

Race History

This race is one of the original 4 races of the State Parks Running Tour, starting in the spring of 1980. The first race was held in 1979 with the help of Kent Rea at Nashville Downtown YMCA. The State Parks provided all the shirts and trophies. The entry fee was \$7.00. It was the only half marathon on the Running Tour and remains so to present day (2015).

The Nashville Striders sponsored the race in affiliation with the YMCA. The race was postponed for 2 weeks in 1985 because of deep snow on the roads.

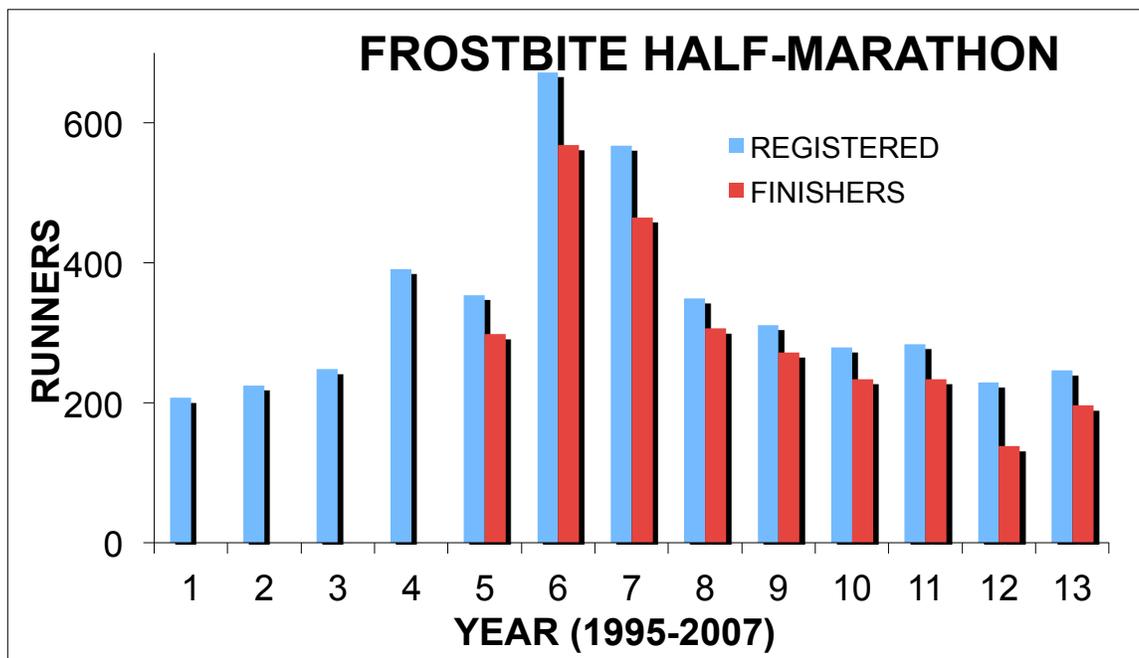
The 1986 race had rangers on horse back as road monitors. They forgot to make the front runners turn left at the park entrance and had to chase them down on Highway 70.

In 1988 and 1992 the start and finish were moved to the swimming area parking lot because of constructions. The 1993 event had no post-race food, only water.

The 1994 event was canceled by the Striders, because of lack of profit.

The course was certified in 1995 and Frostbite Half Marathon resumed under new management (Frostbite RC). For two years (1999 and 2000) during construction at the Inn, the start and finish were held to the Rangers Visitors Center. In 1997 the overall winner was a female runner, Bonnie McReynolds.

The largest number of runners in any of the Running Tour events was recorded in 2000 with 672 registered. In 2007 a modified course was used, with the start and finish at the Rangers Visitors Center in order to avoid using the Inn area, where runners were no longer welcome.



Participation peaked around year 2000, then declined until 2007, the last year at Montgomery Bell. Note, the low number of finishers in 2006, when the cold weather kept many pre-registered in bed.

Because of the problems with the Inn and the crowded condition at the Visitors Center, the race moved in 2008 to its current location at Cedars of Lebanon State Park.