

## 2012 Feedback

"Great event, nice work John and all volunteers. I am looking forward to next year!"

M.C.

I am sorry I haven't had a chance to write and let you know how much I enjoyed the race. It was wonderful. The course was great- now I have a new favorite run which I will practice on until next year's race. I will be back every year until I can't run it any more!!! You did a tremendous job organizing this incredible race. Thank you for a wonderful experience!

A.T.

Thanks so much for creating an amazing opportunity. While I personally found the course to be hill challenging, it was beautiful and peaceful (I should have known better!). More than the course itself, everything about the race was so nice. Your emails, organization, volunteers, national anthem, after race food and festivities, friendly fellow runners, bag drop, etc. were all so enjoyable. I love the medals and the shirt-and the runner keychain bottle opener! So incredibly generous of the photographer to take and share the pictures. We enjoyed those (especially that my foot crossed before Jon's, though he could have kicked my ass). Being a new runner, this was an intimate and welcoming race. Not to mention, New Pond Farm is gorgeous and a great cause. I thought traffic while running was fine. People were respectful. The only place I noticed a little crowding was at the Topstone turnaround bc there wasn't one clear lane, but the cars we met there were very patient. I agree with adding another aid station between the 3 and 6 mile. It was fun to run past the wife and kids of a high school friend on the course and be back in old territory! While I was disappointed in my time, I'm trying to celebrate in the fact that I finished a half marathon! Thank you!

Take care,

J.B.

Hi John. thanks for doing a great job with RRR. I really appreciate your attention to detail, and the great communication. I agree totally with the added aid stations for next year...if was not carrying fluids on my belt pack, I would have been in trouble.

D.G.

On behalf of my wife and I, we wanted to thank you for pulling off a great race. You were kind enough to let us in shortly after the race had closed when I explained that it would be my wife's first half marathon. She did great and we both had a good time. I think she will remember her first half for many years. While challenging, I really enjoyed the course... and that is coming from someone that has vowed to never again run the Fairfield half due to hills and heat... The weather couldn't have been better and the 8 am start time was ideal. We enjoyed the after race festivities and the swag bag.

Congrats on putting together a premier FF country half marathon (and I've run Fairfield, Norwalk, Ridgefield, and NYC),

We look forward to running it again,

All the best,

T.H.

Great, great job for a first time half.

**Positives:**

WELL MARKED course - I don't know how people got lost. I also can't fathom you putting a person at each corner next year. I liked that you advised folks too to move to the right, etc. because of hill or curve. Of course, I'm slow and look down. There seemed to be plenty of police and when there was traffic on the narrow roads the problems were mainly caused by runners being on both sides of the roads.

AID STATIONS: Tough course but I thought the aid stations were spaced well.

VOLUNTEERS: well informed, cheerful and encouraging.

SWAG: Holy cow - pun intended! It was amazing to get a shirt (choose color), medal, cooler bag, sticker, cow bell, key ring, etc. Most ever I've received.

FINISH: Coming through the barn was cool!

NATIONAL ANTHEM: Awesome.

YOUR EMAIL COMMUNICATION! Love the outreach and newsletters.

**IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES** (some you have mentioned):

Okay, maybe not 13 page newsletters (LOL)

Lose one of the earlier starts.

Porta potties: It's a trend, the old rule of 1 per 100 is outdated. More women runners = more bathroom time. You said you had nine but I only saw three across from the Education Center and then there were some inside. It might cut the profit margin for the fundraiser but one thing that can doom a race is word spreading that there wasn't enough porta potties.

More bottled water at the finish. Group was scrambling when I came in to get more. I'm slow but there were still about 80 folks in after me and you were almost out. Definitely needed if refreshment tent is a bit away from finish line.

Sharp right hand turn coming out of the barn toward refreshment tent is confusing. It seemed a lot were confused thinking this was end and then a lot of folks who were finished were standing on the course..

**Personal preferences:**

I'd like shirt to say Half Marathon / 10K on it.

It would've been cool to have ribbon for medal to be in cow print.

The pretzel/candy aid station - hygiene thing for me. Don't want to grab into a bowl that's been grabbed into by other sweaty runners. It means more cups but have small cups of pretzels, candy for runners to grab like water.

AGAIN, CONGRATULATIONS!

