



Marathons, Half Marathons From Start To Finish

October 7, 2025





Webinar Description:

Marathons and Half Marathons – From Start to Finish

A Timer Tip Tuesday Webinar for Race Timers

In this Timer Tip Tuesday session, we'll walk through key points timers need to know to deliver a smooth, professional experience for marathon and half marathon events—from planning to results.

We'll cover:

1. **RaceDay Scoring:** Configuring segments, splits, and Boston Qualifier (BQ) reports, plus handling data checks and custom exports.
2. **RaceDay CheckIn App:** Best practices for larger events.
3. **RaceJoy:** Key points to consider for marathons (course format and potential crossovers, relay teams, etc)
4. **Results & Reporting:** Setting up real-time results, ensuring accurate BQ reporting, and leveraging custom reports for race directors and sponsors.
5. **Organization & Troubleshooting:** Preparing for common challenges at marathon events and making the most of RunSignup's RaceDay tools to save time and prevent errors.

Whether you're an experienced timer or stepping into marathons and half marathons for the first time, this session will give you the tools and confidence to manage every stage of these complex races—**from start to finish**.





Today's Agenda

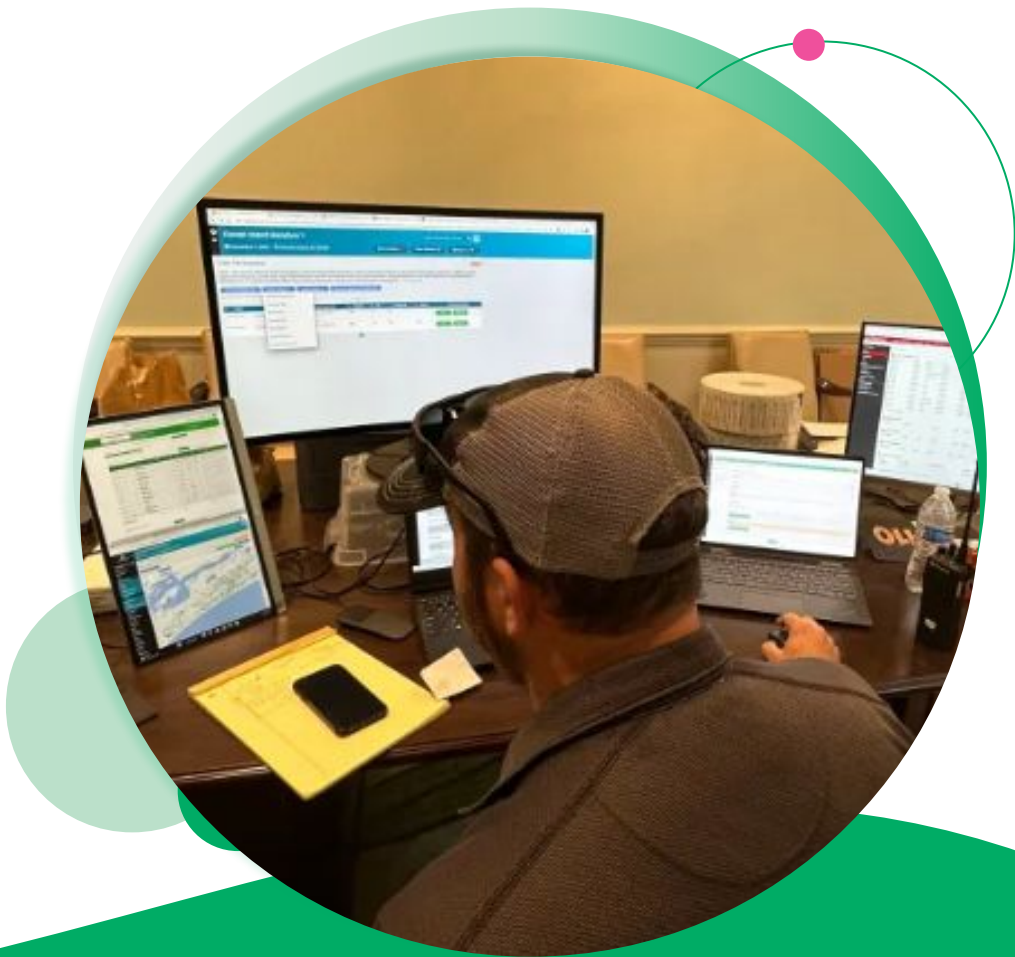
- **RaceDay Scoring - Splits, checks, and exports**
- **RaceDay CheckIn - Best Practices for Larger Events**
- **RaceJoy - Setup and Timeline**
- **Results and Reporting**
- **Organization and Troubleshooting**
- **Questions?**





