

Credit Union Cherry Blossom

April 6&7, 2024

Official Program

51st Running



Photo: Clay Shaw

Sara Hall, at age 39, won the 2023 U.S. Women's 10 Mile Championships in a personal best 52:37; in 2021 she ran 52:43, as 4th American and 6th overall.



Photo: Karen Mitchell

Hillary Bor took the 2023 U.S. Championships win by setting an American record 46:11—topping a 40-year-old record by two seconds.

2024 Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile & USATF 10 Mile Championships

Four hotly contested races in one: It doesn't get much better.

For the second year in a row, and the third time in four years, the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile will host the national Ten Mile Championships in Washington D.C. The cherry blossoms may have peaked in March this year, but in the lull between January's Olympic Marathon Trials and buildup to the USATF Olympic Track and Field trials and later the summer Olympics, competitors are checking their fitness in events like the 10 Mile—which is long enough to test readiness for a marathon without beating up the legs, and short enough to combine speed with endurance to prepare for middle distances like the 3000m steeplechase, 5000m and 10,000m Olympic track distances.

The event will once more wrap four races into one: the women's "international" race with a prize purse open to all pro women, the

Women's American Championships race with prizes for Americans only; and a corresponding pair of races on the men's side.

A \$74,600 prize purse intensifies



Photo: David Hicks

Rachel Smith, who won the this year's USATF 15K Championships in Jacksonville, is favored for top honors at Cherry Blossom.

the thrill of the chase. The U.S. Championships prize money totals \$42,600 and prizes go 10 deep; the

"International" purse open to all pro runners totals \$32,000, with prizes also going 10 deep. The U.S. Championships winner gets \$10,000; the international winner gets \$6,000. American runners may "double dip"—for example an American placing 3rd in the U.S. Championships but 5th overall would get \$2,500 in championships money plus \$1,000 in international money. There are additional prizes for Americans in the RRCA's RunPro Camper program, team awards, and time bonuses available to all runners. For a breakdown of the prize money click [here](#).

The 10 Mile is part of the Professional Road Racing Organization (PRRO) Circuit. The male and female winners at Cherry Blossom will be eligible (as will be winners of other events in the circuit) to compete for the \$15,000 PRRO Super Bonus to be awarded at this year's

PRRO Championships at the Lilac Bloomsday 12K in Spokane, WA, on May 5th. For details click on <http://www.prro.org/races.html>.



Photo: Michael Scott

Emily Durgin, four seconds behind Rachel Smith in Jacksonville's 15K Championships, could go stride-for-stride with Smith at Cherry Blossom, along with Annie Frisbie who trailed Durgin by 58 seconds in Jacksonville.

Championships continued on page 2



Photo: Clay Shaw

2023 Overall Women's Winner Sarah Chelangat celebrates with Ugandan national flag.

Note: in the narrative below, "PB" stands for a runner's personal best, the official term for what is popularly known as "PR" or personal record.

Women's International Field: Youth Speaks Volumes

In most years, performance differences between the top non-American runners and the top American runners set the two groups distinctly apart. This year, due to the highly competitive nature of the U.S. Championships field, the main difference between the two groups is age. The average age of the top-seeded non-American women is 24. The average age of the top-seeded American women is 31. History gives the nod to the youngsters in the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile,

of any nationality. In the last nine years going back to 2014 (there was no race in 2020), women 26 or younger claimed six wins, and the average age of winners was 27. The youngest in that period was last year's winner, Ugandan **Sarah Chelangat**, then age 21, running solo for most of the last five miles to finish in 52:04. She put 33 seconds between herself and the runner-up—U.S. champion Sara Hall—by keeping up a metronomic pace with 5K splits of 16:16, 16:00, and 16:05 through 15K. This year Chelangat is the presumptive winner. Now 22, she has already run 10Ks in 30:24 and 30:26 (both in Spain) since New Years Day, and in 2023 ran half marathons in 1:07:59 in Copenhagen and 1:08:04 in Hong Kong. She won the Diamond League 5000m in Stockholm in a Ugandan national record 14:40.88. Another 22-year-old, Ethiopian **Tegest Ayalew** is the most likely to rival Chelangat all the way to the finish. Ayalew finished 3rd in Spain's Santa Pola Half Marathon in 1:09:17 this year, and last year ran half marathons in 1:08:06 in Warsaw, Poland, and 1:09:43 in Gqeberha, South Africa. Another Ugandan, **Esther Chebet**, age 26, could stay near the front, having run 31:40 in France's Route de Lille 10K on March 17. Kenyans **Kasanesh Baze**, with a 1:08:40 half marathon in Ghent, Belgium last year, and **Sarah**

Naibei, winner of Philadelphia's Broad Street Run 10 Mile in 2022 with a time of 52:04, could make for a lead group five-strong. If you'd guessed the last three are under age 27, you'd have a triple: they are 26, 24, and 25, respectively. The East Africans are hardly guaranteed a lock on the top six places overall: there is at least one American who could infiltrate their ranks from start to finish. Let's look next at who will be vying for the U.S. National Championships.

Women's U.S. 10 Mile Championships: A Replay of the U.S. 15K Championships in Jacksonville in March? The three top contenders for the Women's U.S. 10 Mile Championships just happened to have raced against each other on March 2nd, in the 15K Championships in Jacksonville, Florida's Gate River Run. They finished one minute and two seconds apart, as in 48:26-48:30-49:28. The three would be winner **Rachel Smith**, third place **Emily Durgin**, and fourth place **Annie Frisbie**.

