

Pretzel City Sports, Reading, PA presents the 6<sup>th</sup> annual very affordable, very flat and VERY fast

# ‘Dumb Dutchman’

## Half Marathon

### & ‘Half A Half’ (6.55M) Races

Sun, June 13, 2021 8:30 AM

Trooper Thorn's Irish Beef House, Rt. 10, Reading, PA

*Region's flattest, fastest & most affordable Half PLUS the region's ONLY ‘Half a Half’!*

**Online signup only due to field limit-expected to be limited to 250 or whatever the state allows at that point. Race day registration possible but doubtful.**

They're in fields all over PA all summer; the Pennsylvania Dutch, working in the blazing heat while wearing long pants & long sleeve shirts. Often, they farm or build structures without using motorized or electric devices, using only horse drawn plows or hand tools. Some call these Dutchmen “industrious, hardy, hardworking, etc.” Others think that they're just plain “dumb!” We in Berks Co. are proud to be “Dumb Dutchmen” and we think that it's right to name our race after us (and them) since the only other folks that go out & work that hard in the heat are runners! Come join us for what may be one of the FEW Half Marathons in the area this year and one of the ONLY ones in what most define as “summer”. Or PR in the more sensible 6.55M race, a distance so rarely run that you may PR just by entering it. Then, enjoy the day on the deck of the area's BEST Irish pub & eatery.

**LOCATION & WHAT YOU GET:** Trooper Thorn's Irish Beef House, 451 Morgantown Rd. (Rt 10), Reading, (1/2 mile south of Lancaster Ave exit of the Rt. 422 Reading Bypass). Reg from 7:15 AM till 8:25 AM, both races start together at 8:30 AM, going in opposite directions initially. Clock at finish, light refreshments, instant results, A **FREE BEER WITH EACH ENTRY** regardless of distance entered, finisher award for all half finishers (some may have to be mailed if the # of finishers exceeds our preliminary estimate), some type of hot breakfast food to all afterwards, door prizes for each race, 6.55M awards ceremony not delayed till end of half, loads of street parking nearby, unisex tech T-shirt to all prereg & post reg while they last (shirts run just a shade large), wide starting area, GREAT post-race atmosphere, results posted on pretzelcitysports.com the next day. PCS standard Covid precautions to be in effect. Those procedures to be emailed to all about 2 weeks before the race. Do not have to run with a mask on but you must CARRY a mask so you can pull it up when finishing.

**Online Registration Available at [www.pretzelcitysports.com](http://www.pretzelcitysports.com)**

(nominal service fee applies, closes at midnight, the Wednesday before race day)

**COURSE: FASTEST HALF IN THE REGION!!** Half course starts with a 4.6 mile out & back section SE on the railtrail, then has a 3.9 out & back NW section in the other direction and then finishes with a repeat of the first 4.6 out & back. “Half a Half” course does a 1.95M out and back in the opposite direction of the half and then finishes with the 4.6M out and back SE trail in the Half. **98% OF THE COURSE IS FLAT, many sections are shaded.** Uses an 8-9 ft. wide dirt/crushed cinder trail. Finishes right behind Trooper Thorns. Half course crosses Schuylkill River bridges up to 10 times, Half a half crosses it 4 times. 2 short rises on the course. 5 water stops anticipated for half, 2 for half a half. **Start, finish and both the 4.6M & 8.5M mid-points of the race are at approximately the same place, other sections easily accessed by car; SPECTATOR-FRIENDLY!**

**AWARDS:** Half Marathon: Top two male and female overall and top M & F master (40+) plus:  
0-29: 4M, 4F 30-39: 4M, 4F 40-49: 4M, 4F 50- 59: 4M, 4F 60-67: 3M, 3F,  
68+: 3M, 2F Clydesdale: 3M, 3F

6.55M Half a Half: Top male and female overall plus:  
18 & und: 3M, 3F 19-29: 3M, 3F 30-39: 3M, 3F 40-49: 3M, 3F 50-59: 3M, 3F 60-67: 3M, 3F  
68-74: 3M, 3F 75+: 2M, 1F Clydesdale: 3M, 3F

**Clydesdale Qualification:** Men: minimum of 210 lbs OR 185 lbs if 5 ft, 9 inches tall or less. Women: minimum of 160 lbs OR 140 lbs. if 5 ft, 4 inches tall or less. Honor system, no scale on site.

**IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR 2021: For the safety of participants and so that we don't monopolize this public trail, one must finish their event in no more than 3 hrs, 30 minutes. Timing, on-course support and post race refreshments will end at that time, and no finisher award will be given.**

**FEE:** Prereg cost is \$50 for the Half and \$35 for the "half a half" if entered by Thurs, May 27, 2021. After that date, including raceday, \$58 for the Half and \$43 for the 6.55M race, while shirts last. Price gets reduced by \$8 for either race after shirts run out. Held rain or shine. Course is 98% stroller friendly. Running w/dogs not suggested due to the width of the course. No refunds. No mailed shirts or awards. No finisher awards for the "half a half".

**Important information pertaining to the shirt given:** Because of their higher price & the fact that they are ordered from California, **VERY FEW EXTRA SHIRTS WILL BE ORDERED. SO WE STRONGLY SUGGEST YOU PRE-ENTER.** Shirts are guaranteed to all people entering by the price change date. If the number of people signing up after that date exceeds our extra shirt supply, all additional entries may receive a regular unisex T-shirt instead, while they last, or no shirt at all. **Since the extra shirts will be assigned based on the date of entry, PEOPLE THAT REALLY WANT THIS PREMIUM SHOULD PRE-ENTER, EVEN IF THE PRE-REG DATE HAS PASSED. IMPORTANT NOTE:** When signing up, keep in mind that the unisex tech shirt that we use runs just a shade larger than designated.

**DIRECTIONS TO TROOPERS:** Take the Rt 422 bypass around Reading. Take the Lancaster Ave exit and turn left if coming from the Philly side and right if coming from the Lancaster/Lebanon side. You'll be turning AWAY from the river that the bypass goes along. IMMEDIATELY after you turn, you'll see the Queen City diner on your left, TURN LEFT just before the diner; this will put you on Rt 10. Go approx ½ mile down Rt 10, Troopers will be on your left side, just next to a big grassy field. **GPS'ers: Use 451 Morgantown Rd, Reading, PA.** It may give you a shorter way to get there if approaching from the South. **IMPORTANT! DO NOT PARK IN THE PARKING LOT OF THE SUB SHOP NEXT DOOR! THEY'LL HAVE YOU TOWED!**

**Course Records:**

**Half Marathon:** Andrew Foxenberg, Kirkville, NY 1:16:46 (2020)  
Valerie Westphal, Pennsburg, PA 1:23:08 (2020)

**Half a Half (6.55M):** Colin Templin, Milton, PA 44:03 (2020)  
Vivian Case, Douglassville, PA 46:14 (2019)

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