

TREHERNE “RUN FOR THE HILLS” MARATHON

Early in 2005, the Treherne and District Chamber of Commerce held a brainstorming meeting looking for ideas for a summer festival to showcase our community and raise funds for community projects. Local publisher of “The Times, Gary Lodwick suggested a marathon. None of us had ever participated in a marathon, but with a great deal of research and energy, the inaugural Run For the Hills was held the third Sunday in September with Full Marathon, Half Marathon and 10K races. It was a great success with rave reviews about the scenery and the hospitality. Our hills make our race one of the toughest to complete but runners love our scenery and small town atmosphere. Free parking is available right beside the start/finish line.

Over the next few years,

- Track was certified as a Boston qualifier
- Connections were made with the Manitoba Runners’ Association and Dairy Farmers of Manitoba
- Various sub-committees prepared the track, ensured that first responders were on-site, insurance was paid, spray planes were asked not to spray that morning, lots of food was available at the end of the race, t-shirts, medals and prizes were ordered and volunteers were on the job
- Support from Athletics Manitoba and Running Room

The “track committee” spent a lot of time measuring roads with vehicle odometers until we settled on an full, half and 10 K marathon. Later when we decided to become a “Boston Qualifier” we got our tracks accurately measured by the “Runner’s Association” . It was amazing that we only had to move our starting lines within about 100 ft. to make all tracks accurate while using a common finishing line.

Gary Lodwick volunteered as our first Race Director and the “Marathon Committee” worked hard and continues to work hard to try to give marathoners what they want.

Melanie Wall

This is my 4th year as Race Director for the Treherne “Run for the Hills” marathon, 2nd year virtual and 2 years in person. Judy McKellar was race Director the two years prior to me.

To see this amazing community event continue on, I was happy to change roles from Treasurer on the chamber to Race Director. I was looking for a change in roles and the opportunity arose.

Recently we had the help/support of Dwayne Olson, to help us give our race new branding, website and make it more attractive for runners.

We have wonderful sponsors that help make our marathon a success! All of our money raised goes back into our community projects as well we make a donation to Central Plains Cancer Services each year. In 2021 there is the opportunity on our registration page to make a donation direct to Central Plains Cancer Services if participants so wish. As well, participants can set up a fundraising page where friends/family can make donations to Central Plains Cancer Services as well.

I've participated in the Treherne Marathon in the past to support the cause and for my joy of running, a 5K and a couple 10K's, as well I have participated in the MB Marathon relay with my coworkers. My 3 boys all love running and I enjoy cheering them on and all of the runners at the marathon!

My favourite part is the event day! Watching the excitement build before the race, cheering the runners as they take off and cheering them back across the finish line!