J.G

I have been meaning to send you a note all week, but I have been on the road.

I tried to stop you and introduce myself when you were running around in the tent after the race, but couldn't catch your attention, plus you were very much still on task.

I wanted to thank you for all that you did for the Farm. It was an impressive event and no small task on your part.

From a personal perspective, I had never run a half before and even Sunday morning considered staying in bed. But I didn't and I had a tremendous time.

So thank you again.

Best regards,

Jamie

The race was a wonderful event, both from my perspective as a volunteer and from the runners that I spoke with. We felt very appreciated as many runners thanked us as we were handing out water.

Some suggestions for the next race, though I saw from the note that you sent to the runners that you are already addressing most of these: Have a volunteer at the crossroads to direct the runners. We had a few 10k runners coming back to the 1st station and we needed to redirect them. We then sent someone to the post office to direct the rest of the runners.

Send someone to collect the clothing after the runners come through. We couldn't leave until the end of the race so the faster runners were looking for their items before we were able to deliver them.

Let the aid station volunteers know when the last runner is through (or how they will know when the last runner comes through). I was working the first/last station and I wasn't sure how long I should stay there. I thought all of the runners would have been through by 11, but I didn't want to abandon ship if someone was still on the course. I ended up jumping in the car to drive the course, saw a runner, turned around to beat her back to the station, then repeated the process. That was when I saw the fire department truck who told me there was one more so I knew to stay put until after she passed.

All in all, a fine race. I would be happy to help out in the future!

Melissa

You did such a wonderful job I enjoyed it and really had a good experience and will look forward to it next year.

Alli

Hi John. Just wanted to thank you for organizing a great race. I had a really nice time and although the hills were somewhat challenging it was a pleasant run. Much better than the Fairfield 1/2 (actually, a hundred times better ... on many levels). I am definitely looking forward to running again next year!

Running thru the barn at the end was a nice touch. My husband waited for me at the finish line and as a spectator- he enjoyed himself. Very pleasant crowd.

If I had to vote, I would rather do the trail run vs the out and back portion. That being said, the out and back was not that bad- just not a fan in general. The water station was well placed here.

I did not find the traffic that bad at all. (Compared to other races I have run where you're dodging traffic).

Loved the shirt and the very unique medal!!

Great job to you and your team. See you next year

Sincerely,

S.L.

"John you did an amazing job organizing this race!! Jacob and I look forward to running again next year!!"

J.T.

A few comments if I may

Arrival, excellent coordination, the cow droppings made me feel like I was back in grammar school, I grew up next to a pasture, what are they planting there next year.

Course, couldn't be better, lots of hills so what, the signs were great, especially the frog saying this is the last hill, the aid station with the soda was a blessing.

Volunteers, excellent, enthusiastic and all did well.

Finish, unique and special, don't change a thing.

Marty Sciavone, I am very familiar with the concept of unknown unknowns, great announcing at the end, our loss will be Virginia's gain or wherever he is moving to.

Refreshments, I went back for seconds, Coke and Pepsi, how does it get any better.

Finishers medals, currently on prominent display with my others

All in all a great job. Send an application as soon as they become available. I will be in shape next year, see you then.

G.H.

Congratulations on a very well organized first race! You were right - it was challenging! I loved the tranquility of the roads and scenery. The early start let me enjoy the peace and quiet along the course. The timing of the race was great too - as the temperatures were ideal.

I hope the race continues forward and is a successful fundraiser for the farm! Hopefully, you'll be able to find a way to have more people participate next year, while keeping the small race feel.

Thank you for the Cow statue! My friends are now jealous and talking about heading to CT for next year's race. For some reason, they don't believe me when I tell them it was one of the most difficult courses I've run to date (definitely not the worst). They were also jealous of all the wonderful goodies! Great job!

Can't really think of any areas to improve. Maybe having more people providing direction to the start - as the volunteers I asked (directing traffic) didn't know and were getting very tired of being questioned (this was at 7am). You had a great selection of food at the finish - but maybe some chocolate milk (now being touted as a great recovery drink)? I'm not a huge fan of eating bagels or pizza after the race and head more towards lighter options like chocolate milk, grapes, apples, pretzels, etc. Oranges and bananas are definitely not what I'm looking for either (you get plenty of those on the course). The popcorn by the Boy Scouts was a good choice too!

