Count: 34 9%	Count: 51 13.5%	Count: 35 9.3%	Count: 25 6.6%	Count: 24 6.4%	Count: 32 8.5%	Count: 51 13.5%	Count: 75 19.9%	6.25	6
Raise money for a charity or cause I care about	Count: 2 0.5%	Count: 8 2.2%	Count: 9 2.5%	Count: 15 4.1%	Count: 16 4.4%	Count: 26 7.1%	Count: 36 9.8%	Count: 33 9%	Count: 71 19.3%	Count: 151 41.1%	8.19	10
3 Keep myself in shape	Count: 53 13.6%	Count: 63 16.2%	Count: 79 20.3%	Count: 66 16.9%	Count: 44 11.3%	Count: 36 9.2%	Count: 23 5.9%	Count: 12 3.1%	Count: 9 2.3%	Count: 5 1.3%	3.86	3
2 For the feeling of accomplishment I get when I finish	Count: 95 24%	Count: 110 27.8%	Count: 81 20.5%	Count: 36 9.1%	Count: 22 5.6%	Count: 15 3.8%	Count: 12 3%	Count: 10 2.5%	Count: 10 2.5%	Count: 5 1.3%	3.05	2
TOTALS	403	402	399	391	374	372	368	365	365	365		

How would you best describe yourself as a racer?



Value	Count	Percent %
I'm a complete newbie at racing.	6	1.5%
1 I race for fun, basic fitness or as a way to socialize.	111	27.5%
I race to raise money for charity.		0%
3 I race because I'm trying to qualify for the Boston Marathon.	43	10.7%
I race because I'm trying to get fast enough to win awards.	44	10.9%

Statistics

Total Responses: 403

Largest group of respondents: "fun" runners

Third largest group of respondents: competitive (developing)

2

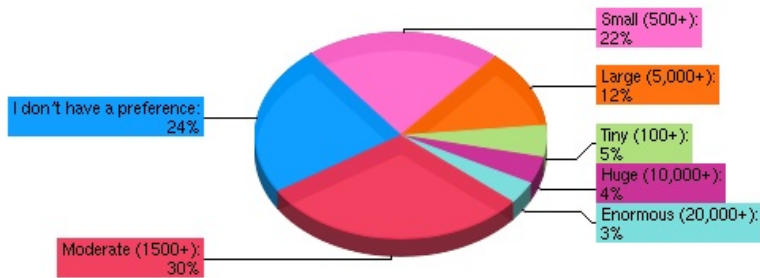
I race to win age group awards.	106	26.3%	← Second largest group of respondents: competitive (AG)
I race at the sub-elite level.	37	9.2%	
I race at the elite (or master's elite) level, but I am an amateur.	17	4.2%	
I am a professional elite runner.	3	0.7%	
Other	36	8.9%	

If you answered "Other" above, please provide details.

ID	Response Data
113	To push myself beyond what I would during a regular training run. To set a goal and complete it.
117	To compete against the clock and others at my level.
126	I race for fun but I'm still trying to qualify for Boston!!!
138	to PR
140	I race to challenge myself.
161	I have been running and racing on and off for 25 years, and I race to continue challenging myself and running races that I've always wanted to run (ie. NYC marathon – but I want to qualify for NY!). I took a long break from racing. The 3 years ago I had an injury and was told I was done running. That was it. Well I'm back. And there's just races I want to run. I do tend to place in my age group, but that's not why I do it.
169	I race to gauge fitness and am trying to qualify for the 2012 marathon trials.
171	I race to get a personal best. I don't care about my place or an award. I just wanna push the limits of my body and beat my times.
179	I race to PR before I'm too old to do so. I ran Boston this year 2010, so prior to NOW, I raced to BQ.
204	personal record attempts
209	I race to test myself.
224	–to maintain a given fitness level –to try to improve from there
242	to challenge myself
251	I race to measure how much I've improved as a runner.
257	I race to maximize my potential. Sometimes, I get awards, sometimes I don't.
271	I like the thrill of racing. Also, to (possibly) set an AG PB on an accurate, fast course.
272	I am approximately at the level of winning age group awards but I don't race for the awards. I race to see how well I can do and how I compare to others.
282	I don't race much any more, but raced at the sub-elite level for many years and then elite master's level until fairly recently.
313	I race to keep testing my perceived limits
328	Average Runner who runs for the joy of it
331	PR
390	I like to challenge myself in races. I try to have goals that I try to achieve.
393	To measure my fitness.
394	To xcelebrate the training I do with fellow runners.
411	I run to get faster and stronger. I may never be fast enough to win any awards or qualify for Boston.
420	I race because I enjoy competing against my past times.
422	I race to complete the race in the fastest time I can. I finish near the front but have never won an age group award because I am 28 and I have never competed in a race where my age group was anything other than 18-40.
426	I race for fitness and to qualify for the NYC marathon
448	to compete and set prs
451	I race because I'd like to crack into the sub-elite category :-)
453	I'm not truly "sub-elite," but I'm typically racing for the top 1 or 2 overall places (except in major races), so... that's probably the best category.
456	I race to see what I am capable of on any given day. Finishing a set distance as fast I can.
460	I race to run fast and set new PRs (or course PRs), which is how I have fun doing it.
470	I race as a way of measuring my achievements and ability as a runner ... against the clock and myself only, not against other runners ... as well for the sense of accomplishment.

494	I race against myself. I like to see how I've improved by racing a few of the same courses every year.
500	I been racing to qualify for the New York Marathon which I have done for 2010
509	I run to compete with myself.
513	I race to beat myself and keep myself motivated during training.
515	To beat PBs / PRs.

What size race do you typically prefer?



Value	Count	Percent %	Statistics
Enormous (20,000+)	14	3.5%	Total Responses 403
Huge (10,000+)	17	4.2%	
Large (5,000+)	49	12.2%	
Moderate (1500+)	120	29.8%	
Small (500+)	88	21.8%	
Tiny (100+)	20	5%	
I don't have a preference	95	23.6%	

Half prefer small to medium sized races

Close to a quarter don't care what size the race is

Which things contribute the most to making a race a good experience for you?

	Rank this item's importance
Getting an event T-shirt in my size	Average Rank: 3.14 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5, StdDev: 1.25
3 Accurate race results posted online quickly	Average Rank: 4.24 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5, StdDev: 0.88
11 Use of timing chips	Average Rank: 3.90 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5, StdDev: 1.11
How scenic the course is	Average Rank: 3.38 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5, StdDev: 1.02
Detailed course maps, including elevation chart	Average Rank: 3.46 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5, StdDev: 1.14
2 Accurate distance markers	Average Rank: 4.33 Count: 403, Min: 1 / Max: 5

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • StdDev: 098
Split clocks along the course	<p>Average Rank 3.25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 124
Lots of water stations along the course	<p>Average Rank 3.51</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 107
Participation by professional elite runners	<p>Average Rank 2.04</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 113
Lots of awards for different age groups	<p>Average Rank 2.53</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 122
Awards given out quickly, so I don't have to wait around	<p>Average Rank 2.91</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 137
Prizes with monetary value (such as gift certificates or discounts) for award winners	<p>Average Rank 2.43</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 135
Spectators along the course to cheer me on	<p>Average Rank 3.01</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 116
Water available before the race	<p>Average Rank 2.98</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 126
Water/Gatorade available after the race	<p>Average Rank 4.18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 094
Ease of baggage check/retrieval	<p>Average Rank 3.47</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 126
A free or low cost pre-race dinner event (pasta dinner, etc.)	<p>Average Rank 1.68</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 101
A big expo with products, demonstration and speakers	<p>Average Rank 2.20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 121
Roads that are closed to traffic during the race	<p>Average Rank 4.15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 091
Parking near the race (as opposed to having to take a bus to the start/finish)	<p>Average Rank 3.62</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 122