The times in Jacksonville were close between the three, but Rachel Smith will have an edge in the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile by virtue of raw speed, given how flat the Cherry Blossom course is. Smith competed under the name Rachel Schneider until her marriage in September 2021 to Mike Smith, director of cross country and track and field at Northern Arizona University. She has been a track standout since high school, with a 4:02.26 best at 1500m, 4:20.91 at 1 mile, 8:46.44 (3000m), 14:52.04 (5000m), and 31:04.02 (10,000m). This year in the USATF indoor championships, she sizzled through 1500m in 4:13.76, and 3000m in 9:10.21. In 2021, she qualified for the U.S. Olympic team at 5000m, finishing in 3rd place in 15:28.11. Smith has something of a "home field advantage" on the national park roads traversed by the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile: in the 20-teens, she enjoyed training on them while studying for undergraduate and graduate degrees at Georgetown. Emily Durgin's and Annie Frisbie's strengths lie elsewhere, at long road distances: 15K, 10 miles, 20K, half marathon, and marathon. Frisbie has the fourth-



Photo: Aman

Shadrack Kimining in Aramco Houston Half Marathon

fastest time for an American woman at Cherry Blossom, posting a 52:26 when she was 5th overall and 3rd in the U.S. championships in 2021. For the most part, Durgin has placed ahead of Frisbie in major competitions; an exception was the 2022 USATF 10 Mile Championships in Minneapolis, where Frisbie ran her PB of 52:10, finishing 2nd against Durgin's 52:16 in 3rd place. Last year, Durgin won the Bolder Boulder 10K, timed in 33:25 at altitude, placed 3rd in the U.S. 20K Championships, and 7th in the New York Mini Women's 10K in 31:35. In 2022, Durgin placed 6th in the Aramco Half Marathon in 1:07:54. Durgin and Frisbie had a near-tie in February's Olympic Marathon Trials in Orlando, finishing 9th and 10th in the identical time of 2:27:56. How Durgin finished was hair-raising. She fell within sight of the finish line, picked herself up, scrambled to the line a stride ahead of Frisbie—and promptly collapsed. She recalls being taken off in a wheelchair with an "ice tank." That a gritty Durgin made it to the finish line in a race where many of the big names dropped out—among them Aliphine Tuliamuk, Betsy Saina, Keira D'Amato, Nell Rojas, and Molly Huddle—shows a rare level of determination. Durgin's fast finish at Gate River signaled she was coming back to the top of her game. At age 27, Frisbie takes the long view. Disappointed in the 10th-place 2:27:56 in this year's Marathon Trials, she is already looking forward to the 2028 Olympic cycle. Training with the Olympic Trials' third place Dakotah Lindwurm as part of the



Photo: Clay Shaw

Fast company: Annie Frisbie (#30) in 2021 USATF National Championships with championships winner Nell Rojas (#42), Kenyan Antonina Kwambai (#22), and Olympic and World Championships medalist Jenny Simpson (#46). Frisbie finished fifth overall and third in the U.S. Championships.

Minnesota Distance Elite—the two finished 5th and 6th in last year’s U.S. 20K championships in the same time of 1:07:42—Frisbie takes heart in the arc of Lindwurm’s career. To outrace speedster Rachel Smith, road warriors Durgin and/or Frisbie will have to drive a hard enough pace to take the sting out of Smith’s finishing speed. That kind of strategy worked for Nell Rojas in the 2021 race, as middle-distance Olympian Jenny Simpson stuck with the lead group through nine miles. It was Simpson’s first road race of longer than one mile (having won New York’s Fifth Avenue Mile eight times), and she was about to learn something. Rojas launched a long kick up the slope on Raoul Wallenberg Place approaching the finishing straight, and held on to defeat Simpson by three seconds. Kenyans Antonia Kwambai and Caroline Rotich, followed by Frisbie, all arrived within the next 10 seconds. Whatever the ambitions of Smith, Durgin and Frisbie might be, there’s no counting out **Molly Huddle**, this year’s only two-time Olympic finalist (at 10,000m in 2012 and 2016). At age 39, Huddle is making a comeback and is always a threat in a major competition. She placed 7th in last year’s United Airlines NYC Half in 1:12:27 (where she beat Frisbie by 59 seconds), after taking 10th place in the Aramco Half Marathon in 1:10:01. Due to a stress fracture, Huddle had to back off competition until the fall of 2023, placing 5th in Boston’s 10K for Women in 32:50 in October. Finishing up 2023, in November Huddle ran in her first marathon since 2019, 2:32:02 in New York City for 9th place, while taking home \$15,000 as second American. With her long experience at the height of the distance running scene, Huddle is well prepared to take advantage of any opportunity that comes up.

Unexpected opportunities always do come up, and there’s a pack of talented American women ready to seize them if the favorites have an off day. In particular, **Jackie Gaughan** or **Tristin Van Ord** could break into the top tier.