Is there any chance the finish line could be by the barn? I thought running thru the barn was a great idea and would make for a unique finish line picture. Also, I was a little mentally challenged when I had to walk back up the hill after the finish (you know us flatlanders were already hurting from all the hills on the course)!!

You put on a wonderful race! I'd even say much better race than some of the ones I've participated in that have been produced for many years. Your attention to detail was fantastic! Let me know if you continue to put on the race - I'd definitely consider returning. Although, I'll definitely have to put in more training time on hills!

Thanks again for a very memorable race!

C.A.

I would like to personally thank you and the rest of the organizers/helpers for this outstanding race. I have raced in close to 100 races over the past 6 years 5Ks, 5 Milers; 10Ks and this was my 4th half marathon. This race was the best from every angle- the web site; the newsletters; the goody bag; the t-shirt; the parking; the beauty of the route; the map; the assistance along the route; the medal; the extra touch with the flower; the after party, and the photos!! Also, I never would have discovered the gem that is New Pond Farm. I am signing up to be a volunteer there!

Again, thank you very, very much! I am ready to sign up for next year!!!

Regards,

M.P.

It can't be said enough - Beautiful Job!!!

If I had to pick one thing that made this race experience so special it would be the correspondence from you.

Not only did it add to the anticipation and excitement (of my first half) but you made me feel like a part of your running community. That welcoming "you are one of us" feeling was present at the starting line

among the runners as well as all through the race and I believe that it was you who set the mood from the beginning. I am still so thankful to have gotten in after registration was closed.

Some of the changes on your list for next year are very nice, not totally necessary to make it great but I see that you are a perfectionist.

Since you insist, here's my suggestion- do not mix candy so haphazardly. Grabbing a handful of peanut M&M's and getting an unexpected gummybear was downright vile! (if you were allergic to peanuts the gummy bears would also be off limits mixed in like that) And did I see jelly beans in that mix? Next time keep it simple or at least keep them separate.

Thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you !!!

Oh, and how can I be sure to get in again next year?

Sincerely,

T.M.

This was the BEST half marathon EVER! You did an AMAZING job organizing it. It wasn't the best time-wise or PR-wise, but it was so nice to escape to the beautiful countryside, which was only an hour away from where I live. I loved the cows, the waterfalls, everything. I loved the little out and back in that trail with the opportunity to grab water twice. Water was definitely something needed more on this tough and hilly course. I usually don't even break a sweat, but this time I was certainly not. I ran a half the weekend before on a pancake flat course in 1:42:05 (my best) and this was 1:48:51. It was really tough, but it was nice to have completed it. The scenery was beautiful and I love that it was a nice small race, so it felt like a community run. I love those. I used to live in Suffolk County and I used to get that feeling at races – I certainly don't at NYRR races. Oh, I also loved the runner schwag. My bell is now prominently placed on my desk, the keychain was great and the shirt is a wonderful design and great quality to run in. Thank you for the opportunity to run. Also, names on bibs is big. They did that at my first marathon and we all felt like elite marathoners, so it was a nice touch. Can't wait until next year!

Oh, and after THIS race, I went home and slept until the following day. Ha.

Best,

C.G.

"Thank you!! Amazing day, amazing course. The last bit was magical."

J.J

"It was a wonderful race. I had a great time and can't wait to see what next year brings."

M.P.

First, congratulations on putting together a FABULOUS event! Really, it was one of the most organized events I have ever participated in. Thanks :)))) I have already recommended it to 4 of my running pals here in Southeastern CT.

I found the hills to be a fun challenge. We have hills here in the Mystic area and aside from running at the track, I can't go for a run in any direction without encountering at least one. The difference there in Redding was the number of them on the course. Still, I thought none were too much. The steepest hill, I did walk up only because I could walk it faster than I could run it! The steepest downhill was far worse than any uphill. I was a little worried that some of the runners might wipeout on it. In fact, one guy came barreling past me and I honestly was preparing in my head what to do if he crashed. For the future, it might be good to have an aid station or someone at the bottom of that hill in case of an accident.

The parking was good. It looked like you could accommodate some more people. Dodging the cowpies in the pasture was the biggest challenge :) I am eagerly awaiting today's rain so I can wash the cow poo off my tires :) My daughter insisted that I take a picture of a cowpie, which I did, just because it was so darned funny!

