



## 2017 ATHLETE GUIDE

**Race Date: Saturday, 6/17/17; Race Start: 7:00am**  
**Location: Cathedral Camp, 167 East Freetown, MA**

Dear Athlete,

Welcome to race week for the 2017 edition of the award-winning Patriot Half! This year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Patriot and it's the support and enthusiasm of athlete's like you that have helped make this such a great event... thank you!



The Athlete Guide is filled with everything you need to know about Saturday's race... from packet pick-up through post-race festivities. You'll also find spectator info and local dining recommendations.

The Patriot Half is a production of Sun Multisport Events (SME). This Athlete Guide and **the page of our website devoted to the Patriot Half** should answer all your questions. If after reading this Guide and visiting our website you still have questions feel free email us at [info@SunMultisportEvents.com](mailto:info@SunMultisportEvents.com). However, understand this is race week so our response to emails will be slower than normal.

We will email you if we need to communicate any last minute news or announcements, but we also invite you to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram where we'll post quick updates (e.g. Long Pond water temperature) as we get closer to race day.

Good luck with your final race preparations.

Sincerely,

Mark Walter  
USAT Certified Race Director  
Sun Multisport Events  
[www.SunMultisportEvents.com](http://www.SunMultisportEvents.com)

## OUTLINE

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### 1. DIRECTIONS

The Patriot Half is based at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA located at 167 Middleboro Road in East Freetown, MA. Cathedral Camp is about 50 miles directly south of Boston and 40 miles east of Providence, RI. This is the location of the swim start and finish, transition, packet pick-up (Note: Packet pick-up will also be offered at Landry's Bicycles in Boston on Weds, 6/14; see section 6 below), the race finish and post-race festivities.

#### **If driving from the North**

Take I-93 South to Rte 24 South to Route 140 South (exit 12). Take Rte 140 to exit 8 for Chace Road, East Freetown/Lakeville. Coming off the exit make a right on Chace Road. You will then enter a traffic circle. Make the second right off the circle onto Mason Road and take Mason Road to the end (< 1 mile). At the end of Mason Road make a left onto Middleboro Road and Cathedral Camp will be about 1 mile down the road on your left at 167 Middleboro Road.

#### **If driving from the South and West**

Take I-195 East to Route 140 North, exit 13B, towards Taunton. Take Rte 140 North to exit 8 for Chace Road, Assonet. Turn left onto Chace Road. You will then enter a traffic circle. Make the second right off the circle onto Mason Road and take Mason Road to the end (< 1 mile). At the end of Mason Road make a left onto Middleboro Road and Cathedral Camp will be about 1 mile down the road on your left at 167 Middleboro Road.

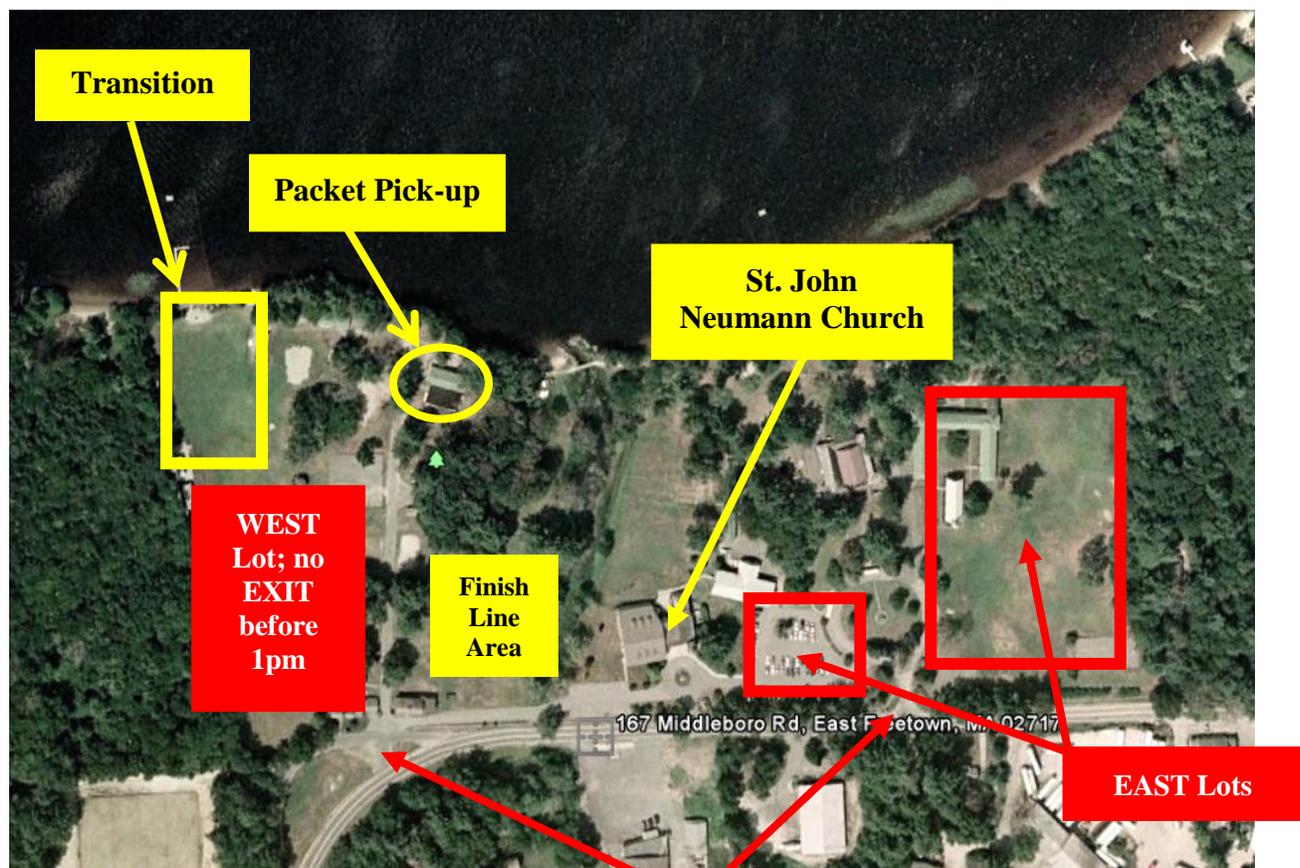
## 2. PARKING

There are two areas to park on the grounds of Cathedral Camp. **The WEST Lot** will open at 5am and is right next to transition. This lot typically fills by 6am and is the most convenient for participating athletes. **Cars parked in the WEST lot will not be able to leave until 12:45pm** because the access road used to get to this lot is utilized for the bike out, bike in and run out.