Men’s International Field: Kenyans Have the Edge - Mostly The “international field” usually fo-



Photo: Clay Shaw

In 2023, U.S. 10 Mile Championships winner Hillary Bor was challenged by 2021 U.S. 10 Mile Champion Biya Simbassa (#17). In 2024, they are expected to have a rematch.

cuses on East Africans, but this year **Hillary Bor**, gunning for an American men’s record, may take the fight to three highly-seeded Kenyans up front : **Wesley Kiptoo**, **Shadkrack Kimining**, and **Raymond Magut**. Of the three, Wesley Kiptoo impressed the most this year: 1:00:43 in Houston’s Aramco Half Marathon in January, good for second place. In 2023 he won the Falmouth Road Race 7 Mile in a course record 31:08, won the Pittsburgh Half Marathon for the second straight year in 1:01:21 where he holds the event record, and ran 2:10:28 in his debut marathon in Chicago. Kimining is one of only 16 runners who have gone under 45:50 in the 50-year history of the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile: in 2022 he was 3rd overall in 45:48. Last October he placed 2nd in the Cardiff (Wales) Half Marathon in 1:00:48, and seventh in the Ant-rim Coast (UK) Half Marathon in 1:01:20 in August. The third Kenyan of note is **Raymond Magut**, whose recent results might look unspectacular—except that he set a torrid course record of 45:14 in Philadelphia’s Broad Street Run 10 Mile last May (it’s a notoriously fast, non-record-eligible course which has been referred to as a “drag strip” by the editors of *Race Results Weekly*, but getting close to 45 minutes for

10 miles on foot is still a big deal). Magut has a half marathon best of 1:00:16 in the Berlin Half Marathon in 2021; if he recovers that form he will contest the overall win.

Men’s U.S. Championships Field: American Record in the Crosshairs In 2023, **Hillary Bor** came to the Cherry Blossom 10 Mile with a mission: to crack the 46:13 barrier created by Greg Meyer in 1983—the American men’s 10 mile record. To reach his goal, Bor plowed through merciless headwinds in miles 8 and 9, to take all of two seconds off the Meyer’s record. Bor said then he could have gone under 46 minutes if not for the wind, and he is saying the same thing today. Bor has been building his strength back up since he broke a bone in his foot last summer performing the event he is best known for internationally: the steeplechase. (Bor’s World Athletics profile page has no mention of a road race in his top 10 ranked performances: instead there are two indoor 5000m races and eight 3000m steeplechase races—his best being 8:08.41 in Doha in 2019. He won the 2021 USA Olympic Trials steeplechase in 8:22 and the 2022 Outdoor Championships in 8:16, and placed 8th in the 2022 World Championships in 8:30.)

Steeplechase aside, Bor has taken successfully to the roads beginning in 2022, where he won the U.S. Championships 10 Mile in Minneapolis in 46:10 (his personal best although not on a record-eligible course). Already this year, in addition to 2nd place in the U.S. 15K Championships, he placed 4th in the United Airlines NYC Half Marathon in a PB 1:01:47.

Unlike last year, when young Kenyan **Tsegay Kidanu** scampered past Bor in the last quarter mile after Bor had towed him for 25 minutes, Bor might get some help this year in his sub-46 quest from a fellow American. Help is most likely to come from a group consisting of **Teshome Mekonen**, **Biya Simbassa**, **Andrew Colley**, **Jacob Thomson**, and **Sam Chelanga**. Mekonen out-kicked Bor in the U.S. 15K Championships on March, winning by three seconds, 42:51 to 42:54. That reversed the 2023 outcome, when Bor won in 43:11, with Mekonen arriving 6th in 44:16. Mekonen’s best result in 2023 was in the Boulder Boulder 10K, placing 3rd in 29:23 at altitude while beating Kenyan Wesley Kiptoo by eight seconds and American rival Sam Chelanga by 28 seconds.

Biya Simbassa is the most likely challenger to Bor and Mekonen for the U.S. Championships. Simbassa was U.S. 10 Mile champion at Cherry Blossom in 2021, and his 46:18 remains the fourth-fastest time ever for an American man in the race. Simbassa trailed Bor by 35 seconds in the 15K Championships (43:29 to 42:54), and in Janu-



Photo: Mallet Team

2023 overall winner Tsegay Kidanu holds aloft his second award: the plaque for winning the PRRO Circuit race.



Photo: Clay Shaw

Lead pack nears the 5-mile post in the 2023 race. Overall winner Sarah Chelangat (#80) on right; 2022 winner Susannah Sullivan (#2) on left; 2023 U.S. Championships winner Sara Hall obscured in blue top, third from right. Chelangat moved away from the pack shortly thereafter.

ary placed 4th in the Aramco Half Marathon in 1:00:45. Simbassa has a large appetite for racing: he competed in seven major races in 2023, when he was 3rd (2nd American) at Cherry Blossom, won the U.S. 7 Mile Championships in Davenport, IA, in 32:35, ran a personal 10K road best of 27:55 while setting a course record in the surprisingly competitive Flanigan's Rockin' Rib 10K in Miramar, FL; a 1:00:42 half marathon in Valencia, Spain, and 2:10:34 in his debut marathon in Prague, CZE. His 2022 season was even more densely packed, with nine major races. Simbassa says he never gets injured, which goes some way to explain why he has taken on such a heavy schedule. Asked what he expected out of this year's Cherry Blossom, knowing that Hillary

Bor would be shooting for sub-46, Simbassa responded, "one race at a time."