The traffic on the road didn't cause me any problems. The drivers were cautious and courteous.

As for the port-o-potties: The lines I encountered weren't bad at all compared to other races I have been at. It was great to have use of the indoor facilities at the farm.

My daughter enjoyed volunteering, but felt that there wasn't enough for her to do - which must mean you had plenty of volunteers :) She spent an hour at the baggage claim and then went to the finish area but all the posts were full. She said she felt kind of funny accepting a volunteer shirt when she really didn't do all that much! Still, I appreciate how welcoming the volunteer coordinator was. My daughter is a runner as well, and I think that by allowing kids to help out we really instill the value of volunteering. Races can't happen without them :) So thanks for that.

Again, what a GREAT event!! Thanks for all your hard work. It was great to run a race out on country roads but still have the same (actually better) support and perks as the big city type races.

Get some well deserved rest!

L.T.

Mystic

"thanks for making my first half unforgettable! "

M.G.

John-- congratulations on a successful first race! It was one of the best I have done. Will definitely be signing up early next year and bringing the kids for the kids run.

-Caryn

Excellent race--I can't think of anything negative about it. The course was challenging but so scenic, it was lovely. The park in and out was kind of weird, but nothing bad, just weird. Loved the downhill from mile 7 to 8. I am raving about this run to people--it was great fun! Thank you for putting it on and thank you for all your hard work.

S.K.

It was a great race on a perfect day. I loved the course, the amusing signage, and the jelly beans! Congrats to you too.

Thanks,

Karen

John: That was a great event yesterday!! We had a blast! Thank you for all your hard work.

Floris

Your welcome! It was a great race and a great event! Thank you for the praise! I would be honored to sing for you again next year. :)

Best -

Eowyn

Dear Ann,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for hosting such a wonderful event yesterday. It was successful from start to finish because of many volunteers and staff members of New Pond Farm. I especially wanted to recognize John McCleary for his incredible efforts in planning and executing such a fabulous event. When I read about this event in early winter, I thought it would be nice to visit NPF again with my children and support your organization. As children they spent many fun visits at the farm both through school field trips from the Wilton schools and with us. Now as adults living and working in NYC, they especially appreciated the beauty of the New Pond Farm, and it was a terrific way to have a new family memory, especially since my son won the half marathon! My daughter Kiley also ran the half with great results and my husband and I enjoyed the 10 K- a great time was had by all. Yesterday was another wonderful memory spent at New Pond Farm- everything looks beautiful and the weather was great too.

Thank you for all that you do to make it such a welcoming and educational spot.

Here is the note that I sent to John this morning and I wanted to share it with you.

Thanks again and see you at the Farm.

K.M.

**Dear John,**

**On behalf of the Murphy family of Wilton, thank you for your outstanding organization of the New Pond Farm Race. From your start to finish, you are a champion and we are all grateful for your dedication in making this fabulous event a tremendous success for New Pond Farm and for everyone who participated. It's hard to believe that the weather was just as perfect as your planning. Thanks to the many sponsors and volunteers who assisted in every aspect of making this morning so successful and fun. From frequent newsletters to unlimited pizza, it was appreciated by all. We had a wonderful morning, coupled with great results, and can't wait until next year. It was our first family race but won't be our last- thanks to you and your incredible efforts! You should be so very proud of what you accomplished for New Pond Farm.**

**With gratitude,**

**K.M.**

John,

I had an amazing time participating in this event, albeit having a stomach bug. The course was scenic and challenging. However, the people along the course from spectators to volunteers made it a pleasant run. The aid station at Topstone was the best! Thanks John for setting up a great race! Look forward to this event again and if any more races involved in as Race Director

Doug

P.S. Is there anyway to have the start closer to where the farm is next time?

Just wanted to thank you for a wonderful day you put together--- for runners and spectators alike!!

S.P.

Thanks, John! It was a fabulous experience! Thanks so much for all the incredibly hard work you put into it!!!

Cheers!

Jane

Thanks so much for organizing such a fun race! Rebecca and I (team bread&love) had a wonderful time. Everyone was so helpful and friendly. Unfortunately we couldn't stay after the race because we had to check-out of our hotel.

