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THE BIG HALF 2023 NAMED AS UK ATHLETICS TRIAL RACE FOR WORLD ATHLETICS ROAD RUNNING CHAMPIONSHIPS HALF MARATHON

- **Trial race to take place at The Big Half on Sunday 3 September**

London Marathon Events (LME) and UK Athletics (UKA) have today [Friday 10 March] confirmed that The Big Half 2023, on Sunday 3 September, will incorporate the official trial race for the 2023 World Athletics Road Running Championships Half Marathon.

The first three British men and women to finish at The Big Half will guarantee their places in the Great Britain team at this year's World Athletics Road Running Championships Half Marathon, in Riga, Latvia, on Sunday 1 October, providing they have the qualifying time of 62:30 for men and 71:30 for women.

Spencer Barden, Head of Elite Athletes at London Marathon Events, said: "We are delighted that The Big Half will be UK Athletics' official trial race for the World Athletics Road Running Championships Half Marathon and look forward to welcoming the very best of British distance runners to London on Sunday 3 September."

Steve Vernon, World Class Plan Endurance Performance Manager at UK Athletics, said: "We are pleased to be working with London Marathon Events on the half marathon trial race - at The Big Half - for the World Athletics Road Running Championships. We look forward to seeing competitive racing at the event as athletes look to earn their places at the inaugural Championships in Riga, Latvia later this year."

The Big Half is London's community half marathon. It starts close to the Tower of London and heads out to the financial district of Canary Wharf before returning to central London, crossing Tower Bridge and finishing in spectacular style at Cutty Sark in Greenwich.

Last year elite men's race was won by Sir Mo Farah in 61:49, while the women's event saw Eilish McColgan win in a course record time of 67:35.

Championship entries for The Big Half (costing £56 with a £2 reduction for members of UKA-affiliated athletics clubs) are now open. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Other ways to enter the event include:

- General entries (costing £56) with a £2 reduction for members of UKA-affiliated athletics clubs. [Click here](#) for more information on general entries.

- Discounted resident entries (£46) for people living in the host boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Southwark, Lewisham and Greenwich
- £10 community entries for local groups and organisations, sports clubs, schools or charities in London that benefit their local community. More details on community entries are available [here](#).

The World Athletics Road Running Championships Half Marathon will be part of the inaugural World Athletics Road Running Championships (Saturday 30 September to Sunday 1 October) which will also include one mile and 5K races.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

- The Big Half is a world-class mass participation event, organised by London Marathon Events, over the half marathon distance (13.1 miles)
- The community event was first held in 2018 and takes place in four London boroughs: Greenwich, Lewisham, Southwark and Tower Hamlets.
- The Big Half is also a campaign called #WeRunAsOne. This unique event will demonstrate how sport and community can come together to inspire social change, create social cohesion and improve health and wellbeing. Find out more at thebighalf.co.uk
- London Marathon Events Ltd, organisers of The Big Half, gifts its surplus each year to The London Marathon Foundation.
- London Marathon Foundation is the operating name of The London Marathon Charitable Trust, the parent company of London Marathon Events.
- Since 1981, The London Marathon Foundation has awarded grants totalling in excess of £98.3 million to more than 1,500 projects in London and across the UK.

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