**The EAST Lot** will open at 5AM and has 2 parts... a small asphalt and a large open field. Cars will be able to enter and leave this lot throughout the event, **HOWEVER, cars will not be permitted to turn RIGHT from Middleborough Road to access the East lots between 9am and 1pm**; access to this lot during this time will only be given to cars turning LEFT into camp from Middleboro Rd.

If you are approaching Cathedral Camp from the Chace Road exit off of Route 140, Cathedral Camp will be on your LEFT – the West Parking Lot will be the first parking area on your left and the East Parking Lot area will be the second lot at the other end of the grounds of Cathedral Camp. St. John Neumann's church is between the East and West lots as shown below.

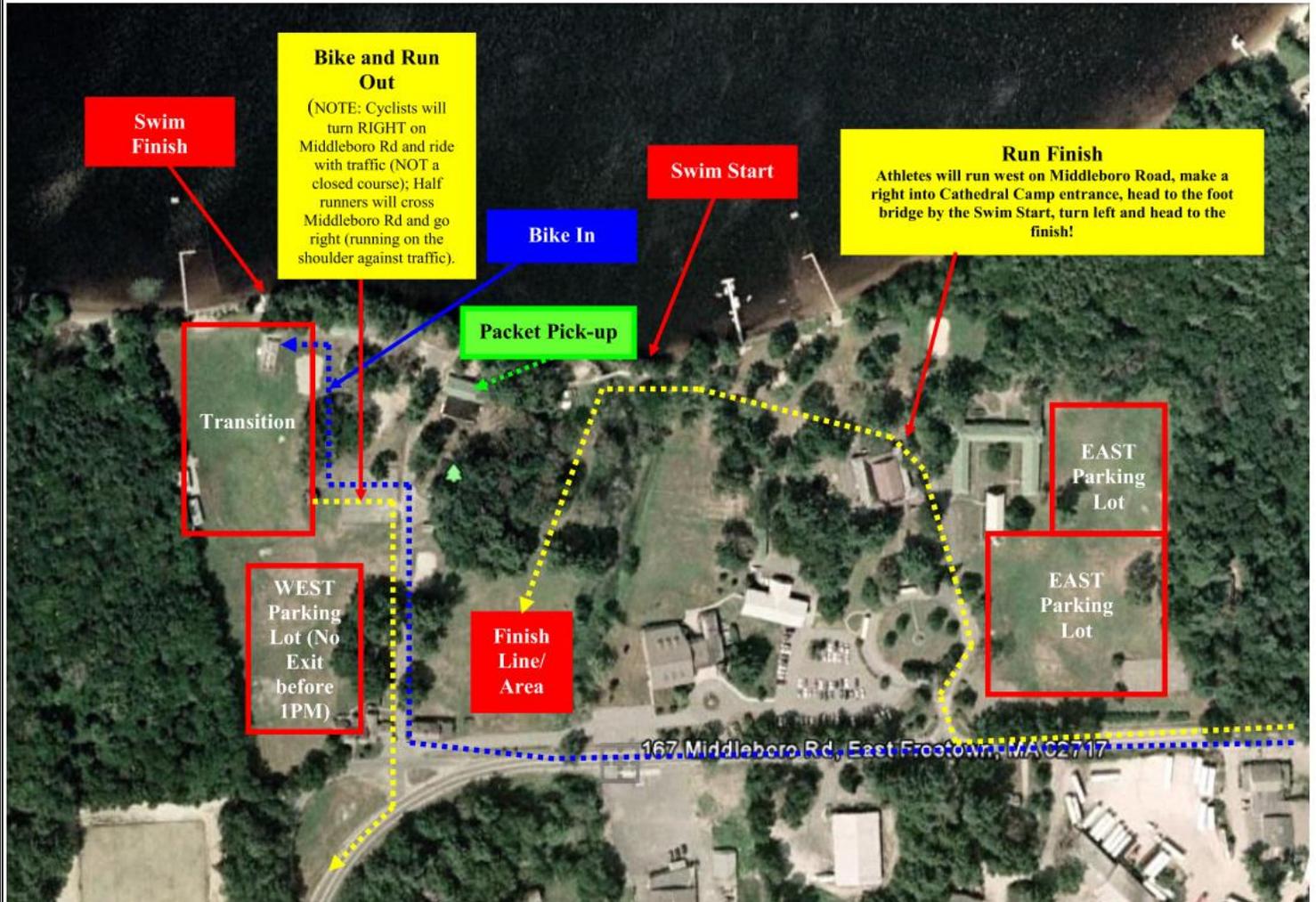
**PARKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON MIDDLEBORO ROAD OR IN THE PARKING LOT OF THE LIMOUSINE COMPANY LOCATED ACROSS FROM CATHEDRAL CAMP.**



**Access points to Cathedral Camp for parking**  
(Note: If coming from Rte 140/Mason Road these access points will be on your LEFT; cars will be prohibited from turning RIGHT into camp to access the the East Lot from Middleboro Rd 9am-1pm, but can turn left into this lot all day.

### 3. THE LAYOUT AT CATHEDRAL CAMP

The view of Cathedral Camp below shows how the venue is set-up on race day for registration/packet pick-up, transition, the swim start and finish, etc. Vendor and team tents will be set up near registration/packet pick-up on Friday and around the Finish Line area on Saturday.



## 4. YOUR SAFETY

Athlete safety is our #1 priority which is why we are excited to have fortified the safety plan for this year's Patriot Half with additional support from Race Guards and registered nurses and nursing students from Quincy College.