Jacob Thomson and **Andrew Colley** have battled Simbassa on more than one occasion. Thomson finished just 18 seconds behind Simbassa in last year's Cherry Blossom 10 Mile, and surprised Simbassa at the finish of the 2023 U.S. Half Marathon Championships in Fort Worth, out-kicking him by three seconds and winning in 1:02:38. Colley finished less than a minute behind Simbassa in the Aramco Half Marathon, 1:01:39 to Simbassa's 1:00:45, and in 2023 Colley distinguished himself in the U.S. Cross Country Championships, beating both Bor and Simbassa by 9 seconds and 14 seconds, respectively. Colley went on to finish second American and 39th overall in the World Cross Country Championships, against the world's best at multiple disciplines in track and field, road, and cross-country. If there's a 'Dark Horse' for a top three place among the Americans, it could be **Sam Chelanga**, who is always ready to rock 'n' roll when there's a championship on the line, even at age 39. He won Cherry Blossom in 2016, on a day with near-freezing temperatures and strong winds, in 48:26, a few strides ahead of Kenyan Silas Kipruto. Chelanga has posted the best marathon time in the field—2:08:50 in 9th place in Chicago just last year. (Colley was 15th in Chicago in 2:11:22, and Kenyan Wesley Kiptoo 12th in 2:10:28.) At the U.S. 20K

Championships in New Haven last fall, Chelanga placed 3rd in 59:26—behind only Olympic Marathon qualifiers Clayton Young and Conner Mantz—against Colley's 59:47, Simbassa's 1:00:54, and Thomson's 1:01:36. Chelanga was 5th in the 2023 U.S. Cross Country Championships, and went on to place 21st, as top American, in the World Cross Country Championships, 40 seconds ahead of Andrew Colley. In 2022, Chelanga ran 10 miles in 46:14 in the Medtronic Twin Cities 10 Mile—in 2nd place in that year's national championship, only eight seconds behind winner Hillary Bor. He competed in 10 major road races in 2022, surpassing Biya Simbassa in durability. Chelanga's combination of experience, ruggedness, and speed in the homestretch make him a potent rival for a top place in the chilly conditions expected on this year's race day.

Should any of the favorites falter, there's plenty of other talent waiting in the wings to claim one of the top spots. **Nathan Martin** and **Josh Izewski** were 7th and 8th (2:11:00 and 2:11:09) in the Olympic Marathon Trials where Simbassa placed 11th in 2:12:21. **Shadrack Kipchirchir's** 13:08.25 time winning the 5000m indoors at Boston University's Valentine Invitational in 2020 indicates he also the potential to break into the top three American places and top five overall.

Click [here](#) for capsule racing bios of all of the elite runners in this year's race.



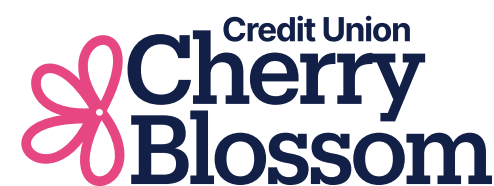
Photo: Credit Union Miracle Day

Hillary Bor pulls Kenyan Tsegay Kidanu into a headwind through 9th mile of the 2023 race. Kidanu won the overall race; Hillary Bor won the U.S. Championships in an American record 46:11