Cameon

Many, many thanks for putting on such a well-planned and organized event yesterday. It wasn't until yesterday that I really realized how much effort went into the planning -- from the personalized bibs, great runners' gifts, extremely well-marked route, entertaining signs, many rest stops, great volunteers, the many sponsors, extensive refreshments to the very well constructed and painted finishing trestle. I loved that I got a bottle of water with my medal at the finish -- it was just what I needed. Anyway, you obviously know what was great about the day, but I wanted to join the crowd of voices that let you know that the little details certainly did not go unnoticed. It was my very first half marathon and I couldn't have managed a better atmosphere and event. I hope you and everyone at the farm enjoyed the day as much as the runners did -- you really deserved to.

Looking at the results, it appears (barring any changes) that I came in 3rd in my age division! I was none-too-pleased with my hill-slowed time and left without even thinking about the results...is it still possible to retrieve this trophy?

Best of luck with your post-race recovery! Already looking forward to next year...

Alexa

Just wanted to say Thank you, although extremely challenging, the race was very well run and organized. Hope you can now relax !!

Have a good week.

Loretta

The race was excellent! Thanks for putting it together - looking forward to running it next year.

Kevin Tanzer

YOU did it! What a great race you put together! It was a wonderful experience for me: my first race of any sort. I walked most of it with a really nice woman named Beth and I know next year I'll be able to run part of it!

But for now, just know there were a lot of happy people saying this was a great race on in every way. You do have the perfect spot & everyone was friendly & all the food & extras were great. Again many thanks for the way you advertised your race. I am so happy I decided to go for it!

Best wishes for a relaxing week after all that hard work!

Kathy

Dear John, I'm sure you're exhausted from the weekend but I just wanted to send a quite note thanking you for your hard work and for making the race a MAJOR success by all accounts. We all had a great time and really enjoyed being a part of it. Already looking forward to next year (and doing a little more hill work to prepare!). Thanks again.

Best,

Kyle

Awesome race John. Thank you!

G.M.

Thanks for such a kick ass race! You rock! :)

Melissa

John,

Great job yesterday - congratulations it was a great run - I am glad I got to meet you briefly before the race I had to leave to get to my sons lacrosse tournament right after.

Out of my 13 half marathons it was the second hardest next to Munson MA - those hills in Redding were brutal!

great job thanks for putting it on - looking forward to next year and thanks for helping promote Project Purple.

D.V.

Great job on the race, it was really well done! Please let me know how I can check the results when they are available.

Best regards,

Gean

Hi John,

I just wanted to thank you very much for a great race day yesterday. The course was definitely difficult but that made finishing all the more exciting!

I also wanted you to know that Brian (Is this Kansas?#477) and I stuck around for half of the award ceremony but we were there with his sister, who also ran, and his little nephews so we unfortunately had to leave early. Not sure what you had in store for him but I did want you to know that we did make an effort to be there...In any event, thank you for letting him participate yesterday! We had a great time....except for miles 2-6, HA!

Hope you're resting today! Great job!

Thanks so much,  
Brooke

Great race John – thank you

Mike

FANTASTIC race yesterday -- really cannot wait till next year's! Tons of facebook postings about how great it was. Hope once you catch your breath from your tremendous efforts, you can bask in them! Couple questions--I had to leave early yesterday but just checked results and saw that I placed 3rd in my age group. Not proud of my time, but I'll take it! :) I live in Ridgefield so is there a place where I can pick up the trophy?

Also, do you have a sense of when the running group that you're starting will be getting together? Would love to see if I can join.

Thanks and hope you're getting some well-deserved rest!

A.M.

Nice job organizing the race. It was fun and challenging. Will be back next year. Larry

"I really enjoyed the whole day! It was nice to run a course sight unseen and encounter the challenges of shifting gears through the hills. Very bucolic scenery made for a great experience. WELL DONE!"

P.S.

Thanks for having put the race together, John, you did it really well and thought everything through just right. Your course, though challenging, was a delight and the day could not have proved better for the inaugural run. You deserve the highest accolades and let's hope you do it again next year, though after you take some time off to recoup!!!

