

DETROIT FIFTH THIRD TURKEY TROT and S3 STUFFING STRUT- FAQS

When is this year's race?

As always, the race is held on Thanksgiving morning before the Parade. This year date is Thursday, November 26th.

How do I register?

On-line Registration by credit card is available here on our website <http://www.theparade.org/turkeytrot/ttsignup09.php>

A printable registration form is available for mail-in. http://www.theparade.org/docs/turkeytrot/On_Line_Entry_2.pdf

You may also pick-up forms, as well as register, at 8 Satellite locations from November 7 to 21st (cash or check only – NO credit cards). :

During Store Hours

Fifth Third Bank	4501 Woodward Ave.	Detroit, MI 48201	(313) 309-2603
Fifth Third Bank	9691 Telegraph Rd.	Taylor, MI 48180	(313) 292-5048
Fifth Third Bank	3389 Plymouth Rd ,	Ann Arbor, MI 48105	(734) 827-2561
New Balance	37606 W. 12 Mile Rd	Farmington, MI 48331	(248) 324-0506
New Balance	821 E Big Beaver Rd,	Troy, MI 48303	(248) 740-9221
Playmakers	2299 W. Grand River Ave.	Okemos, MI 48864	(517) 349-3803
Hanson's Running Store	20641 Mack Ave.	Grosse Pte. Woods, MI 48236	(313) 882-1325

Late registration is also done in the Michigan Hall at Cobo Center on Wednesday, November 25th from noon – 7:00PM, and on Thanksgiving morning from 6AM – 7AM (cash or check only – NO credit cards).

What are the Entry Fees?

Before October 1, 2009	5K & 10K - \$25	Mashed Potato Mile - \$10
October 1 – November 21	5K & 10K - \$30	Mashed Potato Mile - \$10
Cobo Center Late Registration		
November 25, 26		
(Cash or check ONLY)	5K & 10K - \$35	Mashed Potato Mile - \$10

How old do you have to be to enter?

There are no age requirements for any of the races.

Where & when does the race start?

- 7:30 AM - The *Mashed Potato Mile* starts in front of Cobo Center at the top of the ramp on Washington & Jefferson.
- 8:00 AM - The *Fifth Third Turkey Trot (10K) & S3 Stuffing Strut (5K)* starts on Woodward at Congress St. (Note: there are two start lines, on both north and southbound lanes of Woodward).
- 8:10 AM – The 5K walk will start on the east side of Woodward near Congress. The will begin as soon as the runners have cleared the start.

When and where can I pick up my race packet?

In advance at one of seven locations (see above) from Nov. 7 to Nov. 21.

You can pick up all race materials in the Michigan Hall of Cobo Center on Wednesday, November 25th from noon until 7:00 PM. You can also pick up all race materials on race morning at Cobo Center from 6:00 – 7:00AM.

Can someone else pick up my Race Packet or vice versa?

Yes. At the satellite locations, you will need a valid ID that lets us identify who picked up the packet.

At Cobo Center, you will need your bib number. They will be posted alphabetically on the red wall in the packet pick-up area of the Michigan Hall in Cobo Center.

I'm injured. Can I still pick up my Race Packet?

Yes, you paid for it.

Do you mail out the Race Packets?

No, we may consider doing it in 2010 for a fee.

What information do I need to pick up my Race Packet?

At the satellite locations, you will need a valid ID that lets us identify who picked up the packet.

At Cobo Center, you will need your bib number. They will be posted alphabetically on the red wall in the packet pick-up area of the Michigan Hall in Cobo Center.

What is the deadline for registration?

The deadline for on-line registration is November 21

The mail-in deadline is November 21.

Late registration is available on Wednesday and Thursday, November 25 and 26 at Cobo Center.

What is the timing system?

We use disposable "D" race timing tags, for the 10K Turkey Trot and the 5K Stuffing Strut. The Mashed Potato Mile is not timed.

Do you offer prize money?

No. The top 100 Male & Female 5K and 10K finishers receive fleece gloves as they cross the finish line. The top three overall M&F finishers in the each event will receive unique awards. Costume prizes will be awarded at 7:15am in Cobo Center following the judging contest.

Do you have age/division awards?

No. We discontinued this because many of the award winners left Cobo Center to watch the Parade.

Where do I find the race results?

Race results will be available on race day in the Michigan Hall finish area. You can also find the results posted online, after 4:00PM at www.theparade.org and www.runmichigan.com.

Are there port-a-potties on the course?

Rest rooms are available on all levels in Cobo Center. There will be a limited amount of porta-johns in the starting area.

Where should I park on race day?

- There are five locations we recommend that have easy access to and from Cobo Center.
<http://www.theparade.org/docs/turkeytrot/ParkingMap.pdf>
- All of these locations can be accessed from the Lodge Freeway (M10).
- To guarantee a parking spot you can pay in advance when you register.
- Parking is only \$5 except at the Riverfront Conservancy location on Jefferson. Attendants will be asking for a donation to our charities to park here. Shuttles will be available at this location to get you near Cobo.
- Exits 1A, 1B and 1 C will get you to the parking locations. Print a map from our web site to help you.
- Avoid using Jefferson Ave and you'll stay away from Parade and Lions game traffic.
- Many other parking structures and lots in the downtown area are open for the race and the Parade. All parking fees are the responsibility of the participant.

