

# Volunteer Role: Finish Line Support



## **Volunteering at the Finish Line**

Volunteering at the finish line offers a fantastic opportunity to welcome the runners back and congratulate them after finishing the race. The post-finish line is the area where the runners collect their medals, finisher t-shirts, bottle of water and fruit or snack bar. When the bulk of runners cross the line, the post-finish area is very busy with a mass of runners collecting their goodies from volunteers and trying to find the right-sized t-shirt.

Volunteers at the finish line are supported by experienced Run 4 Wales supervisors who will brief the team at the start of the day, provide support and manage any queries.

## **What happens at the Finish Line?**

You will usually be divided into small teams and allocated one of the four individual aspects of the post-finish area (medals, water, t-shirts and bananas/snack bar). Before the race begins, you will start setting up your area, to open pallets of finisher items, set up tables, hang medals on the medal racks and organise the t-shirts into size order.

After the race has started, your supervisor will tell you what time to expect the first runners. As they cross the finish line and make their way along to the post-finish line, volunteers can congratulate the runners and hand out the finisher item. It's important to do this quickly, to ensure the runners keep moving, to avoid any congestion. Once through the post-finish line, runners can exit to find friends and family or go to the Bag Drop Tent to collect their belongings.

To maintain our commitment to sustainability at our events, we ask that pallets of water and fruit, which come wrapped in plastic, are only unwrapped as needed. Once they are split open, it is very hard to transport them without causing damage and unnecessary wastage. We usually donate leftover items to charity and we need to be able to move the cases of water and snacks easily at the end of the day.

## **What to wear when you're volunteering at a Run 4 Wales event**

We provide an Extra Milers t-shirt for all volunteers, which is yours to keep. So that you are identifiable as a Run 4 Wales volunteer, we ask that your volunteer t-shirt be visible at all times, so please wear your volunteer T-shirt over any other clothing.

Please come appropriately dressed for the weather. We recommend wearing layers and ask you to wear plain trousers/jeans (avoid any branded sports clothing) and comfortable shoes. You may be outside for several hours so consider packing a raincoat and/or sunscreen and sunhat.

## **What to bring with you when you're volunteering at a Run 4 Wales event**

We provide an exclusive Extra Miler drawstring bag that we ask you to wear/ keep your personal belongings in whilst volunteering. We advise you to bring only essential personal items – we cannot store any volunteer personal belongings during the day.

We provide a lunch pack on the day (usually a sandwich, crisps and piece of fruit) and we will do our best to meet dietary requirements. However it can be a long day, so we recommend bringing some snacks. Please also bring a refillable water bottle.

### **I'm under 18. Can I volunteer with Run 4 Wales?**

We welcome individual young volunteers aged 14 – 17 years old. However we ask that anyone aged 14 – 17 provides a completed guardian consent form and is accompanied by someone aged 18 and over. We work with young person groups, from cadets and guides to colleges and social clubs, so please do get in touch if you would like to volunteer as a group.

### **Sustainability**

Run 4 Wales have a Green Action Plan and as part of our efforts in delivering sustainable events we have committed to an average 90% recycling rate, a 40% cut in damaging material use and a transition to low energy sources as we head towards a carbon positive event company by 2040. Please help us meet our targets by doing your bit to recycle at the start and finish line, following guidance from your supervisor.

### **General Run 4 Wales Volunteering Information**

- We provide a pre-event briefing for each volunteer role in the week prior to the event. This contains all the information you need for the day, including where to park, where to meet your supervisor and sign in as well as race specific information including relevant phone numbers.
- Once you have signed up to our volunteering platform (Rosterfy) you can access our volunteer support documents which give you more information about how to fulfil your role on event day.
- Whether it's a 10K race, a half marathon or the whole 26.2 miles, our runners are undertaking a significant challenge. Please congratulate them and encourage them as much as you can – they have said this really spurs them on!
- We want our volunteers to feel confident about their role and how to perform it. Our supervisors will do a briefing once all volunteers have arrived but if you have any questions or concerns throughout the day please ask.
- Please be aware that photography and video filming will take place during event day. Any images and footage will be used in Run 4 Wales communications to promote future events. I
- Remember that this is meant to be an enjoyable day for all involved and that means you as well as the runners! We hope you enjoy your volunteering experience, have fun and find it satisfying to be part of this great sporting and charity event. We always send out a volunteer survey after the event to find out what you enjoyed and what we can do better next time.

### **Are you ready to become an Extra Miler?**

To join the Run 4 Wales Extra Milers volunteering community, simply create a volunteer profile on our Rosterfy system. This just takes a minute, then you will have access to all our events and be able to see what volunteering roles are available for each event. Just sign up to your chosen event and role, save the date in your calendar and wait for the event briefing to come out.

Don't forget to follow the Extra Milers Facebook page too. We post event and volunteering information here, as well as photos, fun competitions and challenges.

