

United States Naval Academy Marathon Team

Chicago Marathon, 2019, After Action Report

Date: Sunday, October 13, 2019

Event: The 42th Anniversary of the 2019 Bank of America Chicago Marathon

Distance: 26.2 Miles || 42.2. Kilometers

Location: Chicago, IL

Participants: 28 Runners: 25 Midshipmen, 1 Coach (Mr. Nathan Nudelman), 1 Faculty Representative (Professor Rob Curry), 1 Senior Enlisted Leader (Master Chief Ret. James Rodak)



Summary:

The Chicago Marathon is one of the most prestigious marathons in the world. It is one of the six Abbott World Marathon Majors, which also includes the Boston Marathon and the New York City Marathon. In 2019, 45,786 runners crossed the finish line, including runners from all 50 states, from 140 different countries, and all 50 Chicago wards. Brigid Kosgei of Kenya broke the women’s world record marathon time, originally 2:15:25, during this race with an amazing 2:14:04 finishing time. The winner of the men’s competition was Lawrence Cherono of Kenya with a blazing time of 2:05:45, just one second ahead of the men’s second place finisher.

In the later hours of Friday, October 13, 2019, the United States Naval Academy (USNA) Marathon Team mustered and subsequently departed the Academy, beginning their journey to the heart of the Midwest: Chicago, Illinois. Thanks to the help of the dedicated employees of NAAA and the compassionate members of the USNA Parents Club of Northern Illinois (USNAPCNI), the USNA Marathon Team arrived in Chicago at 2300 local time to the boisterous greetings of a number of Academy parents. The USNAPCNI graciously donated the use of a charter bus in order to take all 28 members of the team to our Holiday Inn Hotel located right along the fork of the Chicago River.



The team mustering at the Submarine Monument on Friday afternoon, preparing for the exciting trip ahead.



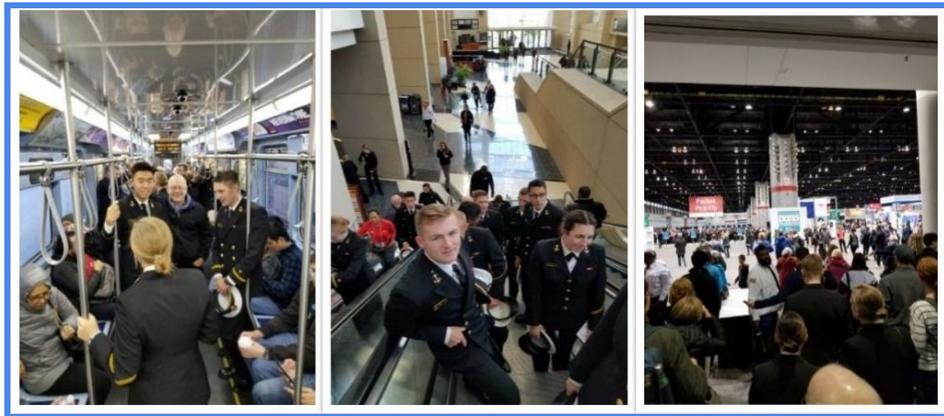
The team at the airport on Friday night checking their bags full of racing items.



The Marathon Team was greeted at the Chicago Midway Airport by the USNAPCNI. They prepared goodie bags and sandwiches for the team; the Chicago USO graciously provided the contents of the bags. Thank you to Ms. Carleen Clair, Secretary of the USNAPCNI, for all her hard work in the organization of our visit.

Race Expo, Liberty, Team Dinner: Saturday, October 12, 2019

Following a good night's sleep, the team awoke on Saturday and set out on the Chicago Transit Authority's Elevated Train (colloquially known as "The L") Green Line in order to get to the race expo. Arriving at 0900 in the McCormick Convention Center located in the South Loop of Chicago, the team gathered the needed racing bibs, and, upon entering the actual expo, conversed with a number of professional runners and companies. Following the race expo, the team enjoyed liberty in the city before returning to the Holiday Inn for a USNAPCNI-provided dinner later on in the day, graciously provided by Holiday Inn. Various parents of team members came and enjoyed the food and company, cherishing in the one-of-a-kind culture of the USNA Marathon Team. Following cleanup, the team turned in for the night, getting the well-needed rest for the race.