4

6

7

Availability of pace groups

Average Rank

2.13

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 112

A smooth, easy process for picking up my bib/chip

Average Rank

4.14

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 079

The option to pick up my bib/chip on race day

Average Rank

3.61

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 117

Goody bags

Average Rank

2.67

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 120

Personalized bibs

Average Rank

2.10

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 117

Finisher's medal

Average Rank

2.77

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 144

1

A clearly marked course with well-informed race officials/volunteers stationed along it

Average Rank

4.57

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 072

5

An adequate number of well-maintained portapotties

Average Rank

4.17

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 097

9

Start corrals in which runners are grouped appropriately by pace

Average Rank

4.00

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 106

Music or other entertainment on the course

Average Rank

2.28

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 115

Availability of post-race food

Average Rank

3.51

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 118

An informative, well-designed web site

Average Rank

3.82

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 098

Regular updates via e-mail from the race director as the race approaches

Average Rank

2.94

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 124

Race photography

Average Rank

2.52

- Count: 403
- Min: 1 / Max: 5
- StdDev: 122

Average Rank

8
10

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Online registration</div>	<p style="text-align: right;">4.03</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 1.10
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">E-mailed registration confirmation or the ability to confirm online</div>	<p style="text-align: right;">Average Rank 3.95</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 1.10
<p style="text-align: center;">Post-event booklet containing official results, pictures, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Average Rank 2.00</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 1.17
<p style="text-align: center;">A Facebook page or Twitter feed for the race </p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Average Rank 2.06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Count: 403 • Min: 1 / Max: 5 • StdDev: 1.27

Are there specific things that are missing in many of your races today that you'd like to see race directors add in the future?

ID	Response Data
101	<p>Optional t-shirts, with lower entry fee if you don't get one.</p>
103	<p>Nothing I've noticed missing. The races in rural areas should have GU or Gatorade or something I hear they sometimes don't even for half marathons.</p>
107	<p>Entertainment for my kids while they spectate.</p>
112	<p>There is a very disturbing trend of marathons switching to Ultima. Plenty of aid stations with a carb-containing sports drink is my #1 criterion for marathons.</p>
115	<p>With many people having food allergies (peanut/gluten) I would like to see more races offer food that can be eaten by all. I always have to bring my own snacks.</p>
126	<p>Gluten free dairy free post race refreshments This isn't hard, potato chips, bananas, PB, date bars (available in bulk). And have enough refreshments that there's something left at least for mid-pack finishers. It's galling to finish in the top 25% of females and there be no food left.</p>
128	<p>If a half marathon is part of the full marathon race have them start at a different time to avoid too many runners starting at once.</p>
134	<p>team/club competition</p>
137	<p>Better organization. I ran a large race about 3,000 and it started late because traffic was a mess. If you are expecting a record crowd, they should have assigned a few people to help control traffic. I know they are only volunteers but I think that would help for the larger races. Also they could make the cotton race t-shirt optional, reduce the cost for the people who don't want a shirt. After racing for over 10 years you start to accumulate a very large amount of shirts. What to do with all those?</p>
139	<p>n/a</p>
140	<p>Warm food at the finish for cold weather races. A petrified bagel and an apple does not cut it.</p>
141	<p>A lot of races leave a lot to be desired. The organization that I believe does it best, and one to emulate, is the Ragnar Series.</p>
142	<p>Start on time. Accurately measured course. Accurate finish times. After that, it's all frosting on the cake.</p>
146	<p>qualified wave starts in large races</p>
147	<p>Post race coffee.</p>
155	<p>More women's only fields, or 30+ Masters fields</p>
157	<p>Half mile splits.</p>
158	<p>Ease of picking up race items before the race, especially on the day of the race.</p>
160	<p>No.</p>
161	<p>All races are so different – they all have their good and bad aspects. I can't think of any ONE thing they could ALL do to improve races.</p>
162	<p>Breakdown of where race fees go. Especially those that are raising money for charity, I'd like to see readily available details on the website that show how much of my entry fee actually goes to the charity vs. race costs.</p>

Making the t-shirt optional, with an attendant lowered entry fee, is a theme that emerged in the comments.

Some respondents mentioned gluten-free food; another mentioned the need for protein after longer events.

This respondent wanted more transparency/accountability, at least when it came to fundraising events.

164	If race results are posted (i.e. printed and taped up) they should be in LARGE PRINT so fifty runners aren't clumped around one sheet of 8.5x11 paper.	
172	I'd like race directors to ban headphones/MP3 players.	Fantastic idea: results you can read from a distance.
178	No	
179	Carbs and protein after half marathons and marathons, not just carbs. THE BIGGEST THING – an accurate course and STARTING ON TIME.	
180	A clock at the mid-point of the race and at the finish line.	
184	This survey is weird b/c my expectations are different for the various differences. I have much higher expectations for a marathon than I do for a local 5k.	
187	RDs, please keep in mind that not everyone cares about bands and goodie bags. Some of us just want an accurate course with accurate splits and a well-organized RACE, as opposed to a "party" or a "festival."	
188	No.	
197	Races whose purpose is racing -- finding out who's fast.	
198	1) Ability to defer race entry with reasonable cause (e.g. injury, illness). 2) Earlier start times in the summer months. It's outrageous to begin a race @ 9am in New York City in the middle of July.	Earlier start times in hot weather -- another excellent suggestion.
204	lower entry fees	
212	gals shirts. more places are adding this, but shirts cut for gals would be nice! Could care less if they're tech or not, just gals!	Another emerging theme: T-shirts that actually fit women.
219	NYRR switching from dri-fit race shirts to cotton is a huge problem! It would also be nice to have water at the start. And, it would be nice to have splits recorded for the smaller races, just like the NYC Marathon/ Half-marathon.	
220	suggestions for your non-running family to do (museums, family attractions, performing arts, etc.	
222	better rules/enforcement of race etiquette, especially banning headphones	
223	the only thing that really matters is well-marked course and accurate timing.	
224	participant lists	Discounts for USATF members.
226	I would like more road races, including ones not directly put on by USATF, to offer a discount to USATF members. This would presumably encourage more people to join our sport's primary organization. Obviously, the problem is NOT that not enough people are interested in participating in running events. The problem is that the average runner has zero connection to the governing body that should be promoting the sport. (USA Triathlon essentially does this in reverse by charging a one-day license fee to non-members.)	
231	greenness or carbon neutral – t-shirts as options to buy. better recovery areas after races to enjoy the atmosphere more	
233	Better organized starting lines.	Surprisingly, only one commenter noted environmental concerns.
234	As a serious competitive runner, I find that the casual runners oftentimes detract from the race experience by demonstrating poor race etiquette. I feel that race directors can do a much better job at educating the new racers so as to not detract from the serious racers. There are many events in my town that I simply won't run any more because the race organizers failed miserably at this.	
247	Recognition for everyone. The races that have stood out for me are when everyone got a medal not just the fastest people. (Distances less than marathon)	I thought this was a great suggestion -- teach newer runners about racing etiquette (don't come to a dead stop at water stops, etc.). It's easy to do and enhances the experience for all.
251	the questions above got them all	
252	If you give me water and some place to get rid of it, start on time, mark the course clearly and keep crazy bike riders and drivers away from me, I'm pretty happy. Organization is wonderful. I run some ugly/dumb races just because I know they're so well-organized.	
253	Wave starts	
257	A No T-Shirt option. I have enough	
259	a guarantee that the route has been accurately measured using a Jones counter wheel	
260	Women's-cut shirts in SMALL, every race, every time! Female runners are small – doesn't anyone notice that???	
267	no	
271	Don't start short races too early. 9am is early enough. Have wide courses for big races. Don't have U-turns. One needs to slow down enough for a 90 degree turn.	
273	A focus on taking care of competitive runners. Often, it seems like the basic needs of the competitors is an afterthought. Traffic control on combined courses with walkers blocking competitive runners, not having course marshals in place on time or inadequately prepared course marshals who don't do a good job directing race leaders. These things can ruin a race. It is a race after all, right? Don't forget those who are racing.	
276	I just like them simple.	
277	Basically I like to go to the local races that attract the best competition. So, whatever a race director can do to attract the faster runners is good for me. If a race is prone to filling up early, I think that there should be some	

