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Huntington Winter Series Moves Races to ensure Runner Safety

Huntington, WV – The WV 5K Race Committee announces a change in location for the 5 Mile and 10K Races to the Barboursville Park.

"After meeting with various members of the WV 5K Race Committee, the topic of course security came up many times," said Pat Riley, Winter Series Race Director "The major concern with racing in Downtown Huntington at 2 PM was ensuring that all of the participants have a safe course to race on." "Therefore, we have moved the 2nd Race of the Winter Series to the Barboursville Park," said Riley.

"The Huntington Police Department always goes the extra mile to help support and secure the race courses," said Series Director Pat Riley. "We believe that it will be easier to maintain a safe running environment at the Barboursville Park since we are racing at 2:00 PM instead of 8:00 PM. We also want to provide some variety in the race courses we provide."

"The wonderful layout of the Barboursville Park will allow us to provide a different race course that is both fast and challenging." added series committee member Tom Plummer. "This will allow us to maintain security on the course."

The Village of Barboursville paved the soccer road and these races will be the first ones to showcase this newly paved and widened road.

The West Virginia 5K Committee and sponsor The Herald Dispatch have collaborated with United Way to promote active living in the River Cities.

"Our partnership with United Way was such a success with regards to the WV 5K Championship, it seemed to be a natural partnership with this series," said Pat Riley, Winter Series director.

United Way's Health & Wellness focus area -- one of four focus areas that include Families & Children, Learning & Earning and Basic Needs & Unforeseen Hardships -- is in line with the WV 5K Committee goals. United Way is working to get people to engage in healthy eating and active living, she said.

Runners must register for each race individually. In order to qualify for the Series Awards, each athlete must compete in all three races and check the series box on the Jingle Bell Entry Form indicating they will be competing in all three races. This race is the second of

three of the Winter Series races. Individual awards for each race will be handed out with overall series awards handed out after the 10K race on Feb. 28, 2010. Series awards will be based on total time from the three races.

For more information, please visit www.tristateracer.com or contact the Series Director, Pat Riley (Pat@tristateracer.com)

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