The team attended the race expo the day before the race. Here they had to chance to receive their bibs, buy gear, and grab any last minute race fuel.



The team had a great time at the race expo and was excited to finally get their bibs.



A delicious meal was provided to the team at the Holiday Inn by the USNAPCNI.



The team appreciates the hospitality of the USNAPCNI and Holiday Inn at Chicago Mart Plaza North!

RACE DAY: Sunday, October 13, 2019

The sun had not yet breached the horizon when the team awoke at 0430 on the morning of Sunday, October 13. The weather was partly cloudy, low-40s with dry conditions. Wind chill readings, however, had it feeling closer to 32 degrees. As the Chicago Police Department closed down a number of roads along the race route, the team made its way through the center of downtown Chicago, taking in the spectacle of immense skyscrapers. Thanks to Fleet Feet of Chicago, the team was able to attend the Chicago Endurance Sports (CES) Race Day Resort at Roosevelt University, right across the street from the race start, giving them an alcove to store personal belongings, eat food provided, as well as have a brief chance to rest.



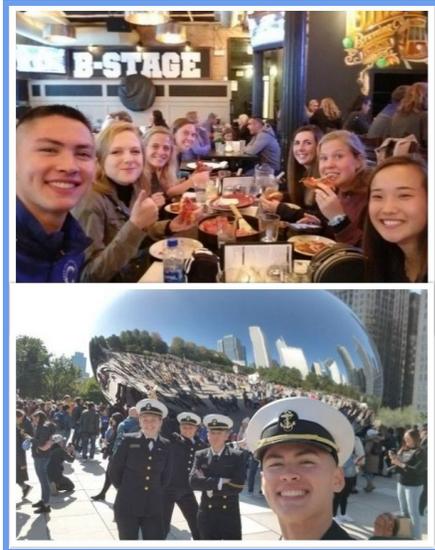
The team relaxed and mentally prepared at the CES Race Day Resort before the marathon. The team had the opportunity to thank CES and Fleet Feet reps for their generosity in hosting them before and after the race!

At the call of various announcements, the team proceeded to their respective starting corrals along Chicago's bustling streets. Among the throngs of thousands of runners, the yellow jerseys of the USNA Marathon Team stood prominent as the shot for Wave 1 rang at 0730. Valiant performances among the team abounded, including 10 Personal Records and 8 Boston Qualifying Times.



Various members of the team minutes before the start of the 2019 Chicago Marathon.

After the 28 members of the team finished, USNA Marathon mustered at the CES Race Day Resort, hydrating and stretching as needed. The team then proceeded to disperse, enjoying liberty for the rest of the day. On liberty, the members of the team delighted in a myriad of Chicago spectacles and pastimes, including seeing Cloud Gate at Millennium Park and eating Chicago style deep dish pizza. The following day, Sunday, October 14, the team departed Chicago on an early flight back to Baltimore, effectively completing the movement.



The team enjoyed the sights and tastes of Chicago!

Additional Photos from the Event:

These photos include pre-race, mid-race, and post-race.



Racers are excited for the beginning of the 2019 Chicago Marathon.



Members and staff from the Marathon Team support each other on and off the race course! From left to right, MIDN 2/C Werren and 1/C Yu help each other keep a steady pace up front, and Master Chief Rodak and MIDN 2/C Bryan run 26 (out of 26.2) miles together!



MIDN 2/C Werren (who ran a 3:08 marathon) leading a pack of male competitors!



MIDN 1/C Jendrysik, 1/C Phillips and 2/C Anderson sport their new medals after a great racing performance.