	spaces reserved for local competitive runners to get in -- especially if the race is part of a local race series.	
282	USATF Certified courses are my preference, but there are a few other certifications that can be nearly as accurate, and that's nice, too.	
285	Lower costs.	Guaranteed spots for "local competitives" -- NYRR has just started to do this and I can say, at least anecdotally, that people are very happy about this.
288	One issue I've encountered involves route management when marathoners and half-marathoners converge onto the same course (usually a few miles prior to the finish. At mile 23 or so, the last thing I want is to have to start dodging people walking 3-4 abreast... I've had it happen in a handful of marathons.	
293	better post race food. awesome swag bags	
294	Real time tracking.	This respondent noted how marathoners can often get "shortchanged" when their event is merged with a half marathon.
297	Clydesdale divisions you skinny bastages	
300	Well marked courses. It's unbelievable how many times I have ended up off course, even while leading races.	
304	Lower the fees.	
308	Accurate overall distance. Even if the race isn't certified it should be very close to correct. And mainly, just deliver what you promise. I can make my own adjustments or just not run a race if something is not provided, but if I expect it and it's not there, that's a much bigger problem. BTW, store discounts as prizes are lame. Store gift certificate is fine.	
310	The latest trend that is bothersome to me is how many marathons I now attend where the half marathon is the big event. The main problems have been merging with the half, or nothing left at the finish line for us in terms of food or beer.	
311	I would like to know up front how a race is timed. For example...from the gun or from a timing mat.	
312	I race a lot of very small races that don't have chip timing, and often there are timing errors. I'd like to see more care taken with timing for these tiny races, even if chips aren't affordable - but I would really love to see cheap chip timing for these tiny races! I think that "what is important" depends on the type of race. I think it's a lot more important to have water every 1-2 miles in e.g. a road marathon than in a trail marathon where participants are expected to carry some water.	
313	Paying more attention to finish area logistics, post-race amenities such as food, massage, gear retrieval, etc.	
316	Race day packet pickup!	
318	I would like to see more no frills low cost races.	
324	Chip timing	How about some variation in the goodies -- something more utilitarian than a t-shirt?
328	Different Swag - T-shirts are nice but try something different Ex: Runners socks, shorts, gloves, hats	
333	Post-race beer!!!	
338	a no-t-shirt option more small sizes-I'm 4'11", 95#-how many xxl's do you really need for a distance race?	
342	Race T Shirt should NOT be cotton.	
344	Elevation charts, accurate measurement, crowd/traffic control, preferably USATF certification!	
345	Results posted at the race as soon as available	
346	creativity with 'goodies' ie - how many t-shirts do I need - Also creativity with awards - are metals the only option?	
349	Additional water stops.	
350	Technical shirts - not cotton!!!	More granular AG divisions. I agree: It can be difficult to beat a 40 year old when you're 49.
355	5 year AG divisions, NO Double Dipping On Awards Starting Mats (timing) Better bib distinction between 1/2 and /or Relay runners	
357	Events with both marathon and half marathon, marathoners need their own lane if the 2 races converge prior to the finish line. Marathoners should not have to 'weave through' walkers.	
358	Enforce start corrals: mark course clearly; make sure staff/volunteers know what they are doing; don't feed slower runners in another race (e.g., half, 10K, etc.) in front of faster marathoners toward the end of the race. I do not mean to sound "elitist" in the sense of looking down on slower runners, and I am not bothered at all by increased participation in events, but please don't allow efforts to appeal to the masses end up hurting the race experience for faster runners. I'm happy to have the masses, don't get me wrong; increased participation = more races & more fun.	
366	When Gatorade is indicated on a Course Map, there better be Gatorade there.	Amen. Start corrals are great, but they are useless if they're not enforced.
371	start on time!	
372	Course maps with elevation available at the beginning. A description of the terrain - real trail? asphalt "greenway"? gravel forest road? I want to know so I can decide whether to register and which shoes to wear.	
378	1. well-marked courses at smaller events 2. affordable photos; I will NEVER buy a photo for what they charge. I'd say either don't offer them, or find a way to make it affordable. I would buy a good photo FAIRLY FREQUENTLY if it was a few dollars.	Racers don't like broken promises.
380	More incentives for top place finishers, and races with qualifying times.	
383	seeded corrals	Another excellent idea: help racers keep warm and dry before (as well as after) the race.
389	Mylar blankets in the goody bags, especially in the cooler months (helps keep you warm while waiting for the race to	

	start).	
390	Different colored bibs for the regular, master, and Grandmaster runners so you would know who your competitors were.	
391	Control of pacing groups at the start – enforce rules w/ walkers and strollers starting at the back.	
393	Pizza and Micro Brew.	
394	simple course, not a lot of turns variety of drinks at aid stations	And yet another stroke of genius -- don't make me guess who my AG rivals are.
399	Ensure adequate food for the slower runners!	
402	If corrals aren't feasible, pace markers would be great for lining up at the start. Separate starts for walkers/walker area at the back would be ideal.	
403	age group awards: awards in older categories, not 50+ or 60+ but if there are 5–year spans, keep them going up to 75, then maybe 75+	
405	I find that in many large races the corrals are not monitored and slower people end up in the corrals, thereby slowing the start for those that are in the correct corral. I would like to see stricter monitoring of race corrals. The corral system is not successful if it's not monitored.	
407	Make sure there is enough food/support for the slower runners that come in last. Hate when all the food is gone or no water left.	
410	Cheaper entry fee by not giving out expensive technical shirts at every local 5k, a cotton or even no shirt is better if it reduces costs.	
411	Not really.	Course layout is important. A friend described the London Marathon as "too turny." The Westchester Half ended with a 180 hairpin in the last 200m last year.
412	All I really care about is accurate distance markers for splits and total distance and accurate timing. Clocks are nice, as is water. Having competition is good. Post race food is very appreciated, but I don't choose one race over another because of it. I don't really give a crap about prizes, raffle, etc.	
413	no	
417	Accuracy of distance.	
421	some races need to have more fair age groups for kids...18/under and even 15/under doesn't cut it in 5K/10K races	
422	Bans on personal music players should be much more prevalent and better enforced.	
423	The ability to use your registration the next year (for a small fee is okay) in case of injury.	
429	If you are going to give out age group awards as people cross the finish line be sure do it right (I see lots of mistakes) Also you need to let people know you are doing this. Many people will line up at the rear if you are using timing chips thinking their chip time will be used. BE SURE TO SAY YOU ARE GOING BY GUN TIME IF THAT IS THE CASE	
431	Start corrals with runners grouped by pace.	
432	no	Good point. Let racers know how you're "counting" wins.
433	Websites with good communication including discussion forums are something they should include more.	
434	Crowd control – we shouldn't have to weave around cheerers, even though we're happy they're there. Also, more accurate control and frequent updates of pace corrals – those closer to the front shouldn't have to sacrifice the first miles, and often thus a PR, of a race weaving through people who clearly snuck into the wrong corral. Also, if the race is more than one loop of the same course, there should be aide stations on both sides – on the first loop, we are always told to stay to the left (where the water is), but on the second loop we are always told to stay to the right, which cuts us off from the water or has us weaving through walkers and much slower people still on their first lap.	
435	Not really – except please make sure the cops keep people off the course for us slow runners too! I've been in races where the participants have had to stop for motorists!	Reduce water station chaos by placing them on both sides. Better yet, stagger them L/R to further reduce crowding and increase availability along the course (I've never seen this done).
437	no	
438	I just want an accurate time and distance. And enough bathroom facilities.	
446	The ability to transfer registration at cost to another runner. Most marathons are expensive and require long-in-advance registration, but don't allow participants to transfer registration (only to defer to another year by paying again, which just isn't fair.)	This is unforgivable. Option to easily transfer a bib.
450	no	
451	In larger races, there are often very limited or no warmup areas for the more competitive athlete. I tend to do a fairly thorough warmup before races, and very rarely do larger races afford the space to do so.	
452	cash prizes for winners accurate mile markers on the route timely posting of results	
460	Post–event events: do a BBQ while waiting for awards, or a happy hour if there's a bar nearby.	
463	Transportation from the race without long lines.	
474	Ability to FORCE walkers to the back of the start corrals. Ability to run with a jogging stroller (I really am fast with one!) Make start times for multi–distance events 30 minutes apart from each other.	
488	I think people should take lessons from J&A Racing who organize the Yuengling Shamrock HM and M in VA Beach. I think it's very cool to get a performance t, a finisher's cap, and some additional freebie that has been decided upon (09'	