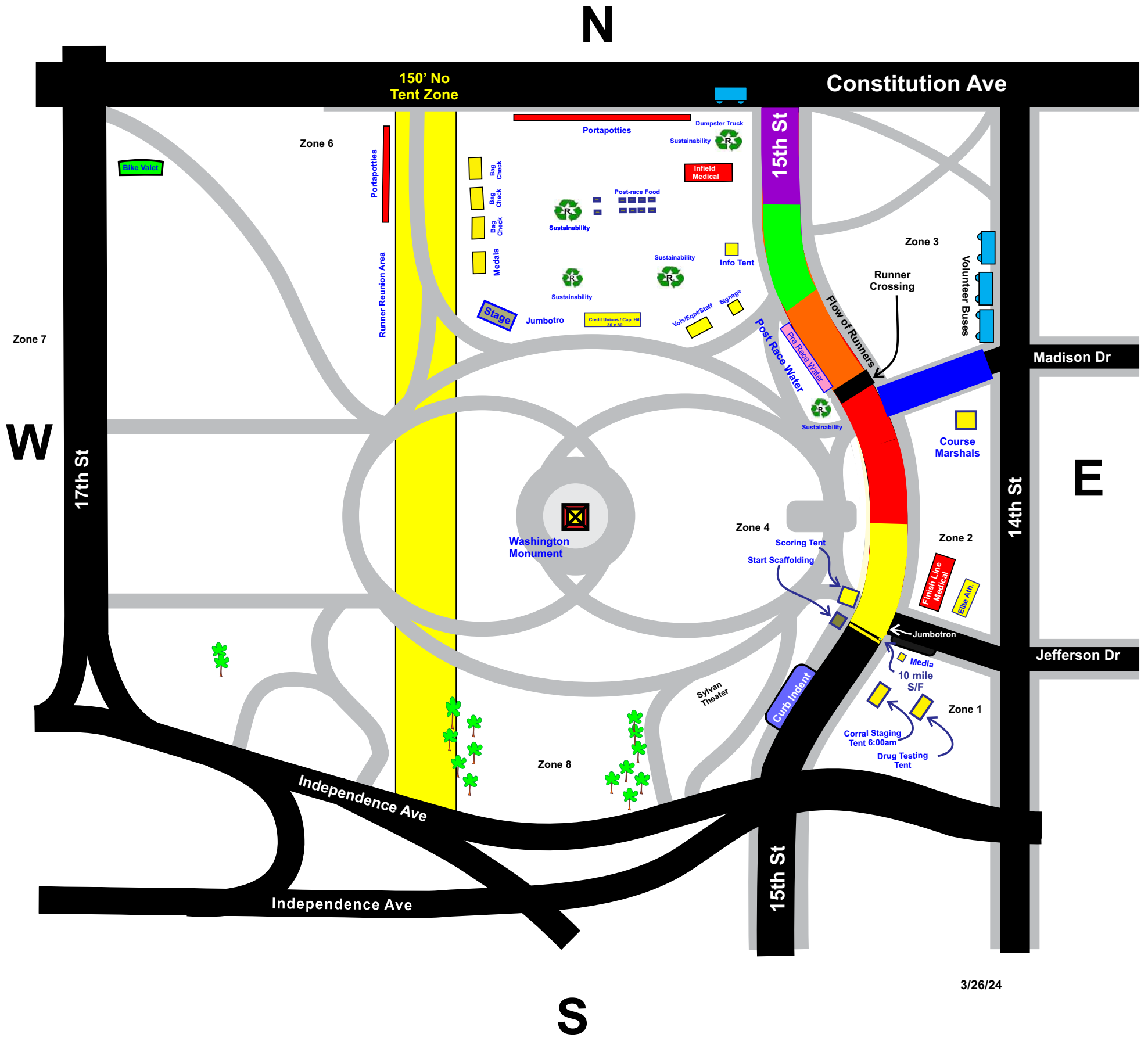
Photo: Karen Mitchell

Biya Simbassa winning the 2021 US-ATF National Championships

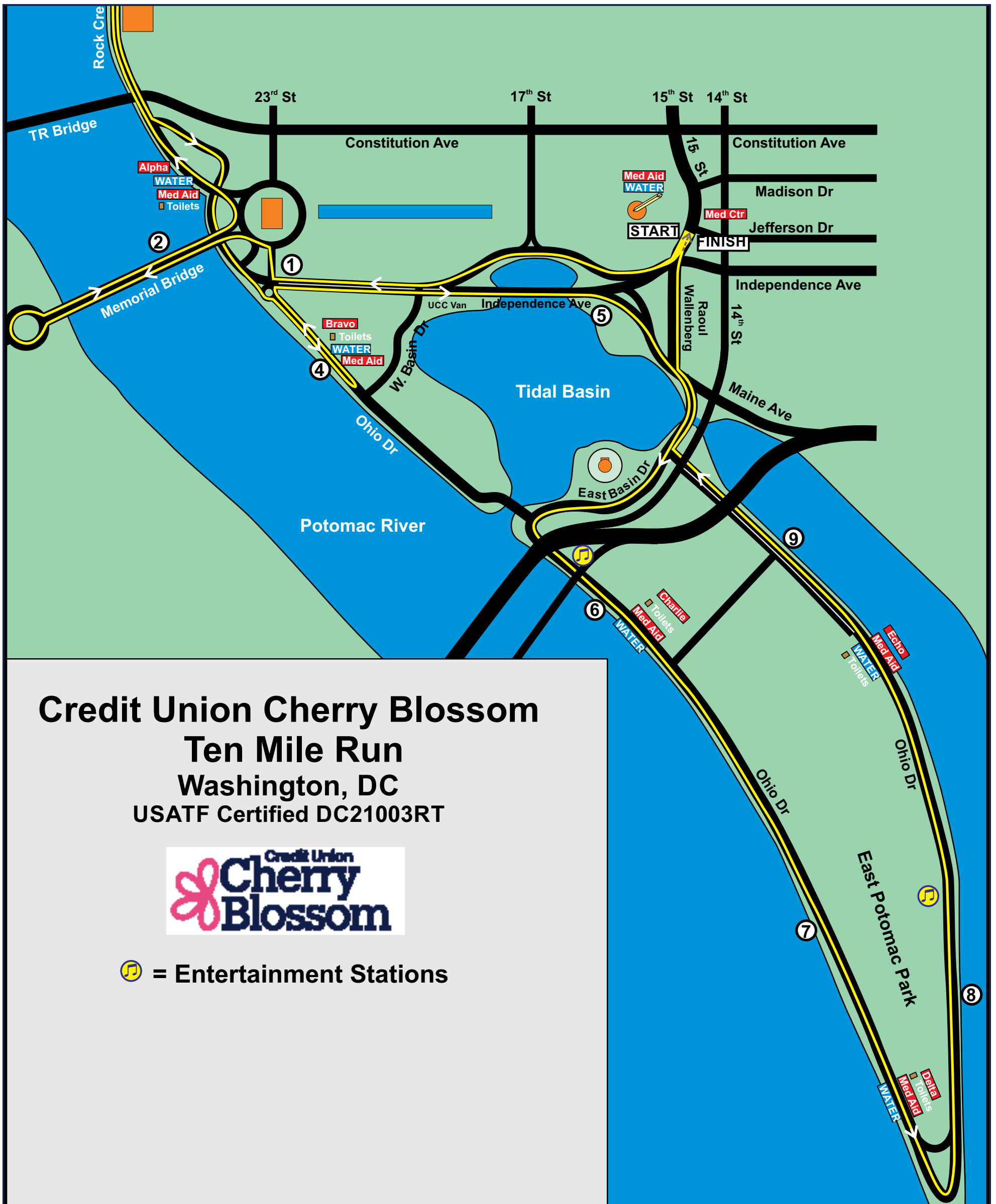


Course Maps

Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile Staging Area



