

THE BIG EVENT

The County Open Half Marathon (13.1 miles - USA TAC certified) is a one of a kind race for runners who vacation in, or live in Maine and New Brunswick. Runners begin the race in downtown Island Falls and run toward Houlton on Route 2 and back to the start finish line for the first quarter, and then on quiet roads (some dirt) to complete the 13.1 miles loop course. Views are terrific, deer are often seen by runners as they progress over the rolling hills (but mostly flat) course. With little or no automobile traffic, the race is a favorite of runners who prefer a peaceful, natural setting.

AWARDS....\$1000.00+

Runners in the race will be competing for a purse of \$1,000 broken down as follows:

- 1st place male and female - \$200
- 2nd place male and female - \$150
- 3rd place male and female - \$100
- First place male and female Masters - \$50

Other prizes will also be awarded to the top finishers in various age divisions.

THE COUNTY OPEN RELAY

For those not quite feeling up to the full 13.1 miles, The County Open Half Marathon/Relay allows runners to form relay teams of either 2 or 4 runners to compete. Each runner will run at least 3.1 miles. Awards will be presented to the top finishers in the all male, all female, and mixed categories. The race is run on the same course and at the same time as The County Open Half Marathon.

OTHER FEATURES

- County Open baseball caps for first 100 registrants
- Aid stations with water and sports drinks will be available at every relay location
- Other Random Draw Prizes
- Race results published in the Houlton Pioneer Times, the Bangor Daily, and on the Website
- Refreshments after the race

AFFILIATIONS

The race has been included in the [Aroostook Musterds](#) summer circuit promising a competitive race between runners from around the nation, state of Maine, and Eastern Canada.



INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

Packet Pick-up: Friday, August 7th, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Tim Hortons, North Road, Houlton, or Saturday, the 8th, at the registration table.

Lodging: For lodging information, please call The Greater Houlton Chamber of Commerce at 207-532-4216, or the Northern Katahdin Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce at 207-463-4634.

Directions: Tim Hortons (Preregistration) - Take I-95 North (South from Canada) until reaching Exit 302, the Houlton exit. At off ramp, go toward PI (north on US #1), and proceed through a set of lights (Wal-mart on the left, Irving on the right). Tim Hortons will be on your left immediately after Shiretown Motor Inn.

Starting Line for Race - Take I-95 to Island Falls (Exit 276). Upon exiting, take Route 159 east to Route 2 east to the Island Falls Municipal Building (will be on the left just past the center of town, 1/10 mile from when you reach Route 2 east).

HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OPEN

The 20th Annual County Open Weekend is an annual event encompassing a two-day golf tournament (Friday/Saturday), a Friday golf scramble, a half marathon/relay, and gala dinner on Saturday evening. Monies raised from this event benefit the Health Service Foundation, which promotes excellence in health care in Southern Aroostook. To date, over \$400,000 has been raised from the County Open events.

SPONSORSHIP

First Choice Real Estate, with two offices in Houlton and one in Island Falls, is the sponsor of the County Open Half Marathon. Call them at 532-4037; 532-4500; or 463-3232.

THE COURSE

The race course is a challenging loop course with the start and finish at the Island Falls Municipal Building. The mostly flat course with some rolling hills winds through rural roads taking runners along side and over Dyer Brook, the Mattawamkeag River and Fish Stream, several times. The course goes by potato fields, a couple of cemeteries, and several farms. There is a large viewing area by the start/finish line, and since the first baton pass is at the start finish/finish line (for relay racers), it offers enhanced excitement for spectators.

ENTRY FORM

HALF MARATHON PARTICIPANT

Print Name _____
Street _____
City, State _____ Zip Code _____
Country _____ Phone _____
Male ____ Female ____ Age ____
How did you hear about the race? _____
Year round Aroostook County resident? _____
In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I for myself, and my executors, administrators and assignees, do hereby release and discharge The County Open Committee and the other sponsors for all claims of damages, demands and actions whatsoever in any manner arising or growing out of my participating in said athletic event. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event. Event sponsored by: First Choice Real Estate.
Signature _____

RELAY PARTICIPANTS

Team Name _____
1. Team Captain _____
(Captain should fill top part of form and have team members fill out the form below)
2. Name _____
Address _____
Male ____ Female ____ Age ____
Signature _____
3. Name _____
Address _____
Male ____ Female ____ Age ____
Signature _____
4. Name _____
Address _____
Male ____ Female ____ Age ____
Signature _____

FEES

Entry Fee:	\$25 by July 15 th	
	\$30 (after July 15 th)	
Relay Team	\$60	\$
	Total enclosed	\$

Please make all checks payable to The County Open and return with entry form & SASE (if confirmation desired) to: The County Open Half Marathon, PO Box 10, Houlton, ME 04730.

The County Open
PO Box 10
Houlton ME 04730

**The 2009 Annual
County Open Half
Marathon or Relay
Saturday, August 8, 2009
8:00AM**

Sponsored by: First Choice Real Estate with 2 offices in Houlton and 1 in Island Falls. Call them. Thank you.



**“The Easternmost
Half Marathon in
the United States”**

Houlton, Maine
www.countyopen.com
John Walker, Race Director: 207-415-1688 or email
jswalkerinc@gmail.com