Thanks again, ciao, Tom

More importantly, I want to THANK YOU so much for all the work you and the volunteers put into the race. My friends and I will definitely be back to run it next year. I loved the challenging, bucolic, and well-marked course (though could have done without the killer out and back portion!), the runner gifts, the very cool and unique medal, the flower at the end, the post-race festivities and on and on. It was truly a feel-good event. Thank you!

K.B.

Thanks for getting us the cancellation slots, and for putting on a great race. We loved the course, hills and all, food after was great, and just well organized all around. Well done.

George and Inger

Just in case you don't hear this enough this week - GREAT RACE - GREAT FUN - GREAT TIME!

Kathleen and I know that an inaugural race of this size, all the logistics, can be daunting. You did a wonderful job making us feel welcome, and the volunteers did a wonderful job helping the runners feel welcome.

If you recall, We race direct as well. I'm sure you are going to get plenty of "suggestions" recommending to do certain things differently or not at all next year. I would suggest that you not react to any of them until you meet with all your volunteers and confidantes to consider what they have to say first. Then introduce the comments from the public. Many suggestions will not have merit as they are well intentioned, but come from many people who do not have a concept of the complexity of putting on a race this size and distance. And some suggestions will be spot on.

I would also recommend that you solicit comments from the timing company and the police and the other emergency staff that helped out.

Take care and thank you so much for putting on such a well conceived and well meaning race event.

R.G.

Matt wrote: "Incredibly well organized and definitely one of the harder courses I've ever run but the course, scenery, post run food were all top notch. Great job and kudos to John and his team for an amazing day."

M.D.

Thanks John, had an amazing time!  
Daniel

Ciara wrote: "This was an AMAZING race. The course was beautiful, everyone was friendly. I loved that out and back with the opportunity to hit water twice and the friendly neighborhood cheering. It was

small and quaint and the race was very well organized. I also loved the finish line carpentry. Beautiful race. I can't wait until next year:)"

Wonderful day yesterday John... Thanks for allowing me to be a part of it...

I It was a great day and I thought you did a wonderful job.. Your son was also very helpful to me with the kids race...He is a fine young boy...He is definitely hired to help again next year.

Hope to see you soon...God bless, Donna

Thanks for all your work putting on a fantastic race!  
Great people, great weather, great environment, great race.  
Neil

You should be very proud (and probably relieved) with what you accomplished today. You put on a fantastic runners' race, and it was a great time across the board. Though the course was much harder than I thought it would be (and I really did train on hills!!), it didn't matter. It was tough and fun, and runners like that. At least, this runner does.

I had two questions for you. One - you mentioned the original "Mad Cow" premium, and I'd love to have one. I'm not offended by the name (I told you that), and I'm sort of proud of doing both, in respectable times, since I was unsure about running at all today (feeling a little apprehensive about 16.5 miles in one day, given my current training). I was happy to cut the 3.5 down today in order to save some time, and it was still a great warm-up, and I'd have no problem taking one of those lovely milk can souvenirs off of your hands. I have to be in Danbury on May 19; I could pick it up that day, if you'd like.

Two - is there any way to get a message to someone, or to get their contact information? I crossed the finish line with a girl named Liz, from Clinton, CT. We helped each other a lot along the course; she giving me motivational words, and me pacing her to help her break 2 hours for the first time. We were going to exchange numbers after we finished, and then we both got caught up with our friends and family after the race and never found reach other. I'd understand if you didn't want to give me her information, but maybe you could send her my email, if you'd rather. We talked about getting together to run, and I'd love to follow through with that.

Really, John, this was a wonderful event. I always feel a sense of camaraderie with runners at races, but certain races bring that out more than others. This one tops the list. It was a great time. Thank you for everything.

Take care,

Katy

Thank you for organizing a great race and the nice note. Sharon

Hi john

Great race! Sign me up for next year please!

Also if there is a way to put out thank yous for random acts of kindness, a stranger, non runner gave me a lift to new pond farm this morning pre race, he also donated 20 dollars to the farm, his name was oliver. I didn't get a last name.

Thank you!

R.W.

I'm sure I'm just adding to a huge pile of accolades that you must be receiving, but I wanted to thank you for putting together an exceptional race. Every aspect of the race seemed to be perfectly planned and executed. The course itself was challenging -- I finished the half over 20 minutes slower than my PR! -- but it was enjoyable. Excellent job!