RaceDay Scoring

Splits, Data Checks, and Custom Exports





Segments

Resources

Splits are one of the most important facets of a Marathon or Half Marathon. They:

- Help Timers assess performances, race changes, and disqualifications
- Help spectators track where participants are on the course and allow friends, family, and fans to follow along on-site or at home
- Provide sponsor activation value
- Drive real-time integrations like RaceJoy with predictive pace (more on this later)
- Allow organizers to produce a high-value product with social media, traditional media, and participant safety in mind
- Provide a strong revenue stream for Timers

Resources:

- [RaceDay Scoring: Reporting](#)
- [Advanced Reporting](#)





Split Considerations

- Know your locations ahead of time - work with organizers to find split locations based on
 - Usable distance (does this mean something to participants/spectators?)
 - Tracking (does this help track participants and confirm they did the right course fully?)
 - Logistics (is this a location your staff can get to?)
- Know the layout and timeline of the split
 - How wide is it?
 - Where will your staff park their vehicle?
 - What time does the road close? When is the first runner? When do they reopen?
- Get your staff comfortable with the location
 - If possible, have them visit their split the day before
 - Make sure they know how to get you the data, and what to do if they can't initially



Data Checks

Data Checks are useful ways to keep an eye on certain groups of participants or behaviors that need monitoring. We give you 6 default Data Check Reports (DCRs) right out of the box, but if you have more that you know you will need, it is a good practice to set them up ahead of time. These might include:

- Looking for participants who missed a certain split (turnaround)
- Checking for participants who switched courses
- Monitoring the progress of certain groups of athletes (Wheelchair race, Founders, Ambassador program members)

Data Checks can be exported in various formats!

Remember, Data Checks don't need to be saved to be used! You can use them as a scratch pad to check something on the fly

Resources:

- [Data Check Features for More Accurate Results](#)
- [RaceDay Scoring Data Check](#)

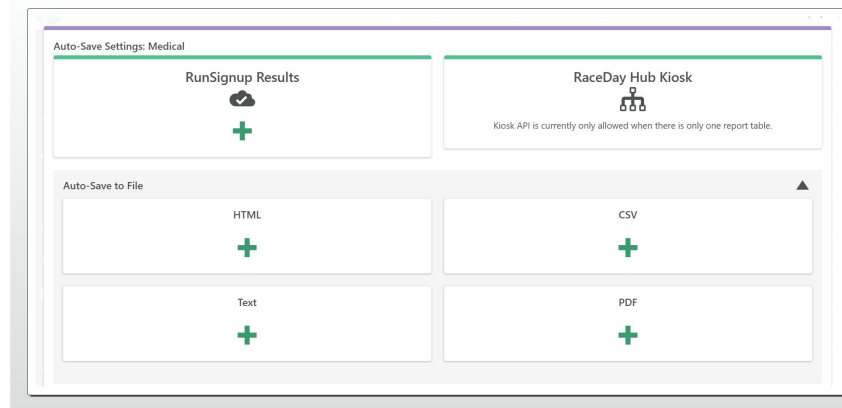




Custom Exports

Reports in RaceDay Scoring don't need to all go to RunSignup for results - some might be auto-saved to File for stakeholders in the race.

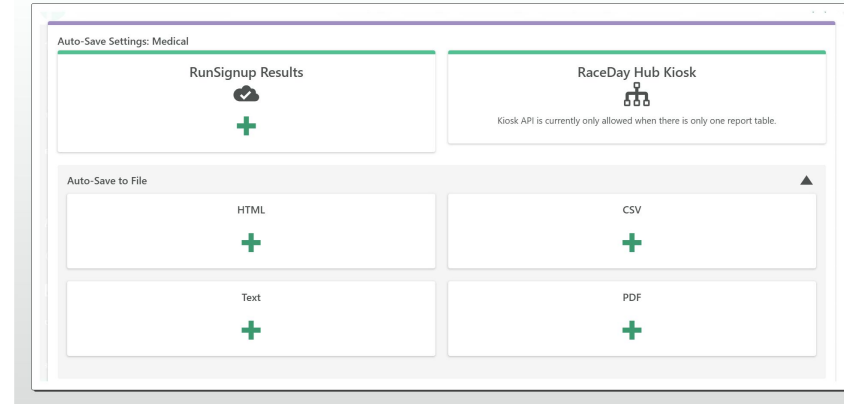
- Medical reports
- Photographer exports
- Medal Engraving
- Boston Marathon export
- USATF reports
- Scrolling reports for display





Export Considerations

- CSV exports can be made without commas in Overall and Gender place (soon for all columns)
- If you are making an auto-save to file report, consider how many you are making and how often you are writing them
- Consider a Report naming convention that makes it easy to filter for what you are looking for
- Keep track of what time you need to produce certain reports - a cutsheet can help with this