	lunch bag, 10' long sleeve tshirt).
492	more fruit along courses, many have none
497	Race director should remind walkers to start in the rear, and don't walk 3 or 4 abreast toward the finish line. Also walker should get out of the way of serious runners
501	Nope. Just need an accurate course with accurate markers. Everything else is gravy.
505	hate water stops at the base of or on a hill kills momentum ← Consider course terrain when placing water stops.
507	Don't have company pools of runners with various speed starting ahead of faster runners.
515	Re shirts: either a decent quality tech shirt/singlet... or just a normal cotton (non-running) tshirt. But, not a cheap tech shirt. ← I have gotten several "tech" shirts that are useless for training because they don't breathe properly.
517	Better policing of start corrals
520	accurate mile markers quick distribution of awards

When you've run in a race that had problems, did you communicate with the race director about those problems afterwards?



Value	Count	Percent %
Yes	177	46.3%
No	205	53.7%

Statistics	
Total Responses	382


If you answered "Yes" above, what was the response?

ID	Response Data
101	Yeah, well, you try putting on a race.
102	no response – survey was filled out
103	Didn't have problems so far.
106	very very slow response from RD
109	I received an email acknowledging my concerns and the commitment that they would be addressed, or at least discussed for the following year. Unfortunately, injury kept me from running the following year so I do not know if things changed.
112	Refusal to acknowledge that lack of a sports drink was a problem
113	Haven't received one yet.
114	No response. (Bath Half 2009 when it was delayed by an hour, and water stops were not accessible on the second lap!)
115	WHEN I received a response, it was positive and well received.
117	none
119	No response.
122	I didn't receive any.
124	No response.
125	They were happy to get feedback and wanted to make changed in the future.
126	No response – answered post-race surveys. Hoping that problems will be resolved in future years.
129	None
140	Don't know, NCM asked for a survey and I answered. The big issue that year was baggage check and I hear they've fixed

	that.
141	A lot of race directors are terrible at receiving criticism. Their response is generally, "You don't like it, then organize your own race." For that reason, we are starting a race company to compete for better events in our area.
144	RD took care of problem
145	I participated in a half marathon that went off course – I received an apology and the option to get a free entry the following year
146	from none to excuses
148	A gracious response every time.
149	It was fixed.
151	The next year the problem was taken care of.
152	When I spoke to the RD, she explained that a volunteer failed to show and sent someone to the turnaround point to make sure no one else missed that spot. She also explained the park's rules for marking the ground.
157	Try to improve in the future.
158	The team got back really informative feedback from the director of the Green Mt Relay. I once contacted NYRR and Mary Wittenberg about concerns and did not ever hear back.
161	Not much response. Concerning a timing discrepancy at last sept. Boulder Marathon (a race that had MANY problems) the director said he would "check out the problem and get back to me" – but he never did. I gave up after several emails.
162	Mixed bag. Smaller races where I actually knew the race director – she was receptive to the input. Other times, I never heard a thing.
164	None
166	never got a response.
167	positive
169	Promise to correct the issue for future events.
170	Acknowledgement and a thank you
174	They did alter the start time of the the race associated with the larger race.
175	They took advice and criticism very well and plan on doing better next race.
176	Non-responsive. I was offended.
179	promise to correct course accuracy.
181	they are receptive. only minor things that may possibly put others in danger of getting injured.
183	nothing
184	it was the green mountain relay and the race director emailed my personally. some things changed, others he cldn't change.
187	I was comped my entry fee for the next year.
190	Only if a survey was sent out.
198	Failure. The most readily accessible staff members at NYRR are the rudest. Why are you having bitter old ladies handling the front desk and the registration computer in the back room?
204	removed my name from results on request; missed an unmarked turn
206	Inaccurate courses:some are sorry, some don't care
208	Sometimes I've mentioned something and gotten an explanation for why there was a problem or assurances that it would be taken care of. After a triathlon, I was told the piss off.
211	no response
212	generic email cut and paste/mail merged not responding to my specific suggestion
217	yes
218	Acknowledgement of sorts.
220	Most of the time they've listened
222	apathy
224	–timely response via email
234	Depends on the race and the race director. I've complained twice about races, and one time the race director went above and beyond what I had expected to be an appropriate response. Consequently, I'm running that race again this fall. The other time, my email wasn't replied to. I won't do any of that company's races again.
235	No response.
244	Varied
245	None – landed on deaf ears.

248	I received no response.
249	Sometimes they made changes and soemtimes nothing was done because they did not feel that I had a legitimate concern.
251	just complained online or whoever would listen
254	some took responsibility, others didn't
257	Apology
260	A general thanks.
261	E-mail back within a week.
262	THANK YOU
265	I was told they will be working to address/correct the issue next year. (This was via a Facebook page for the event – without this page available I probably would not have tried very hard to communicate my opinion. It was very easy this way.)
267	none
271	Depends on the RD. Some are very responsive and some aren't.
272	I did not get a response.
273	Occasionally, a positive response that they will look into the concern and even evidence that they are attempting to improve. All too often, an indignant response of "Do you really think a small number of participants are that important?" Of course, that attitude is why competitors make up a small number of their participants.
276	Thanks.
282	Apologies. It was a bad course direction given by a volunteer, who did acknowledge his mistake and apologized for it. No measures were taken to fix the problem and they had a similar problem the next year. I don't run that race any more.
284	They fixed the problem.
286	none!
290	No response.
293	none – anonymous survey
294	I got a nice e-mail from the director and the problem was rectified the following year.
296	Good response. Usually happens with new races.
297	Generally positive for the information and an acknowledgement to look into the issue.
300	"We're sorry, we should have had a volunteer there directing you
305	Positive. Fixed the problem the following year.
307	Usually I don't receive any direct response. However, quite often changes are made that are in line with my observations and comments.
308	The couple times I've gotten an explanation of the issue, or acknowledgement that there was a problem, and an apology. Only once, at 2010 Richmond Xterra 21K, do I recall a totally unsatisfactory response (did not admit how badly they cut the race distance short), but eventually they owned up and offered free entry for next year. Oh, and at one other trail race the last aid station ran out of water, and I told the RD about it and he didn't do anything to resupply it for the slower runners. I just vowed never to run one of his races again.
310	No response.
311	"sorry" and "we will take it into consideration
312	I asked about getting more portapotties at the start of one race. The number was increased from 2 to 3 the following year – but still inadequate.
313	Generally stock.
314	When the course "marshalls" steered me wrong in a race, I told the RD and they stated it would be fixed next year. But, I haven't ran the race again to check because I don't like disorganized races.
316	Sometimes no response to getting full satisfaction
317	Very positive response from RD.
318	It has been difficult for me to communicate with the race directors. Either the email address is not readily available, or there is simply no response.
321	Sometimes corrected immediately or took input for future events
322	mixed: some respond quickly some ignored me
324	responsive
325	I received no response from the RD. The question was about a course that was measured short.
326	I did not personally receive a response (it was a huge race and I didn't really expect to), but the problem was resolved for the following year.
327	didn't get one