Peter.

Thank you for letting me race and for all of your hard work!! It was a great experience and I hope you will have another one next year! Everything seemed to go really well. Thanks!

Megan

The race was a blast - I really enjoyed the scenery and it was great to support a local farm. Thank you for organizing such a wonderful event. I hope you are able to repeat it every year!

All the best,

S.O.

You are probably still busy taking down, reorganizing, cleaning up etc. I hope you took a mug for yourself to fill up for later when you can relax.

I just want to thank you and congratulate you on a fun, well done run! Especially for a first time run and first time race organizer. Yes, I'm sure there are things to tweak but truly it was a great event and you did a fantastic job (with the weather too). It seems that your son is on his way to becoming a race organizer in his future!

Thanks again.

-Teren

I'm sure your inbox is full of people praising the race. Count me among them. Challenging course, but well-marked, well-manned, well done! The food tent afterward was awesome.

Perfect day.... looking forward to next year,

Cheers,  
B.M.

You did an amazing job....and the thing that amazed me the most was how warm and friendly everyone was..

Everyone...the staff, volunteers but more so all the runners...

in all the races I have done and I have done a lot I never enjoyed myself as much!

I told my husband and he said he would volunteer next year.

There is always going to be a learning curb....but all your hard work and effort was the crowning glory of this race

I am really looking forward to the Your running group....so have that beer or 2 you deserve it!  
and to any naysayer, I say they have NO idea what it took to pull this off!

Thank you

Alice

Thank you for a great race!!! You did an amazing job organizing everything!!

J.S.

I told you at the packet pick up yesterday that "you were the man!". All of your efforts and those of your volunteer team, made for an UNBELIEVABLE event today. Thank you so much.

M.T.

Congratulations on a successful, first annual, "A Run For The Cows".

We wanted to thank you and your volunteers for a job well done. This morning, before the start of the race, folding tables, water, Igloo water jugs, Gatorade, and other items were delivered to the entrance of our drive for the aid station. Your volunteers set up and offered water, Gatorade and oranges to all who ran by. During the race, cups were thrown all over the road and Peter, a volunteer, took the time to pick them up and police the area before leaving to meet his wife, a race participant. Within an hour of the last runner, everything, including two bags of garbage, was removed from the entrance to our property.

You did a fantastic job organizing the race and we look forward to being a sponsor next year.

Thank you, **R.B.**

John you and your crew did an amazing job!

It was so well organized for a first year's race that very impressive.

Double thumbs up!!

Jan.

John,

I ran the Providence rock 'n roll in support of a friend from the Coast Guard yesterday and finished within a minutes time of the race that you organized. I have to admit I did not train nearly as well for this one, but I think that there were a few less hills.

The reason for the email is just to thank you and give you a shout out for a well put together race. I had nothing to compare it too, but looking at the events now in comparison, I will probably not ever run another rock 'n roll race because you spoiled us. The personal touches, accommodation, and effort was amazing. Dan Tanksley and I (he ran yesterday's too) couldn't stop comparing the two races and we both enjoyed the run for the cows! You really out did yourself and we certainly look forward to next year.

Take care and I saw the count down on your website!

Best Regards,

Chris

This was the greatest race. It's not a PR course, but it's so beautiful and all the little touches made the biggest difference. See you next year – my calendar is marked!

C.S.

Hi John,

I hope you've been enjoying the warmer weather. I wanted to thank you for the finisher's certificate – it was beautiful. And it was perfect timing too. Yesterday I started training for my first half marathon. I'm planning on completing the Surftown Half Marathon in Rhode Island on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. So it was great to find the certificate when I got home from the gym – it was a nice boost for my confidence!

Also, I went to the Iron Horse Half Marathon in Simsbury this past weekend. My husband completed his first half, it was a great experience. I wore my Redding Road Race shirt to the race and got some positive feedback. A few people commented on the cute cow and asked about the race. I told them it was the best race experience I've ever had and that I highly recommended it. I also had someone come up and say they were there too and that "it was a fantastic event".

I am definitely planning on coming back to Redding next year, maybe for the half this time. My husband and brother-in-law want to run it too. Just a suggestion, but I think it would be good to send out a mass e-mail when registration starts for next year so the participants from this year can get first dibs at signing up. M.G.