RaceDay Scoring Checklist

Splits/Segments

- ☐ Split locations determined
- ☐ Split distance confirmed
- ☐ Split equipment checklist produced
- ☐ Split communication tested
- ☐ Split equipment tested (with spares!)
- ☐ Segment created in RDS

Data Checks

- ☐ Data Checks created
- ☐ Data Checks tested and confirmed
- ☐ Any Local Fields for Data Checks created
- ☐ Rules for acting on Data Checks (DQs etc) confirmed

Reports

- ☐ Confirm report format, columns, and filters
- ☐ Stakeholders confirmed (email)
- ☐ Confirmed who sends the report
- ☐ Confirm timeline of reporting
- ☐ Test output of reports



RaceDay CheckIn

Best Practices for Larger Events





RaceDay CheckIn

RaceDay CheckIn is one of the first “touch” points for a race with the participants outside of registration, and it’s important to configure it properly so that you as the Timer get good data and the race provides participants an enjoyable Packet Pickup experience

- Make sure you know if you are providing devices and how many
 - n+1 applies here, as always
- Make sure you know how the data is getting to RSU (do they have internet? You sure??)
- Consider helping them set up and test Presets and Configurations and train volunteers
 - Share Kevin and Andrew’s [video](#)
- Are they doing label printing? Make sure you have tested your setup
- Would they be interested in Results Kiosks?

Resources:

- [RaceDay CheckIn App: Overview & How-To](#)
- [RaceDay CheckIn Quick Hits](#)
- [CheckIn App Label Printing](#)





Best Practices

- Have a separate Preset/Configuration for Admin/Staff than volunteers
- Make sure Bib Validation is on
- Prevent Duplicate bibs across events
- Train volunteers on putting names on the back of bibs
- Make sure all devices are charged and updated
 - Is the CheckIn app updated?
 - Is the database downloaded?
- Make sure you have a clear plan for getting the data synced
- Have extra chargers, devices, labels, pens, and **PINS**
- Name each device uniquely
- Know when the shift changes are if you are responsible for training volunteers

MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE THE CHECKIN DATE RANGE AND PASSWORD SET CORRECTLY



CheckIn Checklist

Devices

- ☐ Device count confirmed
- ☐ Devices updated
- ☐ Devices charged
- ☐ Devices named
- ☐ Database downloaded
- ☐ Internet/service confirmed

Presets/Configurations

- ☐ Password/Date Range set
- ☐ Presets/Configurations created
- ☐ Workflow tested
- ☐ Bib Validation set
- ☐ Label printing tested (if applicable)

Volunteers

- ☐ Apps updated and logged in
- ☐ Devices named
- ☐ Correct Configuration selected
- ☐ Lock devices
- ☐ Clear plan for shift change established

Supplies

- ☐ Pins
- ☐ Extra devices
- ☐ Pens/markers
- ☐ Extra labels
- ☐ Extra charge cables



RaceJoy Real-Time

Setup, Timeline, and Best Practices





RaceJoy Real-Time

RaceJoy is already a great option for events of all sizes, but with the recent introduction of Chip Timing alerts and Predictive Tracking, it is a great option for races looking for a tracking app or for races to have a more integrated tracking experience than they are currently offering.

- Timers offering RaceJoy **MUST** be certified
 - Reach out to racejoy@runsignup.com for certification materials
- Timers offering Predictive Tracking must have enough tracking points
 - Half Marathon - 2+ intermediate points
 - Marathon - 3+ intermediate points
- Collect participant estimated finish time during registration

Resources:

- [RaceJoy Chip Timing: Setup for Timers](#)
- [RaceJoy's New Predictive Tracking](#)





RaceJoy

Real-Time

Tracking apps deliver a premium experience and offer an excellent activation point for sponsors. Make sure that you are informing your events of these options and helping them maximize their revenue opportunities and deliver a truly high-end experience

- Logos
- Banner ads (3 is the ideal)
- Geo-based Cheers
- Editing the default notifications
- Adding points of interest, sponsor locations, and making the map interesting

Most importantly, adoption of features like RaceJoy depend on the event informing participants. Just turning something on does not guarantee that it will be seen and used, so a longer roll-out period is ideal.