328	Thank you and we will work on it next year
331	We are aware of it and working on it.
333	Nothing...or, "Oh. Sorry..."
337	Usually "thank you for the information and we will try to improve, and thanks for the support"
344	It varies. I have one race that still owes me money. Often the response is we tried our best, but that's just the way it goes.
345	Generally negative unless I knew the RD personally.
346	Varies – Sometimes an apology to do better, sometimes arrogance..
347	No response.
350	No help. The volunteers directed the runners off course and I lost several minutes because of that and missed a qualifying time by about 1 minute.
351	Generally acknowledgment of problem but no concrete resolution.
353	I never got a response. Course direction and accurate mile markers are important to me.
355	We had planned on single awards, sorry if it didn't happen
356	For a local 5K I got a very pleasant response when asking about finish line photography
357	No response from RD.
358	RD apologized but blamed the charity volunteers for not directing runners properly along the course.
365	Not very helpful. Told them a 5k course was off by at least 400 meters and was just told it wasn't certified.
372	That it was a new race and they would try to do better next time. Sincere.
378	One was very helpful, and promised to make suggested improvements. She even followed up later. The second race/race director never responded.
385	No response!
388	He answered quickly and seemed to appreciate the input.
389	N/A -- the race director sent out a survey so responses were anonymous.
394	polite thanks. They did change the course I complained about
395	resolved the next year
400	they respond but tend to not address the issue I brought up
402	They made a mistake with the data entry and wouldn't give us the shirt we'd prepaid for even after we brought the canceled registration check. Went back and forth over e-mail and they still haven't refunded the money. We will never run in any Terrapin Events races again.
403	Empathy, and a pledge to do better. One director gave me a free entry to another race he directed.
409	general feedback, organization
410	Acknowledged that things could have gone better and promised to make it better in the future.
413	That the issue would be fixed
417	Timely, understanding, and they said they would consider this for next year.
419	acknowledged the problem, but tried to downplay it.
421	they would consider it
423	That is just the way it is... I do this race to make money.
427	Nothing.
428	Defensiveness and denial
429	They are volunteers
430	no reply to email
433	A personal e-mail in response and little change the subsequent year.
434	With NYRR, the few times I have bothered, usually either none or a canned one-liner that doesn't acknowledge the issue or make any indication of plans to work on it. With any of the smaller races I've ever had an issue with, the Race Director is always open to questions or suggestions and even welcomes them.
435	I didn't get any feedback.
437	They were always happy for the feedback.
438	It depends if they are runners or not. If not runners they just don't get it.
440	It's been more than once and they have always been receptive and promise to fix the problem.
441	Well the race director asked me if there were any problems.
442	There was no response. It was in regards to the NYC marathon, where a whole bunch of people had similar problems. We

	were able to voice our concerns in a post race survey. We'll see, in November, if they took our concerns seriously.
444	Timing problem was resolved immediately.
446	Sometimes none, sometimes an e-mail in response
452	"we'll work on it for next year
456	I got a response almost right away from the RD.
457	We were directed the wrong way in a half-marathon, and the course was slightly long in the first place. He overheard me telling someone that they did a poor job, and he asked me why. I told him those things were vital to the race. He apologized, but didn't seem to care all that much.
468	I received a positive response acknowledging the issue. It was a first time race and they said they would try to correct it in the future.
469	Positive both times.
470	Canned response ... "thanks for the input, we value your opinion" ... really??
475	Fairly quick response and the situation rectified.
480	negative response with no admission of issues
483	did not get one!!!!
484	Missing results were added to official list, award given to wrong runner was mailed to home address
492	no response
494	They didn't respond or fix the problem. Had the same problem the next year.
497	He thanked me for the feedback
501	Information taken into account for the next year's race.
502	For a 10k, i came in 2nd but was shown as 5th in the rankings. When they noticed their error they fixed it.
504	None
505	favorable
506	They informed me of the change they were making in the shuttle buses.
507	Here in Norway when you complain about the race running out of Gatorade/water they don't even apologize. Or they blame the runners for not bringing your own.  Apparently the outlook is particularly bleak in Norway.
512	Good, they pledged to correct it the next year.
514	I usually don't get a response back from the RD
517	They would look into it.
519	Sometimes there was no response.
520	yes - usually just an acknowledgement of issue

If you answered "No" above, why didn't you provide your feedback?

ID	Response Data
103	Didn't have problems so far.
104	The biggest problems I've had have been with poorly marked courses, where turnarounds and turns aren't well-marked. Once I even missed a turn within half a mile from the finish because it was not marked and there were no volunteers. But, I don't think I've ever complained because I don't want to be a complainer. I probably should in some circumstances as it might help the race directors.
107	Never had a problem so bad that I thought I should bother a RD to correct.
111	I provide feedback if given a survey.
120	Didn't think it mattered or they would take my input to heart.
123	Wasn't that big of a deal.
127	Didn't take the time. If inaugural race then I might think, I'll try it next year. If not, just wouldn't race it again.
134	I don't like to be the "whiner" or "complainer" when there's something wrong. I've been raised to just deal with it.
135	For the rare occurrence that I'd had a problem with a race, but didn't feel it was anything to be dramatic over -- or didn't even know who to contact.
136	Problems are usually minor, and besides, I have bigger things to think about- like running. If something major went wrong (poorly marked course, etc) I would definitely speak up.
137	Wasn't sure who the race director was among the 3,000 people.
142	No intention to run the race again. The essentials of a good race are so basic that screwing them up automatically

