

Hi everyone,

Great news: our organization is formed, our schedule is approved, and we are almost ready to race! If you haven't run since Christmas, the good news is that you still have not quite a month to get in shape for the 2017 season (please see Scott Benjamin's post about the race schedule.)

As advertised late last year, there are a few changes coming to the races this year. The big change is that we are starting a membership program. The cost will be \$50 per person for the year, including all races except for the half and marathon. Members will sign one waiver covering the entire year and get to specify their preferred size t-shirt at the start of the season. The \$50 covers our expenses to the RRCA (which provides our organization with insurance and tax-exempt status) and to the Town of Roxbury. The membership fee will be waived for those experiencing financial hardship. We will start accepting memberships very soon, as soon as our checking account is open!

Of course, all runners will still be welcome. We will ask nonmembers for a donation of \$5 per race and they will need to sign a waiver each week before running.

I know change is hard. Or at least I assume so from looking at the rest of my FaceBook feed. We did not take this on lightly or without significant debate and ensuing effort. So please let me know what questions you have. (Although if you feel outraged, please go for a run, have a hot shower, debate yourself in the mirror, and then ask what questions you have.)

Things that are not changing: hillshillshills, random distances, Jeff Sheldon's arm warmers, popsicle sticks, weather, and Paul's coffee club.

Thanks and look forward to seeing you all soon!