CheckIn Checklist

RaceJoy Setup

- ☐ Pace question asked
- ☐ RaceJoy enabled
- ☐ Course maps loaded
- ☐ Timing points configured
- ☐ Course certified in RaceJoy

RaceDay Scoring Integration

- ☐ Chip Timing Integration enabled
- ☐ Timing Only points identified in RaceJoy
- ☐ Segments set up properly
- ☐ Location times configured properly

Marketing

- ☐ Banner ads set up
- ☐ Logos added and checked
- ☐ Geo-based cheers added
- ☐ Notifications and emails customized
- ☐ Email campaign created

Race Day

- ☐ Monitoring link given to stakeholders
- ☐ Check Monitoring for off-course participants
- ☐ Usage stats checked over to return to organizer



Results and Reporting

Results and custom reporting delivered accurately and quickly





Results and Reporting

This is a little different than Segments, but often driven by it. Keep in mind that Reporting in this instance is more about producing live results on RunSignup

- Use filters to generate multiple reports from the same Scored Event
- Make sure that age groups are set up and that all awards considerations are implemented and tested
- If using RunSignup Photos, make sure a watermark is applied
- Set up your Auto-Saves to RunSignup and make sure report names are clear, appropriate, and easily found in the dropdown
- Test what your reports look like both to you and to the public
- Consider how splits will display - it is more common to show Cumulative Time than Segment Time

Resources:

- [RaceDay Scoring: Reporting](#)
- [RaceDay Scoring Segments - Advanced](#)



Reporting

Best Practices

- Confirm what fields should be shown and test that your column names match these
- Make sure Auto-Saves are set up in advance of race day
- Test all reports to make sure scoring filters or display filters are working
 - Confirm which type of filter you should be using!
- Make sure DQ, DNQ, and other statuses are applied appropriately
- Some reports are internal only - make sure you are not sharing information with people you shouldn't be



Reporting Checklist

Reporting

- ___ Reports created/named clearly
- ___ Auto-Saves to RunSignup created
- ___ Report filters tested
- ___ Report display tested (mobile and desktop)
- ___ Age Groups confirmed
- ___ Top Finisher bands confirmed
- ___ Age Group awards tested
- ___ Cutsheet for reports created
- ___ Any post-race reporting producted



Organization and **Troubleshooting**

Solving the inevitable ahead of time





Organization and Troubleshooting

There is no such thing as a perfect race on the inside, but it's what the participants and organizers see that really matters. Having a good troubleshooting skillset and organizational plan can be the difference between coming back next year and watching the early football game.

- Make sure your staff are all on the same page
- Test your communication - consider how you manage and structure group chats
- Have a pre-race meeting with staff BEFORE race day
- What happens when a piece of equipment breaks?
- What happens when a piece of software behaves unexpectedly?
- Use the Get Help button for RaceDay Scoring issues!
- Have a Plan B
- Have a Plan C, D, E etc.
- "Everybody's got a plan until they get punched in the face"

The more planning and thinking you do before race day, the more capacity you have to solve the problems at hand.

Questions?





2026 Timer Education Summit

January 27 and 28

Tampa, Florida

- Two Main Educational Tracks:
 - Introductory and Timer Certifications
 - Advanced
- AI Workshops
- Technology Demo and One-On-One Training
- Morning Run and Live Tech Demonstration

Plus, Timer Collaboration and Networking

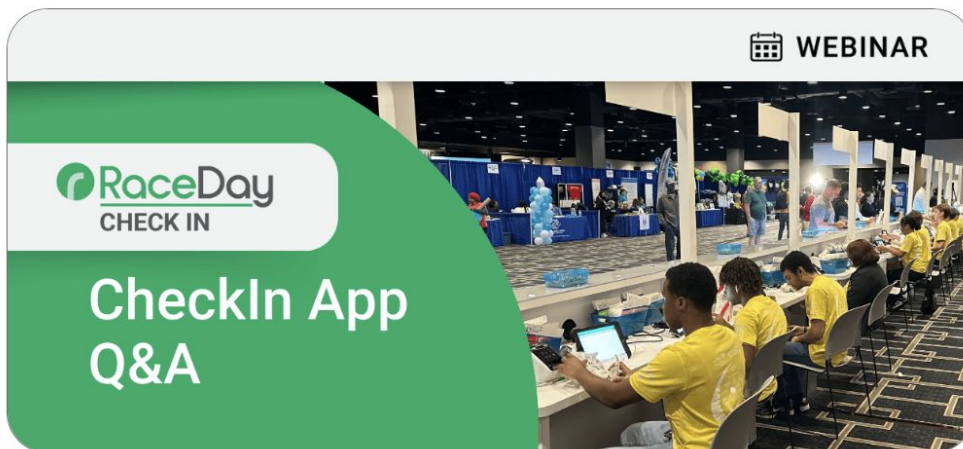




Upcoming Webinar RaceDay CheckIn Q&A

Tuesday, October 9 at 2pm ET

Get your questions answered and invite your race directors to attend!



Upcoming Timer Tip Tuesday

RaceDay Scoring Integration with Race Result

Tuesday, October 21 at 12pm ET

Timer Tip Tuesday

📅 WEBINAR

**RaceDay Scoring
Integration
with Race Result**



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Thank You For Joining Us Today