Course Maps



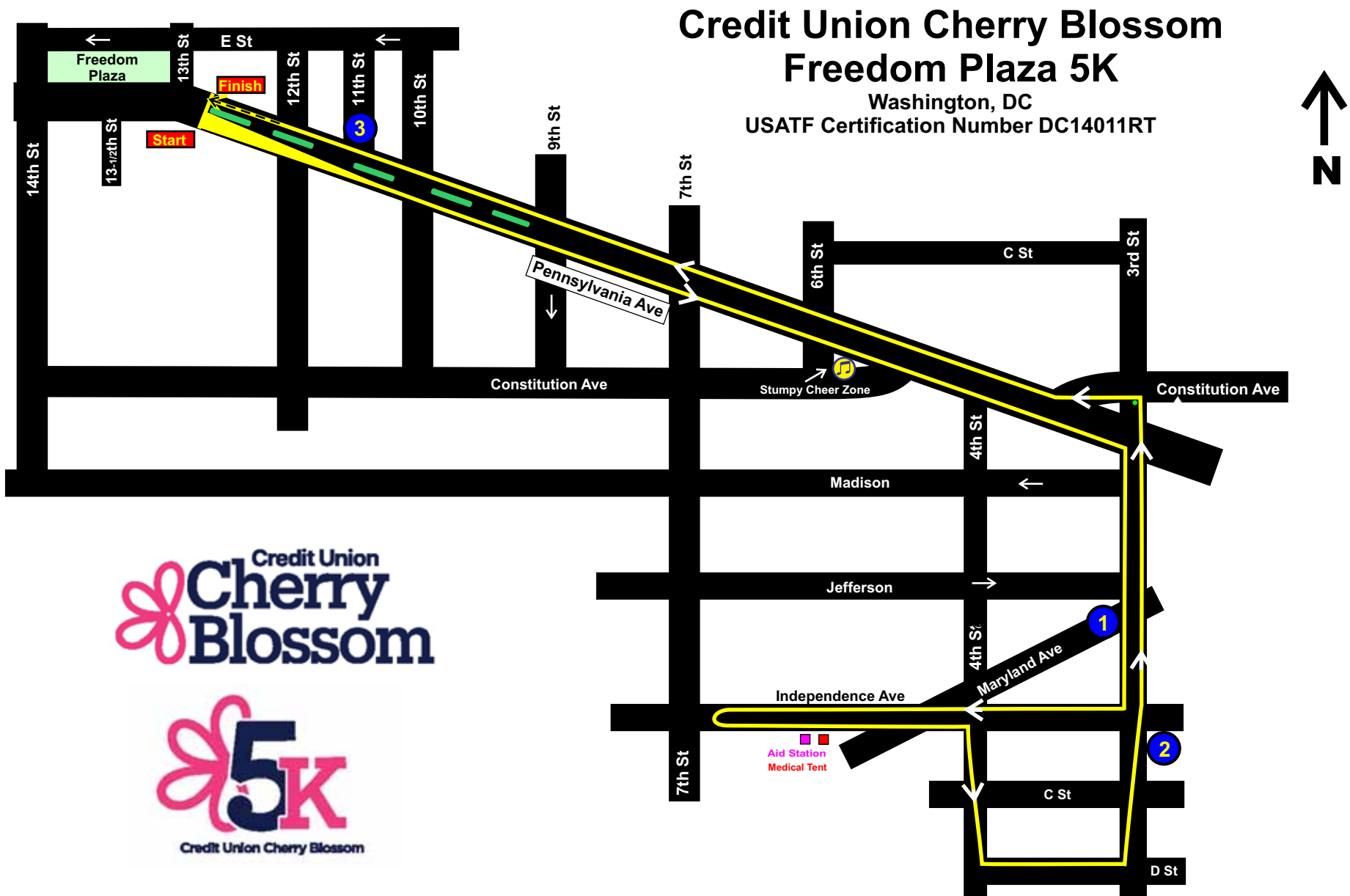
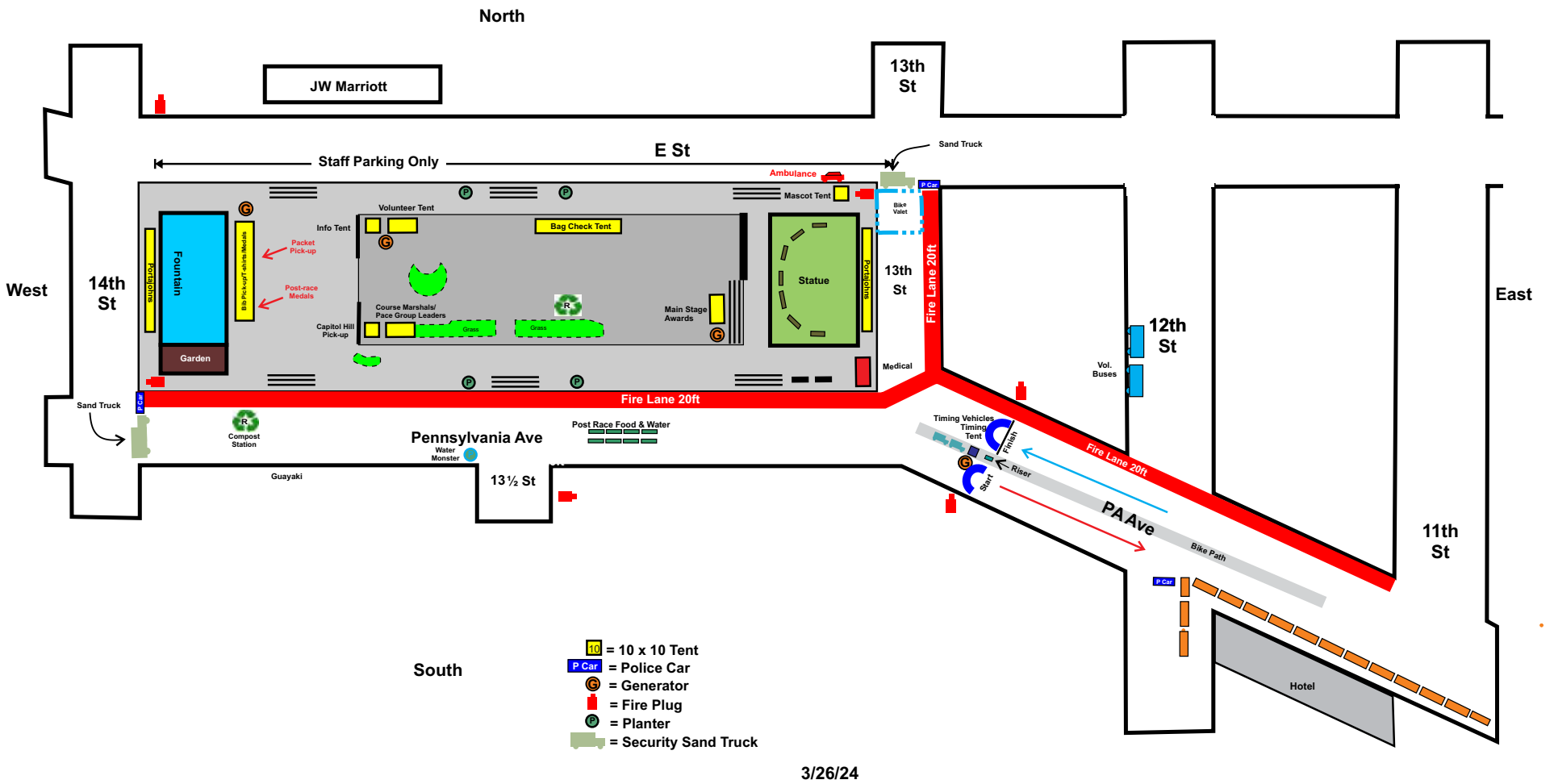
**Credit Union Cherry Blossom
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 = Entertainment Stations