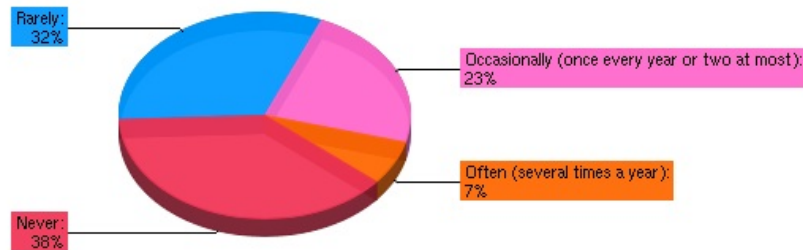
	scratches that race from any future consideration.
147	No way to contact them that I know of. this is a good idea though, and i will look for it in future races.
153	they have enough stress and get enough complaints from the whiners.
154	Don't want to be a whiner. Race Directors have a tough job.
155	Haven't had a significant complaint
156	Generally, my complaints have been about fairly small items that I did not think were worth bringing up. The one major disaster, Chicago Marathon 2007, was so well-publicized and accepted that my feedback was not necessary.
160	Haven't had problems in the races I have run.
163	They never seem to care about improvement just surviving the event day.
165	It was addressed online by others
172	Couldn't be bothered. I would most likely just decide to not do the race in the future.
173	Only minor quibbles. I've loved the races I've been in.
177	Figured no one would listen or do anything about it.
178	Lazy?
179	sometimes no, because I didn't think it would be addressed.
180	Simply because I just didn't want to put up with their excuses.
188	Never had a real serious issue. Only water stations missing in vegas. Realized it was the last time that promoter had the race, so they were not going to care.
189	Didn't know how to get intouch with the race director
192	I've never really been dissatisfied with the races that I've attended
193	I haven't had any big problems in races.
195	problems had already been communicated by other runners
197	Seems like a losing battle. Too many races are too expensive and try to do too much: fundraising, elite runners, variable distances..
200	i'm only one of thousands of runners. my voice doesn't count
202	Didn't want to take the time to do so.
203	I have sometimes provided feedback, but rarely. In a couple cases, I didn't provided feedback because I was out of town and knew I would never go back. Sometimes I didn't contact the RD because they were already aware of the problems.
205	indifferent
207	I would never run that race again, and tell my friends of my experience.
209	It never occurred to me.
215	No problems that needed feedback.
219	Too much effort. And, I'm not really that upset about any of these things.
223	didn't think there was any point.
227	I just dont race there again
229	I finished the race which was the most important to me .
231	posted on message boards – didn't want to complain directly
232	I'm simply not coming back next year, if the problems are big.
233	Didn't know who the race director was
236	Small injury (half marathon) walked 6 miles to the finish line (by choice).
237	didn't figure it would be listened to
239	Had to rush off to work afterwards.
240	The last half marathon in Paris was such a disaster that it wasn't necessary to give my own feedback.
241	I usually didn't think it would matter
246	Did not have a way to communicate with the race director.
247	Too big of a race. Felt insignificant.
250	There were no split clocks at any mile markers. But, I was given a free entry by the elite coordinator. I though it would be rude to complain about a free race entry.
251	didnt seem like there were proper channels that welcomed feedback
252	I just won't run future races with that organizer. In both cases, the screw ups have been monumental, not something that could be fixed with a "suggestion."
253	I didn't think anyone would care or do anything about the problems.

255	wouldn't make a difference
256	I will usually fill out a review on marathonGuide.com because I know race directors read that. That's about as much feedback as I usually leave.
259	won't run there again next year
266	I haven't had any issues.
268	I thought I'd better prepare myself instead of relying on race director.
275	I just figure I'm sure someone else will complain about it.
277	The problem was not severe enough that I felt the need to report it.
278	Didn't know how
279	Just felt it would not be effective..
280	Issue seemed minor at the time.
285	They just make excuses.
288	If I don't plan to go back, why bother?
295	didn't want to take the time to do so
298	Not worth the hassle, probably won't run the same race again, and/or problems weren't bad enough to communicate.
302	Wasn't sure how.
303	No easy avenue for doing so.
304	I had no problems.
309	I've never had any problems.
323	I have not encountered anything so egregious that it warranted contacting the director.
332	I was embarassed with my time
334	Seemed like it was a general consensus and those more familiar with the people involved were going to speak with the RD.
338	complaint very minor
339	didn't take initiative to find contact info and send an email
340	Usually I just don't like to complain.
342	They ran out of water—but it was fairly obvious and everyone knew.
343	I've never had a major issue with a race.
348	N/A
349	Didn't think to provide feedback.
352	too much effort
354	Didn't feel the need to
359	never happened
360	I did not have easy access to the RD.
366	Process is too hard in NYRR races. Too many people, too hard to access NYRR workers.
367	Not a big deal.
368	I am pretty easy going, no major problems.
369	didnt think it would change anything
371	not important enough
374	No major problems.
375	not easy to find and provide feedback
377	I'll just not attend that race in the future. But I may also post a negative review online if it was egregious.
380	I think race directors are generally more concerned with appealing to the average—runner crowd rather than listen to some faster guys complain at nit—picky stuff.
383	It seemed like plenty of other people already emailed the RD about the issues and I didn't want to hassle him/her. If I felt strongly that something should change and that the RD was not aware, I would not hesitate to email him/her.
384	I guess I thought they wouldn't care or take my suggestions into consideration.
387	They should figure it out by themselves...
391	Felt that feedback would be ignored given size of event and total lack of concern by race directors for enforcing the posted rules (strollers/music/walking).
392	haven't run in a race yet with problems worth reporting ...
397	Didn't want to bother (the RD or me!)

398	Didn't really know much about running/racing at the time.
399	No way to easily contact RD
404	did not feel it was worth the trouble. a famous race director who ran the race told me he would address the issue with that race's director.
405	I got lazy!
406	I probably thought someone else would say something
407	too new at races
412	I can't recall any race that had major problems.
422	The problems weren't massive and I just decided not to do the race again the subsequent year.
424	Reputation often precedes the run. For the few races that were not well organized I've known in advance from others' past experience.
431	The race was my first race following surgery, it was not competitive, the crowds were not there for a fast race, but for a social event, so it didn't matter that the distance was shorter than advertised.
434	With regards to NYRR, because I get tired and discouraged by the lack of proper gravity given to an issue. When they make mistakes on the courses, they never acknowledge them (examples: running out of water during a 1/2 Marathon; quite inaccurate course mile marker locations); it takes multiple weeks and sometimes even months to correct results mistakes or team affiliation issues; results disappear from individual racers' history and the burden is put upon the runner to notice it and then give them the information all over again, to have it corrected (even if it was multiple months or years ago); etc... all issues my team has experienced. With other Race Directors, if there is an issue at all, it is usually acknowledged and corrected very quickly.
439	No major problems in any races so far.
443	Others mentioned the problem
447	wasn't sure how to do it
449	Hassle trying to track down the race director or didn't know who it was.
451	Never had a serious enough problem to be worth communicating.
453	Too lazy.
454	It wasn't bad enough that I remembered the next day.
458	Didn't care that much
459	Not a serious enough problem in my opinion
460	I've never run a race with substantial problems.
461	Too much hassle
462	because I would feel like a jerk. Usually if I'm unhappy with the organization of a race I simply don't go back.
463	It was Marine Corps Marathon and it was really busy and I thought that my complaint wasn't important enough...
465	N/A
467	Every event will have hiccups. There
472	I've never run in a race with serious problems.
473	Because it is not so convenient as it should be.
474	Didn't think that it would have mattered either way.
476	Did not know how to contact.
477	Didn't figure it was worth my time or effort.
478	too busy to bother
479	Haven't run any races with real problems.
481	It was not a competitive race, I was using it for rehab
482	never had a problem
486	Not sure where to direct it.
487	Figured someone else already filed complaint.
488	I just completed the standard surveys that were sent out.
489	No way to communicate online
490	Don't want to wait around
491	Most of the races I run are fairly well organized and promoted.
493	Didn't care to spend the time.
495	?
502	I have also not said anything (for larger races)... I prob should have but to be honest, I assumed no one would listen!

503	only race with issues was Chicago Marathon 2007, and clearly they heard feedback from many other thousand people.
509	Was my first "bigger" race and first half marathon and I wasn't comfortable with the experience enough to know if what I experienced (45 minute late start in 20 degree weather with no explanation) was normal or typical of races.
513	Just didn't have the time or didn't think it would make a difference.
515	Results were wrong and delayed. But, I figured Director would organise and fix it up in due course (and they did) and there wasn't much use in complaining.
521	Didn't seem important enough to contact the race director

How often do you purchase official race photos of yourself or others?

