

Hoodoo running race will benefit Kiwanis programs

By Charlie Kanzig
Correspondent

The Kiwanis Club of Sisters is excited about the return of the Hoodoo Challenge: Run to the Top half-marathon and five-kilometer race scheduled for Saturday, July 24.

The event, in its fifth year, did not take place in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Both races finish at the top of Hoodoo, a change from previous years when the 5K did not go up the mountain.

The half-marathon course traverses forested trails that include a scenic view from the top of Potato Hill, while the 5K run and walk will begin in the Hoodoo parking lot before heading up the hill.

Following completion of the races, participants will walk back down the mountain for a hosted lunch and the awards ceremony. In addition, all entrants will receive a pair of Dri-Fit socks printed with a race logo.

T-shirts and trucker hats will also be available for sale. The top male and female finishers of the half-marathon will receive a season pass for Hoodoo.

All proceeds of the race will go to fund charitable work done by Kiwanis Club of Sisters.

For more information about the Kiwanis Club of Sisters and to find the ultra-signup link to register for the race go to <https://sisterskiwanis.org/runtothetop/>.

Runners rumble down the runway

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In what may be the most unique start of a race in Oregon, 66 runners and walkers headed out on the 5K Rumble on the Runway following a low passover by a plane and behind the roaring engines of a hot rod and a souped-up semitruck.

The event is part of the Fourth of July celebration held annually at Sisters Eagle Airport.

The race, which benefits the Sisters Schools Life Skills program's involvement in Special Olympics-related activities, attracted

participants of all ages.

Despite some reported wrong turns, all of the starters made their way safely back to the finish line.

Will Thorsett and John Peckham crossed the line together as the top male finishers in a time of 16:52. The recent graduates of Sisters High School (SHS) will both be running for Division 1 colleges in the fall — Thorsett at Gonzaga and Peckham at University of Idaho.

Iris Powell, a 2005 graduate of SHS, stopped the women's field in a time of 19:15.

Race Director Bryn Singleton, who works in the Life Skills program, felt

positive about the turnout in the race's return after being cancelled last year.

"I thought it was a great turnout and it was so nice to see people out enjoying a community event," she said. "We really appreciate the support for the Life Skills program and are so grateful for the generosity of the airport for including us in their event."

The Eagle Airport Fourth of July events also included a fly-in, pancake breakfast, helicopter rides, and a classic car show. Proceeds of those events are earmarked to support the aviation program at Sisters High School. (See related story, page 8.)



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

Sixty-six runners take off on the annual Fourth of July run at Sisters Eagle Airport.

Public-use restrictions increased in wilderness

With continuing extreme temperatures and drying vegetation at higher elevations, Deschutes National Forest in coordination with Willamette National Forest has implemented public-use restrictions within five wildernesses.

Effective July 2, open fires, including woodstoves and charcoal-briquette fires, are prohibited in all designated wildernesses on Deschutes National Forest. These wildernesses include the Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, Three Sisters, Diamond Peak, and Mt. Thielsen. Under the public-use restrictions, smoking also is prohibited unless in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable material. These public-use restrictions are added to those that began June 25 on Deschutes National Forest, which had excepted these wildernesses.

Public-use restrictions implemented last month prohibited open fires, including woodstoves and charcoal-briquette fires on Deschutes National Forest, except in designated campgrounds on Sisters Ranger District: Allen Springs, Allingham, Blue Bay, Camp Sherman, Candle Creek, Cold Spring, Driftwood, Gorge, Graham Corral, Indian Ford, Jack Creek, Lava Camp Lake, Link Creek, Lower Bridge, Lower Canyon Creek, Perry South, Pine Rest, Pioneer Ford, Riverside, Scout Lake, Sheep Spring, Smiling River, South Shore, Three Creek Lake, Three Creek Meadow, Three Creek Horse Camp, and Whispering Pines Horse Camp.

protect the forest and visitors. Every year lightning-caused fires place a heavy demand on firefighting resources and put forests, firefighters, and communities at risk. Fires caused through human carelessness or negligence create unnecessary, added risk. Fireworks are prohibited year-round on all national forest lands.

For current Central Oregon wildland fire information, visit centraloregonfire.org or follow fire information on Twitter @CentralORfire.

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