**Race Guards** are qualified first responders who participate in a race at the front, middle and back of the pack. Dressed in high-profile jerseys so they are easy to spot, we will have 3 Race Guards cycling the Patriot bike course and 6-7 Race



Guards spread out running on the run course. Race Guards will also be our wetsuit strippers (see page 11 for details on wetsuit stripping). Race Guards are equipped with First Aid and comfort supplies and will assist athletes with minor injuries to get back on track or help stabilize them while waiting for more advanced help.

A team from **Quincy College** will also have a visible presence at this year's Patriot. The team will be split into 2 groups. One group will help provide support at the swim start and finish and in transition at a First Aid tent that will be staffed 6am until all athletes are out of the water. This team will then move to the run course and set up a First Aid tent next to the Mile 6 aid station. The second group will help at the finish line and staff a First Aid tent that will be set up adjacent to the finish line corral.

## 5. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### **Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup>: Packet pick-up at Landry's Bicycles in Boston at 890 Commonwealth Avenue**

- **5:00pm:** Race packet pick-up opens; **PHOTO ID REQUIRED... NO PHOTO ID, NO RACING, NO EXCEPTIONS; ATHLETES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PICK UP THEIR RACE PACKET FOR ANYONE BUT THEMSELVES AND ALL MEMBERS OF A RELAY TEAM MUST BE PRESENT**
- **7:00pm:** Race packet pick-up concludes at Landry's Bicycles

### **Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>: Packet pick-up in the "Youth Ministry" Camp House at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA at 167 Middleboro Road (site of the race)**

- **4:00pm-7:00pm:** Race packet pick-up opens; **PHOTO ID REQUIRED... NO PHOTO ID, NO RACING, NO EXCEPTIONS; ATHLETES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PICK UP THEIR RACE PACKET FOR ANYONE BUT THEMSELVES AND ALL MEMBERS OF A RELAY TEAM MUST BE PRESENT**
- **5:00pm:** *The Mindful Patriot: Getting the Most Out of Yourself on Race Day*, a free seminar presented by Will Kirusis, USA Triathlon and USA Cycling Certified Coach, CSCS, CSN from Tri-Hard Endurance Coaching under the tent near the finish line; this 30 minute seminar will be immediately followed by **Q&A with the Patriot Race Director**.
- **5:00pm-7:00pm:** Practice Swim; Athletes may swim in Long Pond at the swim start; a couple of buoys will be placed in the water to mark the practice swim area; athletes may **NOT** swim the 1.2 mile swim course that will be marked with orange and yellow buoys; **athletes must remain within the practice swim area**

**Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> (RACE DAY!) at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA at 167 Middleboro Road**

- **5:00am:** Transition opens, race packet pick-up and chip distribution begins, body marking starts; **PHOTO ID REQUIRED... NO PHOTO ID, NO RACING, NO EXCEPTIONS; ATHLETES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PICK UP THEIR RACE PACKET FOR ANYONE BUT THEMSELVES AND ALL MEMBERS OF A RELAY TEAM MUST BE PRESENT**
- **6:00am-6:45am:** Warm-up swim; Athletes may swim in a designated section of Long Pond that is between the swim start and swim finish near the shore and will be marked with **GREEN** buoys; athletes must enter and exit the swim warm-up area from the swim finish next to transition and may **NOT** swim beyond this contained area.
- **6:30am:** Race packet pick-up concludes; all athletes must be checked in; **Pre-race meeting with the Race Director**; all athletes must be in or near transition to hear the pre-race meeting announcements from the RD.
- **6:50am:** Start of paratriathletes (Wave 0).
- **6:55am:** All athletes must be out of transition
- **7:00am:** Start of Wave 1: Elite/Open athletes; go to "The Swim" section of this Guide for the complete wave schedule
- **12:30pm (est):** Awards Ceremony Part 1: Aquabike categories
- **12:45pm:** Bike cut-off time; all cyclists must be off the course
- **1:45pm (est):** Awards Ceremony Part 2: All Triathlon categories
- **3:00pm:** Run cut-off time; all athletes must be off the course

**NOTE: If you need any last minute essentials we recommend you visit Spark BRS, a great tri shop, which is about 10 miles from Cathedral Camp and located at 225 Cape Hwy, East Taunton, MA. They will be open on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> until 8pm.**



## **6. RACE PACKET PICK-UP and YOUR TIMING CHIP**

Race packet pick-up on Wednesday, 6/14, will be at Landry's Bicycles in Boston (890 Commonwealth Ave) and on Friday, 6/16, and Saturday, 6/17, at Cathedral Camp (the race site; 167 Middleboro Rd, E. Freetown, MA). It is strongly recommended that you pick up your race packet on Wednesday or Friday if possible as this will give you more time to prepare for racing on Saturday morning. We have an experienced group of volunteers at registration, nonetheless, lines are expected on Saturday morning. Arrive as close to 5:00am as possible on Saturday if you do plan to pick up your packet at that time.

**Category Changes:** If you need to switch race categories (e.g. Triathlon to Aquabike... Open/Elite to Age Grouper... or Age Grouper to Athena/Clydesdale or vice versa) you will need to go to the Help Desk at packet pick-up to have a change form completed. If you need to have a change like this made, the sooner you can get to packet pick-up, the better (and less stressful) it will be for all.



The Patriot Half is a USAT sanctioned event and **YOU MUST PRESENT A PHOTO ID AT REGISTRATION. NO PHOTO ID, NO RACING, NO EXCEPTIONS.** Athletes are not allowed to pick up race packets for anyone but themselves and **ALL** members of a relay team must be present to receive their packet.

If you are a USAT annual member you will need to show a valid USAT license along with your photo ID. If you do not have a valid USAT license you will be required to either purchase a new annual license for \$50 or a 1-day license for \$15.

If you are not an annual USAT member you were required to purchase a 1-day USAT license when you registered online so you are all set.

**Timing Chip Distribution:** All timing chips will be distributed on race morning from a location near the Body Marking station. Athletes are to pick up their timing chip **AFTER** getting their race packet. Timing chips will be hung from a timing chip board (shown at right) and all you need to do is tell the volunteer your bib# and then they will give you your chip (TIP: Verify that the numbered chip given to you by the volunteer corresponds to your bib#... getting the wrong chip will impact your posted results).