Results:

MEN'S RESULTS				
Last Name	First Name	Final Time	Note/Achievement	Place: Overall / Age / Gender
Carrillo	Victor	2:48:57	6 minute PR, BQ (2021)	728 / 43 / 646
Anderson	Tristan	2:51:39	14 minute PR, BQ (2020/2021)	920 / 48 / 810
Fish	Brendan	3:02:59	20 minute PR	2286 / 81 / 2031
Franco	Ryan	3:05:27		2581 / 90 / 2296
Fletcher	Thomas (Bert)	3:07:46	12 minute PR	2893 / 98 / 2556
Frank	Ethan	3:12:34		3614 / 109 / 3142
Kim	Victor	3:13:15		3717 / 112 / 3223
Sellock	Ethan	3:16:59		4379 / 130 / 3735
Guggenberger	Joseph	3:17:03		4391 / 132 / 3745
Yu	Garrett	3:20:13	8 minute PR	4958 / 146 / 4149
Burns	Ethan	3:37:24		9142 / 22 / 6990

WOMEN'S RESULTS				
Last Name	First Name	Final Time	Note/Achievement	Place: Overall / Age / Gender
Werren	Grace	3:08:38	13 minute PR, BQ (2021)	3024 / 28 / 339
Jendrysik	Marie	3:14:29	4 minute PR, BQ (2021)	3946 / 41 / 517
Harvey	Zibby	3:22:46	2 minute PR, BQ (2021)	5483 / 68 / 914
Roxbury	Niki	3:27:38	5 minute PR, BQ (2020, 2021)	6697 / 95 / 1283
Walha	Anmol	3:28:31	BQ (2021)	6916 / 102 / 1348
O'Neil	Madeleine	3:35:57	12 minute PR	8774 / 150 / 1972
Phillips	Alana	3:40:59		10118 / 178 / 2468
Strawn	Mariana	3:50:01	14 minute PR, 4th in age group	12889 / 4 / 3530
Hirokawa	Sydney	3:51:00		13211 / 244 / 3665
Honrath	Nora	3:51:09		13266 / 246 / 3692
Farnan	Elizabeth	4:01:00		16868 / 327 / 5162
LaVeck	Victoria	4:14:45		20762 / 440 / 6969
Bryan	Chloe	4:50:47		30749 / 737 / 12177
Lane	Grace	N/A	DNR, ***	N/A

TEAM REP'S RESULTS				
Last Name	First Name	Final Time	Note/Achievement	Place: Overall / Age / Gender
Nudelman	Nathan	4:18:24	Coach	21826 / 2396 / 14320
Curry	Rob	2:59:16	Faculty Rep, BQ (2020,2021)	1828 / 306 / 1635
Rodak	James	4:51:59	Senior Enlisted Leader	30876 / 509 / 18560

BQ: Indicates that the racer achieved a Boston Qualifying time. For men this is 3:00:00 or faster, and for women this is 3:30:00 or faster.

PR: Indicates that the racer achieved a new personal record marathon time during the race.

***: MIDN I/C Grace Lane was not able to run due to injury. She was out on the course cheering on teammates and taking photos!

Conclusion:

Overall, the USNA Marathon Team's movement to the 2019 Bank of America Chicago Marathon proceeded without a hitch; the team saw 10 new marathon PRs, and 8 with Boston Qualifying times! The team would like to thank many people for their help and support during this race. First, thank you to the Holiday Inn at Chicago Mart Plaza North for accommodating our team during our three night stay, as well as use of their conference room for dinner. To the USNA Parents Club of Northern Illinois: thank you for your hospitality, food, and gifts, as well as helping us with transportation to and from the airport. Specifically, Ms. Carleen Clair (USNAPCNI Secretary) was incredibly helpful; she communicated all of the logistical information with the team and both greeted us at the airport late Friday night and attended the team dinner (which she had an enormous role in organizing) on Saturday night. The team also thanks Ms. Lisa Zimmer, Fleet Feet, and Mr. Mike Norman, CES Event Coordinator, for extending an invitation to the team to attend the CES Race Day Resort event and for their incredible hospitality. To Mr. Carey Pinkowski, race director of the Chicago Marathon, the team is extremely grateful for the opportunity to run in such a prestigious race and is thankful for all your assistance for making this possible. The team thanks the bus drivers the Academy provided to transport us to and from the airport at the beginning and end of our marathon journey. Last but not least, the team thanks all the parents of runners, those that came and those that supported from afar; without your support we could not have done it without you!



The Mids arrived back at BWI on Monday morning, excited to return to USNA to rest after a productive weekend.



After Action Report prepared by MIDN 1/C Garrett Yu and MIDN 1/C Victoria LaVeck