Course Maps

Credit Union Cherry Blossom 5K - Freedom Plaza Staging and Start/Finish Areas



Event Director's Greeting

What does an event do on the rebound year after its 50th anniversary? We knew 2023 would be a tough act to follow and we were scrambling a bit until Stumpy saved us. We first learned about Stumpy last fall when local artist Jessica Pascual submitted designs in our annual t-shirt contest featuring Stumpy. I had never heard of Stumpy at the time, but I knew instantly that Stumpy needed to become our 2024 (and beyond) mascot. What I didn't know – and didn't learn until after we had printed 25,000 t-shirts and ordered 15,000 medals — was that Stumpy's days were numbered, ironically, because of a seawall restoration project that the National Park Service was undertaking to ensure the continued beauty of the trees around the Tidal Basin for another few generations. Yes, it is sad that Stumpy is going to have to be removed for the project, but we felt we could make our emphasis a Celebration of Stumpy's Life and that's what it has become. There is a little of Stumpy in all of us — trying to reach higher, dealing with our limitations and being resilient.

We pleased to be hosting – for the second year in a row – the USATF Men's and Women's 10 Mile Championships. It will be exciting to see so many top Americans mixing it up with our traditional international field. I would not be surprised to see Americans as the overall winners this year.

We take great pride that the event serves a most worthy

cause as well — helping children receive World Class medical care through the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Since the Credit Unions became the title sponsor, the event has raised over \$11 million dollars for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. We will be announcing our 2024 fundraising total at the start of each race on Saturday and Sunday morning. Stay tuned for some impressive numbers and thank you to the runners and credit unions who made this possible.

I would, on behalf of myself, Deputy Director Becky Lambros, the Cherry Blossom Inc. Board of Directors, the 90 member organizing committee and our 2,000 volunteers like to welcome everyone to the 51st running of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile and 5K for our Year of Stumpy.

We are deeply indebted to the generous support of our sponsors, headlined by Credit Union Miracle Day, a collective of credit unions and business partners serving the credit union industry which has served as the title sponsor since 2002.

We would be unable to conduct these events without the full cooperation of the National Park Service, the United States Park Police and the District of Columbia Government, especially the Mayor's Special Events Task Group.