**Shoe Recycling:** As part of our effort to be environmentally responsible we've taken the Pledge of Sustainability in partnership with Athletes for a Fit Planet. In addition to a comprehensive recycling and composting event plan and other initiatives, **we will be offering a shoe recycling program during packet pick-up at Cathedral Camp** so clean out your closet and do something good for the planet at the same time. Bring your old shoes we'll donate them to Rerun Shoes. We can accept men's, women's and kids shoes, athletic shoes, cleats, and sports sandals. Bring as many pairs as you like!

## 7. TIMING and LIVE RESULTS

All Sports Events is our timer and all athletes will be chip timed. All timing chips will be distributed on race morning from a location near the Body Marking station. Athletes are to pick up their timing chip **AFTER** getting their race packet. Once you get your chip verify the # on it corresponds to your bib #.

**Timing Splits:** Triathlon individuals and relay teams will receive 6 timing splits: (1) swim time; (2) transition #1 time; (3) bike time; (4) transition #2 time; (5) run time; (6) overall time. Aquabike athletes will receive 4 splits: (1) swim time; (2) transition #1 time; (3) bike time; (4) overall time.

After completing the race, results will be displayed on flat screen monitors built into the side of the All Sports Events trailer (shown at right). The trailer will be set-up adjacent to the finish line. Athletes that provided their mobile number will also have results texted to their phones and a station will be set up where athletes can print out a "receipt" containing their splits and finish time.



**Your Bib #, LIVE Results & Athlete Tracking:** Live results will be published to the Patriot Half 2017 results page of the All Sports Events website. Friends and family can track athletes by searching their name, clicking on it when it comes up in search results and then hitting "Add Favorite". The link to live results is below. Looking for your bib# and your race category? You'll find that at the link below, too.

[http://www.allsportsevents.com/Results/triathlon\\_results/PatriotTriathlon2017.html#/results::1497272952012](http://www.allsportsevents.com/Results/triathlon_results/PatriotTriathlon2017.html#/results::1497272952012)

## 8. BODY MARKING

All athletes need to get body marked. Body marking will begin at 5:00am on race morning. The body marking station will be located across from packet pick-up. Body marketing includes:

- Your race number marked on your **left bicep, left calf** and **right hand**.
- Your age marked on your **right calf** -- unless you are part of a Relay Team or in the Aquabike category... Relay Team members will have an "R" written on their right calf and Aquabikers will have an "AB" written on their right calf.



Body Marking is essential for identifying athletes when on the course and in race photos made available for FREE from Capstone Photography post-race.

## 9. TRANSITION

Transition will open on Saturday morning at 5:00am. **Transition is for athletes only and all athletes must be out of transition by 6:55am** so please plan your morning accordingly. We want to start the race promptly at 7:00am and can't start the race until all athletes are out of transition.

Volunteers will be stationed at the entrance of transition to check your brakes and ensure you have bar end plugs at the end of your handlebars of your bike. Missing bar end plugs are a safety hazard and you will be not able to race if they are missing. If your bike is missing bar end plugs purchase new ones from your local bike shop. A limited number will be available on race morning courtesy of Landry's Bicycles, official provider of bicycle tech support, but don't rely on this.



Once you enter transition proceed to your rack position which will be labeled with your name and number. Please respect the space of other athletes when laying out your gear at your space in transition.

**Bike Racking:** Athletes are NOT required to rack their bikes the day before the race. There will be no overnight security at Cathedral Camp so don't leave your bike in transition overnight if you come to packet pick-up on Friday.

**First Aid Tent:** A first aid tent will be set up in transition just beyond the swim finish from 6am until 9am. The First Aid tent will be led by a registered nurse and a team of BLS certified nursing students from Quincy College. You'll be able to easily spot them in their red FIRST AID t-shirts and should seek them out if you have any basic first aid needs pre-race or after completing the swim. Note that transition will also be staffed with an EMT.

## 10. THE SWIM

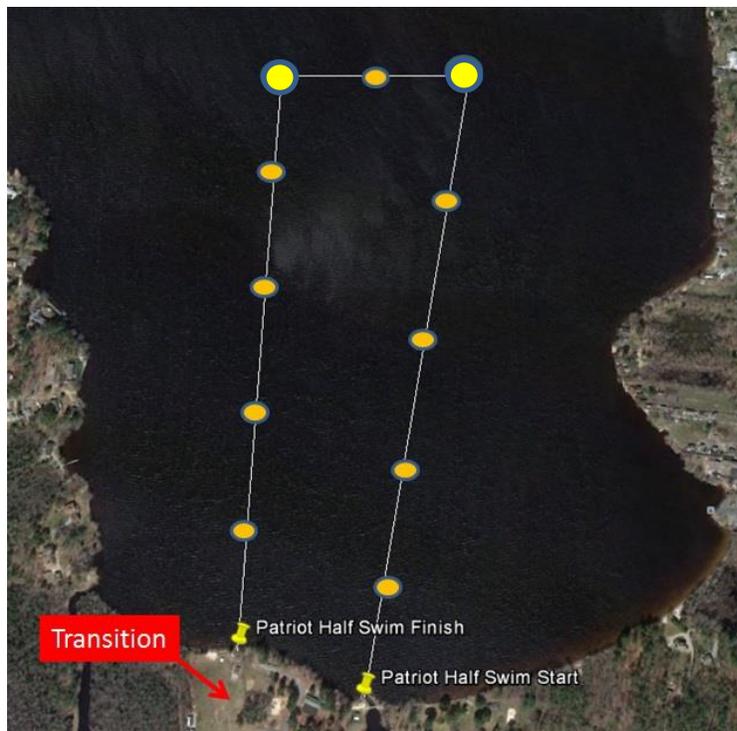
The 1.2 mile swim is in Long Pond, the largest freshwater pond in Massachusetts. Athletes are required to wear the colored swim cap given to them at race packet pick-up. **Athletes that are nervous about the swim may request a RED cap marked with a large "X" during packet pick-up which will ensure our lifeguards keep especially watchful eyes on them.** Paratriathletes will start the race at 6:50am and then Wave 1 with athletes in the Elite/Open category will follow at 7:00am. There are 10 waves and the wave schedule can be found on the next page. Your specific wave # will be printed on your packet.

The swim is a counter clockwise rectangle with 2 left turns marked with yellow buoys – all other buoys will be orange.

