



## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – TAURANGA MARATHON COURSE CHANGES

This Update: Saturday September 10, 2022

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For those taking on the longer distances at the Tauranga Marathon on 18 September 2022, there are some important late changes to the course which operational and safety requirements have forced us to make. It is vitally important all entrants read the information contained in this announcement and also consult updated course maps and schedules on the event web site.

### **What is changing?**

The event footprint is being reduced such that all courses will be contained on the Tauranga side of the harbour bridge. The 50k Ultra, Marathon and Half Marathon races will all now start at Maxwells Road in Otūmoetai – the same location that the 10k Classic starts.

The half marathon course will now take place over the second half of the original marathon course. Starting in Maxwells Rd and heading on an out-and-back along the waterfront to Matua. Returning past the start line around 12k, competitors then join the Daisy Hardwick trail up to 20k before the final stretch into the finish line.

The marathon course will now largely comprise two laps of the second half of the original marathon course. At the end of the Daisy Hardwick Trail – at the junction with Chapel St – competitors will turn left on their first lap to head back towards Maxwells Rd and commence their second lap. At the end of Daisy Hardwick the second time, a right turn on Chapel takes you on the originally planned route through the CDB to the finish line.

The 50k ultra will include an initial 7.8km out-and-back towards Fergusson Park before turning at the start line and following the marathon course as noted above.

Although we will be sad to lose the ocean front sections and the Base Track at the mount, the new course is now flatter and with a better running surface. Great views of the mount and harbour are available throughout.

**IMPORTANT! All races will start at their original scheduled time.**

### **Is my Bus Ticket Still Valid?**

The new start line at Maxwells Rd is only 2km from the finish line and the nearest bus drop off point would be 500 metres away, rendering the bus service obsolete. For those who made bookings, a refund will be processed to your card.

### **Why are we making these changes?**

These changes have been forced on us for two primary reasons. A sudden and dramatic increase in the cost of traffic management services and on-going difficulties in sourcing – and keeping – sufficient marshals to ensure competitor safety. Unfortunately, the long shadow of COVID is still seriously impacting the event business and cost increases are making an already difficult environment much worse.

By reducing the event footprint, we can bring both of these factors back to manageable levels to deliver a safe and excellent event experience for everyone. We look forward to welcoming you all across the finish line for one last time on Sunday.

Go Well.

The Team @ Running Events