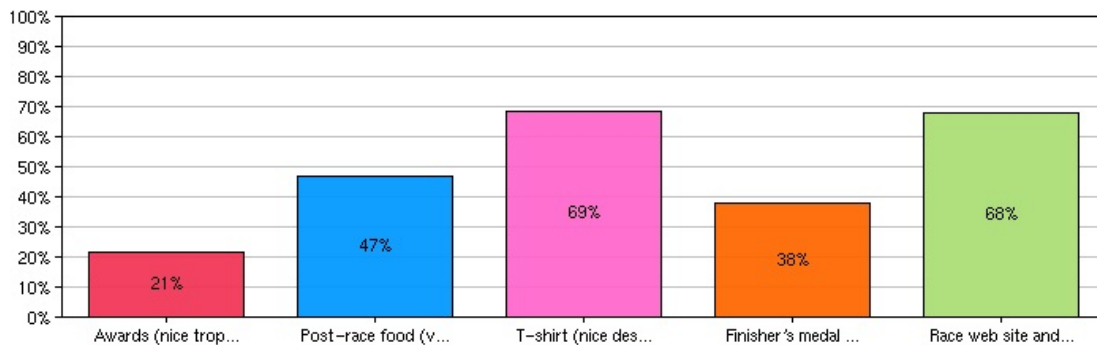


Value	Count	Percent %
Often (several times a year)	28	6.9%
Occasionally (once every year or two at most)	92	22.8%
Rarely	129	32%
Never	154	38.2%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

Over 70% of participants could probably forego race photography. Well over a third have never, ever purchased a race photos. How does Brightroom make money?

Of the following items, which ones do you want to be of a very high quality?

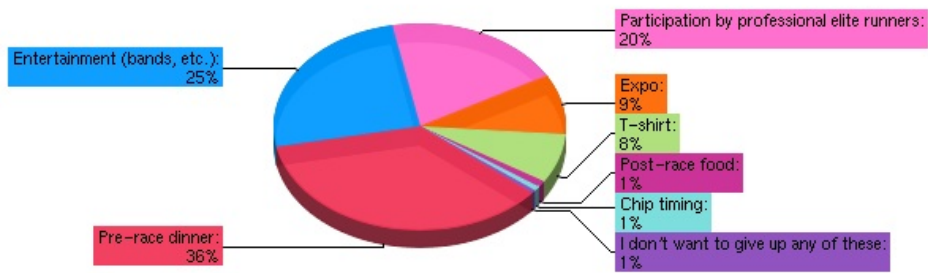


Value	Count	Percent %
Awards (nice trophies, plaques, etc.)	85	21.4%
Post-race food (variety, appropriate for the event, hot food served hot, enough utensils, etc.)	186	46.9%
T-shirt (nice design, technical fabric)	272	68.5%
Finisher's medal (well made, attractively designed)	150	37.8%
Race web site and information (easy to navigate, easy to read, good course maps, detailed information, etc.)	270	68%

Statistics	
Total Responses	397



If you could lower the cost of a race's registration fee by a third by giving up one of the following items, which one would you choose to give up?

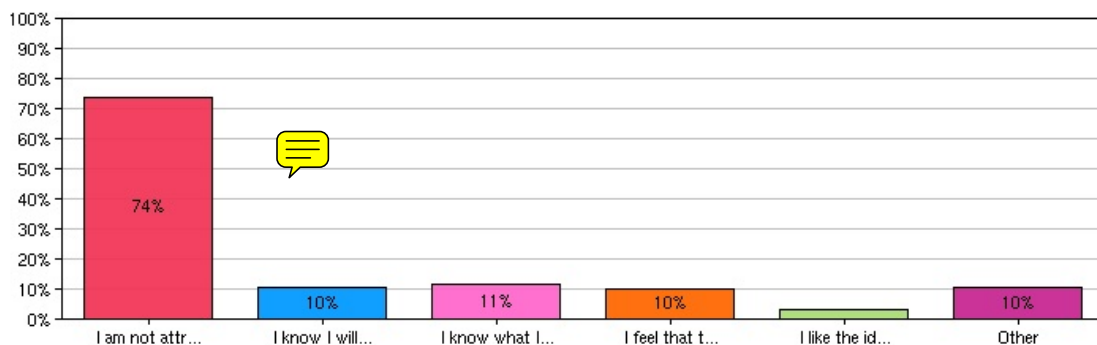


Value	Count	Percent %
T-shirt	31	7.7%
Expo	38	9.4%
Roads closed to traffic and police presence		0%
Entertainment (bands, etc.)	101	25.1%
Chip timing	3	0.7%
Pre-race dinner	144	35.7%
Post-race food	4	1%
Participation by professional elite runners	80	19.9%
I don't want to give up any of these	2	0.5%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

Virtually no one was willing to race on roads that are open to traffic in order to save money. Nor will they dispense with chip timing or post-race food.

Are you attracted to "branded" events, such as the "Rock and Roll" series of races? If so, why:



Value	Count	Percent %
I am not attracted to these types of events	298	73.9%
I know I will have a consistent experience across these races	42	10.4%
I know what I'll be getting in terms of spectators, expo, post-race party	46	11.4%
I feel that the level of excitement is higher in these races	40	9.9%
I like the idea of working to complete an entire series of races	13	3.2%
Other	42	10.4%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

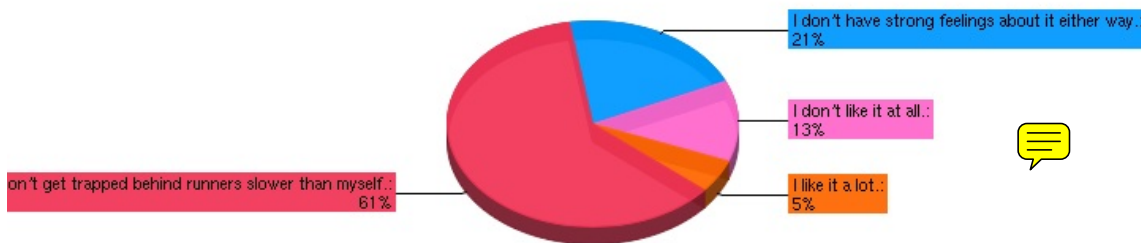
If you answered "Other" above, please provide details.

ID	Response Data
105	The costs are too damned high. For-profit road running? Seriously?
114	No idea what branded events are
120	Not attracted to them.
137	I am attracted to these but it's too far to travel most of the time. I've run races that have bands play, mostly high schools but it still helps to get you pumped up, gets your adrenaline flowing again.
154	I do like the concept, but tend to not do them due to the cost.