Wave 1 athletes (Elite/Open) will approach the water through the swim corral, wade into the water and all start the race following a traditional, "On your mark, get set, GO!"

Athletes in Waves 2 through Wave 10 will begin the race following a time trial start format entering the water side-by-side, 2 at a time, every 5 seconds. There will be 2 lanes leading from the swim corral to the timing mat to help organize this procession and a start clock will count down from 5 to 0 for each set of 2 athletes. Depending on the size of the wave, it will take 3-5 minutes for all the athletes in a wave to enter the water. An athlete's time begins when he/she crosses the timing mat near the water's edge. Athletes "self seed" themselves within their assigned wave.

Volunteers holding swim wave signs (e.g. "WAVE 1", "WAVE 2", etc.) will be stationed along the path from transition to the swim corral. Athletes should fall in line behind the volunteer holding the sign corresponding to their wave and follow that volunteer into the swim corral.



Swim waves for the 2017 Patriot Half are:

## 2017 PATRIOT HALF TRIATHLON & AQUABIKE SWIM WAVE PLAN

Wave #	Athlete Categories*	Cap Color	Estimated Start Time
0	Male & Female Paratriathletes	Red	6:50am
1	Male & Female Elite/Open Athletes	Red	7:00am
2	Male, Age 40-44	White	7:02am
3	Female, Age 34 and under; Male, Age 29 and under	Pink	7:05am
4	Female, Age 50+ and Athenas	Purple	7:08am
5	Male, Age 55+	Light Pink	7:11am
6	Male, Age 50-54	Royal Blue	7:14am
7	Female, Age 35-39; Male, Age 30-39	Fl Green	7:16am
8	Female, Age 40-49, Clydesdales	Fl Yellow	7:20am
9	Male, Age 45-49	Silver	7:25am
10	Male & Female Aquabike and all Relay Teams	Yellow	7:28am

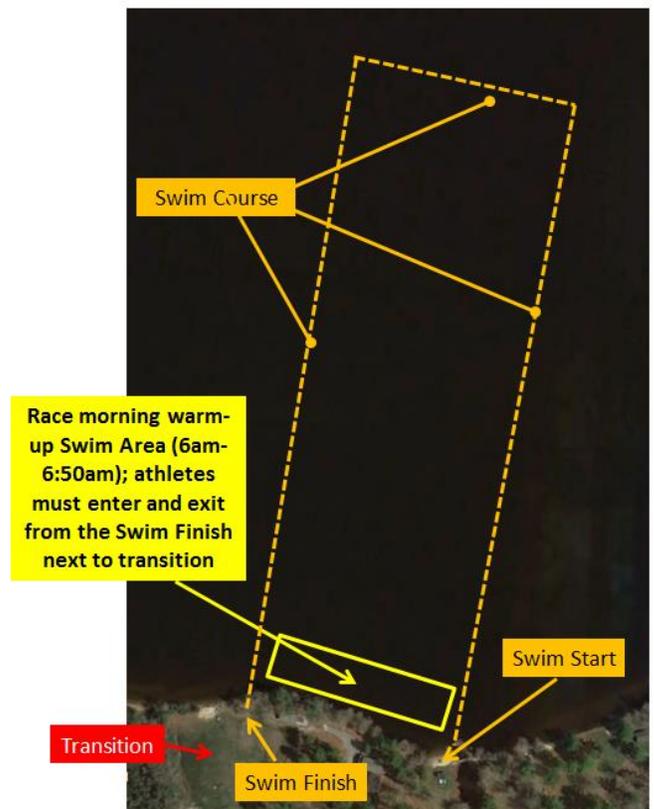
\* Athlete's age based on age as of 12/31/17

Lifeguards and other trained safety professionals will be on the water during the swim. If necessary, a swimmer is allowed to rest by holding onto one of the lifeguard kayaks or stand-up boards (SUPs). **Swim personnel on the water have been empowered to stop a swimmer from continuing in the race if, in their judgment, the health of the athlete is at risk. Athletes MUST adhere to the judgement of lifeguards.**

If during the swim you decide to turn back to shore and not complete the swim please alert a member of the race management or timing team located at the swim start or finish that you have pulled out of the race.

The swim start and finish are at 2 different locations. You will finish the swim right next to transition and then proceed into transition to get your bike. **All athletes must complete the swim course by 9:00am.** Athletes that do not complete the swim by 9:00am will not be allowed to continue in the race.

Go to the "**Course Info**" page of the Patriot section of the Sun Multisport Events website to find a downloadable map of the Patriot swim course.



**Friday Practice Swim:** Athletes will have the opportunity to do a short practice swim from the swim start in a designated practice swim area on Friday during packet pickup. This lifeguard supported practice swim will be 5pm-7pm. **Athletes may not swim the 1.2 mile course during this time and may only swim in the designated practice swim area.**

**Race Morning Warm-up Swim:** On race morning, starting at 6am, a section of Long Pond will be available for athletes to warm-up for the swim. Athletes will enter and exit this area from the swim finish next to transition and must swim in the designated area only. This area will be marked by GREEN buoys (see image on previous page illustrating this set up). **Athletes may NOT swim anywhere but in this designated area and all athletes must be out of the water by 6:45am.**

### **Wetsuits**

All athletes may wear a wet suit and be eligible for rankings and prizes if the water temperature 78 degrees F or less. A water temperature read will be posted to the SME Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.



**Wetsuit Strippers!** A new addition to this year's race, we will have a team of wetsuit strippers positioned in transition just beyond the swim finish. As the name implies, wetsuit strippers strip off your wetsuit. This is an optional "stop" on your way from the swim finish to your bike in transition. **If you want assistance from a wetsuit stripper you must first pull the zipper of your wetsuit down to your waist.** Wetsuit strippers will help take the wetsuit off your arms and then tell you to sit down while they pull it off your legs and feet. Avoid indecent exposure.... *hold onto your shorts!*

## **11. THE BIKE**

After completing the swim you will proceed to your bike in transition. Once you have changed into your bike gear in transition (note: there are no changing rooms in transition – and make sure you buckle your helmet chin strap!) you will jog along side your bike to the Mount Line. Once you cross Mount Line you may get on your bike and begin riding.