What time should I get there for the race?

The earlier you get downtown, the better. Between the Turkey Trot and the Parade, it gets extremely congested in the downtown area, especially since the police begin closing some streets on Wednesday evening. It is suggested you be in your parking lot no later than 7AM. Note: Go online to print maps and suggested routes to parking locations.

Are there discounts at local hotels?

The Marriott Hotel Detroit at the Renaissance Center is offering discount rooms to runners and volunteers for just \$89 with a portion of the cost going to our Charities.

What is the Trot Fest?

The Marriott Hotel Detroit is also hosting a pre race party and dinner called the Trot Fest from 4pm to 8pm on Wednesday, November 25th. Cost is only \$12. It will be held in the 42 Degrees North restaurant which has a spectacular view of the Detroit River.

What time does the course close?

Because of the Parade, the entire course must be clear by 9:45AM.

Do people really wear costumes?

Last year over 1,000 runners and walkers wore costumes. It's what makes the race "The Parade before the Parade!"

Wearing costumes for the Turkey Trot is an honored tradition and highly encouraged! Prizes are given for originality and execution. Team themes are especially welcome.

Do you offer Gear Check?

Yes. You can check in your sweats and other items in the Gear Check area located in Michigan Hall adjacent to packet pick-up.

How can I meet my family after the race?

There will be a family reunion area with alphabetized signage located next to Gear Check inside Cobo's Michigan room.

Is there food after the race?

We have rearranged the food area for quicker flow through. We will continue to offer a variety of fun food after the race. You can smell the popcorn when you walk into the hall!

Are strollers allowed on the course?

Yes, we do allow people to run with baby joggers or strollers but we ask that you start in the back of the pack for your safety and the safety of others.

Can I run with my dog?

Yes, but please be mindful of interfering with other runners.

Are skateboards, rollerblades, scooters or bikes allowed?

No. These modes of covering the course are a safety issue; please keep these items off the course.

Is there entertainment on the course?

This year you will see several new things on the course. We have giant inflatables at the major turns and two fun stations besides the water stops. Say "hi" to the volunteers at the Christmas Cookie and Candy Cane stations.

If I am injured and/or cannot attend the event can I get a refund or transfer my entry to someone else?

We have a no refund, transfer or deferment policy for all race entries. You can pick up your shirt.

Can I run in more than one race?

The 5K and 10K races are run simultaneously. They share the same course for the first 2.5 miles. Many participants run the Mashed Potato Mile with their families, or as a warm up for the longer race. 5K and 10K participants do not need to pay an additional fee for the Mashed Potato Mile. You cannot run the 5/10km if you only signed up for the mile.

What is the Mashed Potato Mile?

We are encouraging kids under 14 and adults over 65 to participate in this one mile fun run/walk that starts at 7:30AM in front of Cobo Center at the top of the ramp on Washington & Jefferson. A token award will be handed out to all finishers.

Can I walk in an event, or do I have to be a runner?

Walkers are definitely encouraged to participate in the 5km walk that starts at 8:10am. Just remember, that because of the start of the Parade, the course must be cleared by 9:45AM.

I paid for parade tickets (Grandstand Seating) when I registered, where are the tickets? Where are the seats?

If you registered on-line your tickets will be mailed to you with a map to the grandstand location. Tickets are also available at the satellite locations and at Cobo Center registration.. Turkey Trot Grandstand seating is usually on the west side of Woodward at Grand Circus Park (Section X).

How do I know if I am registered?

A confirmation will be sent via email within 24 hours after you've registered. The Turkey Trot web site will also list your bib number; show which event you signed for and your tech shirt size.

Can I switch races?

Yes, just bring your number to the race day registration table on race day or do it at one of the packet pick up location before Nov. 21

Will the race continue give out tech shirts?

Yes, they were a crowd favorite last year and we've one-upped ourselves. The shirt in men's and women's cut will be black with bright red/orange and purple respectively.

I ordered the wrong size t-shirt, or would prefer a different size, can I exchange it?

Yes, just bring your shirt to the race day registration table on race day or do it at one of the packet pick up locations before Nov. 21. Note: The Turkey Trot web site registration page has a chart to help you determine the correct size.

Am I guaranteed a t-shirt?

Probably, we've ordered 12,000 printed shirts and have an extra 2,000 that can be printed if necessary.

How far is the 5km/10km start from Cobo Hall?

About five blocks from the Cobo Center lobby. Walk east on Jefferson to Woodward and its one block north from there.

How can I volunteer?

We can always use more volunteers. Call our hotline at (313) 247- 4149 or use the Parade Company web site volunteer page.