158	I find these events to be expensive and crowded.
164	I am not excited about the idea of branded events pushing out long-standing, established races and homogenizing the character of our sport. We've already done it to our stores, why do we need to do it to our running?
169	I do not like all the extras. I would prefer to pay less and NOT have on course entertainment, t-shirts, medals etc. However, I do like how these events tend to be well organized, including separate starting corrals based on finishing time and/or previous race times, accurate mile markers, as well as ample on course support. I also like that those events do support elite runners and therefore the sport by offering prize money.
206	I am repelled because these events are usually just profit making ventures—the racing aspect is lost along the way—poor course, inaccurate, no splits, poorly scored, etc
218	Neutral.
226	I am not interested in participating in a Rock and Roll race (even though there is one in my hometown!) because their entry fees amount to extortion. My goal is to run a fast time, and I would just as soon not deal with 20,000 other people to do so. In contrast, I participate in triathlons, and have participated in an Ironman-branded event and will do so again because these are not only consistently well run and managed, but also attract a high level of competition at the age group level, more so than most local races.
231	don't have these in ireland
239	It just means there will be a ton of people in the race, but a good part is if you want to run a fast time you can try to get up front and go with the elites at the start.
253	N/A -- they don't have branded events where I live.
256	Sometimes these events turn me off, since it feels like they are just trying to make money on these events. The participants get treated like a number to be shuffled from the shuttle to the start to the corral through the race, through the finisher chute and then you are done. I like races with a more laid back atmosphere.
260	Pretty neutral on them. If they offer a good value of amenities that *I* find important relative to the entry cost, then I'll participate.
279	Too many people, runners are slower, hard to navigate around slower runners. Don't like bigger races in general.
293	never run a branded event
297	I'm running my 3rd Marine Corps marathon due to a request from another participant I've run with. First time was charity fund raiser second was for myself. I wasn't planning a 3rd marathon due to some physical issues. But I do plan to finish.
300	The only good thing about them is that there are generally enough faster runners that I have people to run with. In small races, I often am left alone, behind the lead pack, but in front of the masses. Otherwise, events like the Rock n Roll series just seem to be overpriced and overcomplicated.
311	I have not participated in these events yet.
324	I have not run a "branded" event. I will run my first on 9/19/2010 in Philly
338	I wouldn't mind doing one, but I wouldn't say I'm "attracted" to it.
342	They've taken over races that have been around, so you don't really have a choice but to participate in a "Rock n Roll" event. An example is the Philadelphia Distance run.
343	I choose races by things such as distance, course, location (will I have to travel) and how it fits into my overall training schedule. The "branding" of an event really doesn't impact my decision.
345	They're becoming mass spectacles uncondusive to racing for all but the top tier,
358	Not particularly attracted to nor repelled by such events.
362	I am repelled from Rock&Roll events. Too much hoopla & high prices.
370	There will be a lot of people there. I like big races.
372	I have not run in one yet.
378	I said "never" because they seem expensive if I remember correctly.
384	I have yet to run a branded event, so I have no feedback.
390	The branded events are good but there are lots of good not-branded events so I would not let my choice be influenced by this.
400	I've run those events, but only because they fit well into my schedule
419	"not attracted" for me isn't negative, just neutral
420	Doesn't matter to me.
434	When I do sign up for these series races, I do so expecting a large amount of registrants, which means that I then expect the large-race amenities that go with them, such as tons of race weekend and course information, highly organized registration/pick-up and start/finish areas, great on-course entertainment and cheerleading, a great expo, and really, really good swag (participant) bags.

451	I'm not attracted to or repelled by these sorts of events. In my experience, the quality of the race depends as much on the participants as it does the organizers.
458	I stay away from those races at ALL costs. It's like the TGIF jof racing, no personality or tie to the community whatsoever
467	I have not run any races that require travel, yet.
472	I have never participated in a branded race. I would not be attracted to the rock n roll series just because of the name. If I ran in one it would be because the time and place were right.
484	I have mostly entered in race series held by local clubs as opposed to national brands, had a bad experience with a national brand once
488	I did my first RnR this year....what made it great was the locale and the weather. Pretty commercial, though and definitely about making the buck.
501	There will be fast people to race, accurate courses, nice prizes. (Too be fair, I've yet to do a Rock 'N Roll, but would love to sometime.)
502	This races annoy me - seem to be more focused on entertainment and less on racing. And it shows when they charge over \$100 for a *half* marathon!!

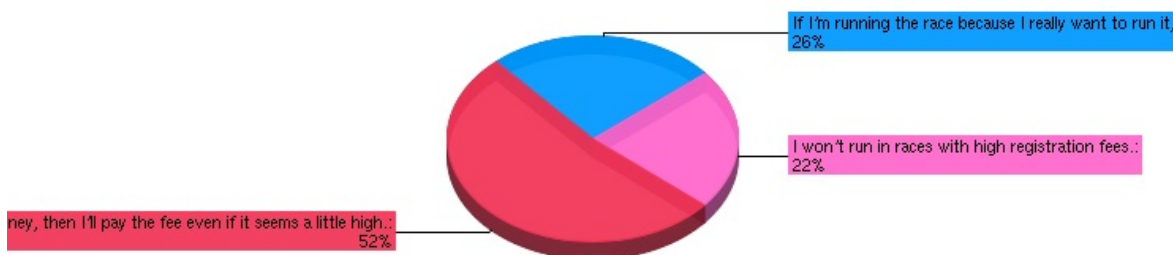
Some race organizers hold multiple races on a single course at the same time, such as a marathon and a half marathon. How do you feel about this?



Value	Count	Percent %
I like it a lot.	21	5.2%
I don't like it at all.	51	12.7%
I don't have strong feelings about it either way.	84	20.8%
It's okay as long it's not too crowded and I don't get trapped behind runners slower than myself.	247	61.3%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

How much does the cost of registration affect your decision to run in a race or not?



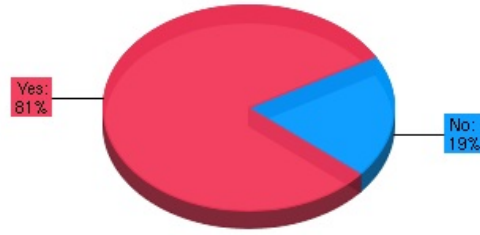
Value	Count	Percent %
I won't run in races with high registration fees.	89	22.1%
If I think I'm getting a lot of value for my money, then I'll pay the fee even if it seems a little high.	211	52.4%
If I'm running the race because I really want to run it, then the fee is	103	25.6%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

not relevant.

100 23.0%

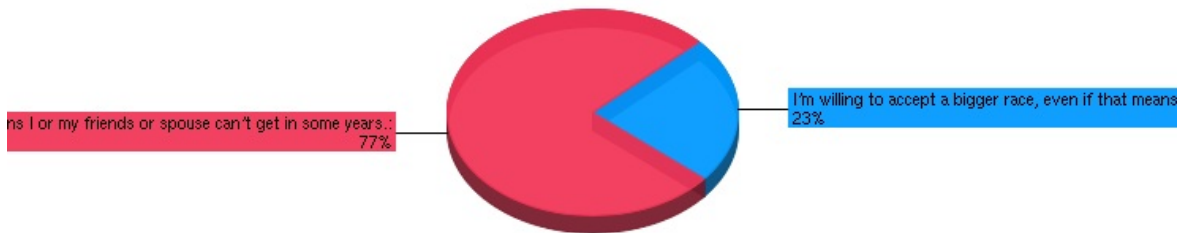
When evaluating whether a race registration fee is reasonable or not, do you take into consideration the length of the race?



Value	Count	Percent %
Yes	325	80.6%
No	78	19.4%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

Certain races have become so popular that they've had to limit the race field through things like lotteries. Others are simply expanding their field sizes to meet demand. Which approach do you support?



Value	Count	Percent %
I'm in favor a limiting participation to keep the race at a size that's manageable, even if that means I or my friends or spouse can't get in some years.	310	76.9%
I'm willing to accept a bigger race, even if that means crowded conditions, so that everyone can take part.	93	23.1%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

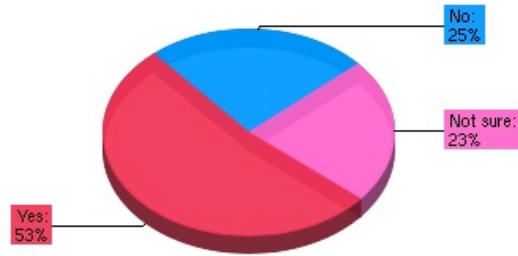
If a race field size has to be limited, which method do you prefer?



Value	Count	Percent %
First come first serve (the race takes registrations until the field is full, which can happen in a few hours)	308	76.4%
Random drawing (lottery system, where names are chosen from the entire pool of lottery entrants)	95	23.6%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403

Would you like to see more races that runners have to qualify for in order to be accepted, such as the Boston Marathon?



Value	Count	Percent %
Yes	212	52.6%
No	100	24.8%
Not sure	91	22.6%

Statistics	
Total Responses	403