Obey the rules of the road! Littering and riding side by side with other cyclists except to pass is strictly prohibited and are grounds for penalties or disqualification. When passing another cyclist be sure to call out, "*On your left!*", and **NEVER, EVER, EVER cross the yellow line – STAY IN YOUR LANE.**

**LANDRY'S  
BICYCLES**

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The official provider of bike technical support is **Landry's Bicycles**. Landry's will be set-up during race packet pick-up hours on Saturday to help you with any last minute technical issues (e.g. popped tire, derailleur adjustments). Landry's will also patrol the course support during the race to provide roadside assistance if needed. Our friends at Spark BRS will also have a support van on

the course for additional technical assistance. And our Bike Coordinator is pretty good with changing tires, too!

The Patriot Half bike course is a 28 mile loop to be completed twice (56 miles total). Police details, volunteers and signage will be in position throughout the course to guide you. **Please understand the roads are NOT closed to traffic.**

The first 2 miles of the bike course includes 6 turns. Police and volunteers will guide you, but (as always) stay alert and focused on the road during this time. At mile 2 you will cross onto Howland Street which begins a nice stretch of country roads where traffic should be light. **The most dangerous turn on the bike course is just past mile 13.** It is a right turn onto Old Powderhouse Road that comes up quickly at the bottom of a hill. Multiple signs and volunteers will be positioned at the top of the hill to caution and warn you to slow down. There will also be a volunteer and a police detail at the actual turn. **Obey the signage and volunteers at this intersection and TAKE THIS TURN SLOWLY.** If you take this turn too fast you risk crossing the yellow line and going into oncoming traffic.

The bike course will feature two **water bottle exchange stations.** The first is at approximately mile 18 (mile 46 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> loop) and the second is at mile 26 (mile 54 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> loop) offering you four opportunities on your ride to re-fuel. **The second water bottle exchange will also have a porto-pottie.** We understand having these bottle exchange stations more spread out on the course is preferred, but we are unable to achieve this for reasons not worth going into here. It is what it is.

The water bottle exchange stations are designed to be an additional resource for athletes. Athletes are encouraged to have 2 bottle cages on their bike to start the race filled with their preferred hydration drink. If you need to refuel, the bottle exchange stations are there for you and will feature 24 oz. Poland Springs sports water bottles with water and 24 oz. Gatorade Endurance (**orange flavor**) sports bottles. If you would like to receive one of these you will need to discard a water bottle as you approach the bottle exchange (there will be a soccer net set up for you to toss your water bottle into) and then call out to a volunteer what you want (water or Gatorade). The volunteer will jog along side of you and hand you your bottle. **If you do not need water or Gatorade from the bottle exchange we encourage you to STAY LEFT as you approach the bottle exchange to avoid cyclists that will be requesting a water bottle.**



Can you get a bottle without throwing one? Yes, but throwing is a clear sign to volunteers that you want one. Plus, the bottle exchange station offers you an area to discard unwanted water bottles – discarding them elsewhere would be littering and that’s a no no. Any water bottles discarded can not be retrieved post-race – unless you want to dig through a few hundred sticky water bottles in the trash.

**All athletes must complete the bike course by 12:45pm.** Athletes that do not complete the bike by 12:45pm will not be allowed to continue in the race.

Go to the “**Course Info and Maps**” section of the Patriot page of the Sun Multisport Events to find a downloadable map and cue sheet for the Patriot bike course.

**Bike Racking:** Athletes are NOT required to rack their bikes the day before the race. There will be no overnight security at Cathedral Camp so don’t leave your bike in transition overnight if you come to packet pick-up on Friday.

## 12. THE RUN

The Patriot run course will be supported with signs, volunteers and aid stations at approximately every mile (12 aid stations in total). The roads are not closed to traffic and police details will be in key spots as an added safety measure. We will also have a team of Race Guards running the course looking to help athletes where help is needed (see the "Your Safety" section on p. 5 for more on Race Guards). **ATHLETES ARE TO RUN AGAINST THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC AT ALL TIMES.**

The 1-loop 13.1 mile run is generally flat with some rolling hills. Shade is limited. Along the way you'll pass farms, lakes and quiet country roads. The run will also feature 3 porto-potties (near miles 3, 5 and 9) in addition to the porto-potties that will be placed just outside transition.

**ALL AID STATIONS** will feature water, Gatorade Endurance Formula (lemon-lime flavor) and ice. Each aid station also includes a first aid kit if you need any basic supplies (e.g. band-aid) as well as sun screen and bug spray.

**AID STATIONS 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11** will feature oranges, bananas, pretzels, flat Coca-Cola and Clif Shot Gels. Clif Shot Gels will be available in 4 flavors – mocha (includes 50mg of caffeine), vanilla, razz and citrus (includes 25mg of caffeine).

**A First Aid Tent** will be set up adjacent to aid station #6 with a registered nurse and BLS certified nursing student.



## 13. THE FINISH

You will be greeted at the finish by enthusiastic volunteers ready to place a finisher's medal around your neck and hand you a commemorative water bottle wrapped in a nice cold wet hand towel. Ice baths will be ready for you and the mood will be festive. Now it's time to revel in your accomplishment, share your experiences from the race, cheer on other finishers and enjoy the post-race festivities. *Congratulations... you did it!*

## 14. DETAILS FOR AQUABIKE ATHLETES

The Aquabike is for athletes that complete the 1.2 mile swim and the 56 mile bike course (no running). This is the same swim and bike course completed by athletes doing the triathlon. Athletes in the Aquabike will receive 4 timing splits (swim time, T1, bike time and finish time).

Athletes in the Aquabike will be racked together in transition (**unless you switched to the Aquabike category after personalized bibs were printed – this would have been communicated to you at the time you made the switch**). This is done so race management can effectively manage athletes in this division and guide them to the finish after they complete the bike (and not confuse them with athletes heading out onto the run course).

**The Aquabike finish time is determined when the athlete crosses the timing mat placed on the bike in to transition.** This will be the same timing mat that athletes completing all three legs of the triathlon will cross when they come in off the bike.