Sincerely,
Phil Stewart
Event Director

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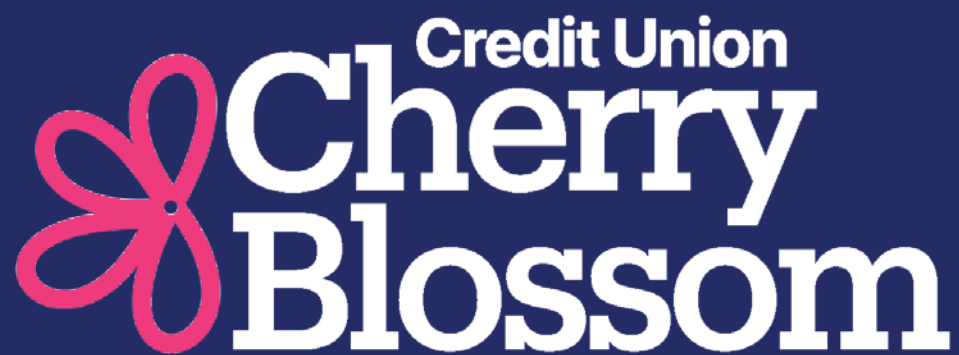


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Thanks for Making a **Difference with Us!**

The Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile & 5K Run effectively showcases credit unions' core belief that doing good in, and for, our communities improves the financial well-being of the people we serve.

Over 9,000 runners in this year's race are members of a credit union.

A very special THANK YOU to all the runners who generously donated over \$75,000 to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals when registering for the Run this year! Your contributions are helping us raise funds so that millions of kids across the U.S. can have access to advanced and affordable healthcare through CMN Hospitals.

Since becoming the title sponsor in 2002, credit union sponsorship of this race has raised over

\$11 Million

for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals



**Children's
Miracle Network
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IDB Global FCU	Virginia Credit Union League
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Elite Women Bios

2024 Female Athletes by Bib Number

Click on Name for Racing Bio

#2 [Sarah Chelangat](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 6/5/2001

#6 [Rachel Smith](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 7/18/1991

#8 [Esther Chebet](#) | Citizen of Uganda, DOB 9/10/1997

#10 [Molly Huddle](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 8/31/1984

#12 [Emily Durgin](#) | Citizen of USA

#14 [Tegest Ayalew](#) | Citizen of Ethiopia, DOB 10/27/2001

#16 [Kasanesh Baze](#) | Citizen of Ethiopia, DOB 10/23/1999

#18 [Sarah Naibei](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 3/12/1999

#20 [Annie Frisbie](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 12/31/1996

#24 [Tristin Van Ord](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 10/3/1994

#30 [Rosie Edwards](#) | Citizen of GBR, DOB 8/20/1998

#32 [Sydney Bowman](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 9/27/1991

#34 [Catherine Syokau Mwanzau](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 8/20/1999

#36 [Breanna Sieracki](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 8/5/1995

#38 [Jacqueline Gaughan](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 10/27/1999

#40 [Stephanie Sherman](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 11/4/1997

#44 [Deena Kastor](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 2/14/1971

#46 [Tsehay Desalegn](#) | Citizen of Ethiopia, DOB 10/28/1991

#48 [Elena Hayday](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 11/1/1999

Elite Men Bios

2024 Male Athletes by Bib Number

Click on Name for Racing Bio

#5 [Shadrack Kimining](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 2/10/1996

#7 [Raymond Magut](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 5/7/1996

#9 [Wesley Kiptoo](#) | Citizen of Kenya, DOB 5/19/1996

#13 [Hillary Bor](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 11/22/1989

#15 [Sam Chelanga](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 2/23/1985

#17 [Biya Simbassa](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 6/30/1993

#21 [Shadrack Kipchirchir](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 2/22/1989

#23 [Andrew Colley](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 4/1/1991

#25 [Nathan Martin](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 12/18/1989

#27 [Josh Izewski](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 4/29/1990

#29 [Teshome Mekonen](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 8/5/1995

#31 [Jacob Thomson](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 11/29/1994

#37 [Daniel Mesfun](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 1/1/1998

#39 [Kevin Lewis](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 7/10/1993

#41 [Ben Kendell](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 6/30/1996

#43 [JP Flavin](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 7/31/1998

#45 [Cody Baele](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 9/18/1995

#47 [Alex Norstrom](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 5/29/1996

#49 [Alec Sandusky](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 9/23/1997

#53 [Joseph Minor](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 6/16/2000

#55 [Clint McKelvey](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 3/11/1992

#57 [Zachary Holden](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 10/7/1999

#59 [Adam Walker](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 10/13/1999

#61 [Mike Wardian](#) | Citizen of USA, DOB 4/12/1974

Stumpy the Cherry Tree, Mascot of the Upcoming Credit Union Cherry Blossom Events, Slated for Removal

The arboreal incarnation of the tenacity and resilience that characterize the long-distance runner, Stumpy the cherry tree became the model for the mascot of the Credit Union Cherry Blossom 10 Mile. Stumpy has endured years of having its roots flooded twice daily at high tide —and yet has hung in there, an inspiration for viewers of hundreds of luckier cherry trees that line the 10 Mile course.

Mercifully, Stumpy's long struggle against the relentless forces of nature will end this year when the National Park Service removes 159 cherry trees threatened by the land subsidence and rising waters that Stumpy has survived.

Millions are mourning the passing of Stumpy, but the consoling news is that the National Arboretum plans to harvest Stumpy's tenacious genetic material and eventually plant clones around the Tidal Basin, once the landscape recovery project is completed in about three years.