After crossing the timing mat, Aquabike athletes are encouraged to proceed to their spot in transition where they can remove your helmet, replace cycling shoes with sneakers or sandals and proceed to the finish. Since the finish time has already been established by this time **there is no need to rush or run to the finish line**, but we strongly encourage all Aquabike athletes to make their way to the finish so they can get their picture taken when crossing the finish line and receive their finisher medal and water bottle. We'll also have drinks, food, ice baths, etc. in the finish line corral.

The Aquabike division has been split into two age groups -- 49 and under and 50+. This age break was chosen to divide the field as evenly as possible. Awards will be given to the top 3 males and females in these two divisions. Good luck!

Recognizing Aquabike athletes finish the race notably earlier than triathletes, an awards ceremony dedicated to the Aquabike race will start at approximately 12:30pm. Awards for athletes in all triathlon divisions will commence at approximately 1:45pm.

## 15. DETAILS FOR RELAY TEAMS

All Relay Teams will be racked together in transition. **All members of a relay team must come to packet pick-up together.** You will receive 1 race packet and it will be listed under the **TEAM NAME** of your relay team. Relay Teams will be given 1 re-usable chip that will be transferred from swimmer to biker to runner.



The swimmer on the team will complete the swim wearing the timing chip while the cyclist for the team awaits the swimmer at the team's rack position in transition. The swimmer should have their right hand and left bicep and left calf body marked with their number. An "R" will be written on their right calf to note "Relay".

Once the swimmer completes the swim and arrives at the team's rack position he/she hands the timing chip to the cyclist who then puts the timing chip on their left ankle and goes out and rides the bike course. The envelope distributed to you at packet pickup (there is one for each team and it will be alphabetized at packet pick-up by the TEAM NAME) will contain a small bike helmet sticker with the team's number and a larger bike frame sticker with the team's number... the cyclist should affix these to their bike helmet and bike frame. The cyclist should also be body marked with their number on the left calf and left bicep and an "R" on their right calf.

When the cyclist completes the bike course and returns to transition the team's runner should be waiting at the team's designated rack position. The runner will then put the timing chip around his/her ankle and run. The runner should wear the bib included in the envelope given to the team at packet pick-up (pins will be provided) and be body marked with their number on the left calf and left bicep and an "R" on their right calf.

## 16. POST-RACE

### Recovery



For improved recovery after the race we invite all athletes to enjoy delicious cold **Hood Chocolate Milk** which will be available at the finish line. This chocolate milk is for athletes ONLY.



Post-race massages will be available to work on your tired, stressed muscles courtesy of **Marathon Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine**. Be sure to stop by their tent for a well-deserved massage, some stretching and good ol' TLC.

### Awards and Giveaways

Awards will be given to the top 3 males and females in the following categories:

- Open/Elite
- Paratriathlete
- Athena
- Clydesdales
- Age Group (e.g. 19 and under, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, etc.)
- Aquabike male & female (two divisions: age 49 and under; age 50+)
- Relay Teams (Mixed, Male, Female)

The Patriot Half features a **\$1,000 cash prize purse** for athletes that race in the Open/Elite category (\$300 each to the 1<sup>st</sup> place male and female; \$200 each to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place male and female). Only athletes in the Open/Elite category are eligible for prize money.

**The Patriot Half awards ceremony will have two parts.** Part 1 will be at approximately 12:30pm with distribution of awards to athletes in the Aquabike category. Part 2 of the awards ceremony will recognize athletes in the triathlon race categories and will begin at approximately 1:45pm.

Both awards ceremonies will include randomly distributed giveaways from our sponsors including gift certificates from Landry's Bicycles, hydration belts from Fuel Belt, helmets and sunglasses from Rudy Project and more.

## **Food!**

Athletes in the Patriot Half are invited to enjoy the post-race catered meal brought to you by Riccardi's Italian Restaurant of New Bedford, MA. The menu includes:

- Vegetarian and meat lasagna
- Baked glazed ham (*gluten free*)
- Boston baked beans (*gluten free*)
- Chicken salad sandwiches
- Antipasto salad (*gluten free*)
- Sliced melon display (*gluten free*)
- Bakery fresh pastry
- PLUS... a Patriot Half 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebratory cake!



**Patriot athletes may fill their plate one time at no charge, but you MUST SHOW YOUR RACE NUMBER.** Athletes wanting to go through the buffet line a second time or spectators who want to enjoy this fabulous meal must pay \$10 per plate. Riccardi's will begin serving at **11:30am.**

## **Entertainment**

"Pablo Palooza" is the house band for this year's event and will begin playing a selection of upbeat and energized funk starting at 11:00am.

## **17. RACE PHOTOS (FREE!)**

This year's official race photographer is Capstone Photography and all athletes can select one photo for free (you can also purchase additional ones). Athletes will receive an email post-race with a link to where photos can be downloaded. Free race photos are made possible through the sponsorship support of Rack Attack.



## **18. WEATHER POLICY REMINDER**

Please note the race will be held rain or shine, but if the weather or other unforeseen circumstances threaten the safety of athletes, race management reserves the right to cancel the event or alter portions of the swim, bike or run courses. Please understand that in the unlikely case that we did have to cancel the event, no refunds would be issued, however, a partial credit would be offered to the next year's race. Refer to the Sun Multisport Events website for complete policy details regarding cancellation, refunds, deferrals and transfers.

## **19. VOLUNTEERS and CHARITABLE PARTNERS**

This year's race is made possible with the support of 150+ volunteers including the Bay State Triathlon Team, Tri New England, St. Vincent DePaul Society of Whitman, Bristol-Plymouth Technical School and others. Producing a triathlon truly "takes a village" and we are incredibly grateful for their support. If you have friends and family coming to watch you race ask them to consider volunteering... they can visit the Volunteer Tent for more information.



Sun Multisport Events makes a donation to each of the community groups that volunteer at the Patriot Half. These donations exceed thousands of dollars and help support community initiatives in and around Freetown, MA. These are truly win-win partnerships and groups such as the Middleborough Demolay (parking) and St. Vincent DePaul Society (run aid stations) have been involved in the race for many years and it's their dedication that has helped make Patriot the special, award-winning event it has become. Make this one of your goals on race day: **thank a volunteer!**

Other charitable partners for this year's race include **Homes for Our Troops** (<https://www.hfotusa.org/>). Homes for Our Troops was the beneficiary of our Veteran's Day effort to recognize US service men and women. Sun Multisport Events donated \$25 from every Patriot Half entry we received on Veteran's Day last November. Your additional support of these most worthy non-profit organizations is greatly appreciated.



## 20. 2017 SPONSORS

We are fortunate to also have the support of sponsors whose contributions improve the overall quality of the Patriot Half in so many different ways. Many will be on site as part of the race expo. Your patronage of our sponsors at the event, at their retail establishment or online is greatly appreciated. 2017 Patriot Half sponsors are:

- **Clif Bar**
- **Fuel Belt**
- **Gatorade**
- **Hood** – *Official Finish Line Water Bottle Sponsor*
- **Landry's Bicycles** (*Official Provider of Bike Tech Support*)
- **Marathon Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine**
- **Rack Attack** – *Official Finish Line Photo Sponsor*
- **Rudy Project** – *Official Helmet and Sunglasses Sponsor*
- **Tri-Hard Endurance Sports Coaching**
- **TYR**
- **Vmps** – *Official Endurance Coach*

## 21. PATRIOT MERCHANDISE

There will be a selection of Patriot merchandise available for you to purchase. Merchandise will include:

- Cycling jerseys
- Cycling sox
- Trucker hats from Boco
- Cooler bags
- Steel pint cups from Klean Kanteen
- Water bottles and more



Stop by the Sun Multisport Events tent next to packet pick-up on Friday to buy your gear. A merchandise station will also be set up near the food tent on Saturday.

## 22. SPECTATOR INFORMATION

If you have friends or family coming to root you on during the race here's some info to pass along to help them plan their day:

- **Parking:** Spectators have the same parking options as athletes. Most importantly, anyone that parks in the West lot (which is expected to fill by 6am) will not be able to leave until after 1pm. Parking in the East lot offers more flexibility for coming and going (see p3 of this Guide for complete details and a map showing the location of the East and West lots). Note that parking is not allowed on Middleboro Rd along the grounds of Cathedral Camp ("No Parking" signs will be posted).
- **Athlete Support:** An **Inspiration Station** table will be set up next to the volunteer tent and is the place to go to get poster board and markers to make signs that send words of encouragement to your favorite athlete. The Inspiration Station will also have a limited supply of cowbells to rattle and American flags to wave to contribute to a noisy and festive finish to the race.

- **Where to Spectate:** The best places to spectate are as follows:

- Near transition at the "Swim Out" to watch athletes as they finish the swim
- Near transition at the mount/dismount line to see athletes as they leave and return on the bike and leave on the run
- In front of Cathedral Camp to watch cyclists come by to begin their 2<sup>nd</sup> loop (STAY ON THE GRASS AT ALL TIMES)
- Along the finish line chute to see athletes as they complete the race



- **About Cathedral Camp:** Cathedral Camp is a beautiful location offering numerous places to watch athletes. The Camp has a modest playground (e.g. swings, monkey bars, see saw) and offers plenty of open space to toss a Frisbee, play catch or just hang out. For the outdoorsman, there is the option to go fishing in Long Pond. There will also be a free public swim. See next bullet.
- **Public Swim at Cathedral Camp:** Arrangements have been made with Cathedral Camp for public swimming in Long Pond from 10:30am-1:30pm; spectators may swim in the designated area which is where the Patriot Half swim start will be; a lifeguard will be on duty and swimmers must remain in the designated area. NOTE: No more than 25 people can be in the water at once.

- **The Finish Line:** It is not uncommon for Patriot Half athletes to have their children or other special people join them for the final 50 yard dash to the finish line. We enjoy seeing this and watching athletes share moments like this with their family. However, spectators need to be aware that the finish line corral is for athletes, volunteers and members of the event management team... many athletes come across the finish line running at a fast pace, some need medical attention and, in general, the finish area is a busy place. As a result, we ask that any spectators that come across the finish line with an athlete quickly move beyond the confines of the finish line corral. Please also give consideration to other athletes that are approaching the finish so that any kids that accompany you do not get in the way of other athletes... crossing the finish line is a special moment for everyone and we want it to be enjoyable and memorable for all. Thanks in advance for your cooperation with this very important part of the race experience.



- **Volunteering:** Want to be a part of the action? Consider volunteering! While we are feeling pretty good about the number of volunteers recruited for this year's event there are always "no-shows" and an extra set of hands can be quite... handy! If you would like to volunteer visit the Volunteer Tent to ask where you could help. All volunteers that volunteer for a minimum of 3 hours receive a volunteer t-shirt and a complimentary pass to the post-race catered meal. Visit the Volunteer Tent for more information.
- **Live Entertainment:** We are psyched to welcome back this year's house band, "Pablo Palooza". They'll start playing some live, funky rock-n-roll at 11:30am.
- **Food & Beverage:** Light food and beverages (e.g. coffee, tea, juice, muffins, bagels, fruit, etc.) will be available for purchase from 5:30am to 10am on the grounds of Cathedral Camp near the volunteer tent. At approximately 11:30am, Riccardi's Italian Restaurant will begin serving a catered meal (see p. 16 for the menu). This first plate of Riccardi's food is free to athletes in the Patriot Half and volunteers but a \$10 fee is required for a second plate. Spectators pay \$10 per plate as well... load up!

### 23. WHERE TO EAT IN THE AREA

If you are coming in from out of town looking for a local place to eat on Friday (or Saturday) night we have listed a couple of our favorite options below. Both of these restaurants are just a few miles from the host hotels we recommended on our website (i.e. Fairfield Inn Middleborough, Holiday Inn Express, Courtyard Raynham).

**FIRESIDE GRILL:** A large, easygoing eatery that dishes up hefty portions of American classics; 30 Bedford St, Middleborough, MA; phone: 508-947-5333. Reservations recommended.

**LORENZO'S:** Old-school spot serving hearty portions of pasta, pizza & other Italian classics since 1950; 500 West Grove St/Rte 28 in Middleborough, MA; phone: 508-947-3000. Reservations recommended. Show the coupon below and **SAVE \$10** (see details).

