

Beat: Sports

United Airlines NYC Half Marathon 2019

Race Recap & Press Release From NYRR

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New York City Art Sports & Entertainment - #UnitedNYCHalf #NYRR

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Photo Credit: UABN Photography www.uabn-nyc.com & F.E. Hopson Photography

Press release from the New York Road Runner's website:

"Belay Tilahun of Ethiopia and Joyciline Jepkosgei of Kenya won their New York City racing debuts in the open division and Daniel Romanchuk and Tatyana McFadden of the United States completed the first-ever American sweep of the wheelchair division at the 2019 United Airlines NYC Half on Sunday.

Tilahun, a 24-year-old member of West Side Runners, recorded his surprise victory in a time of 1:02:10 with an exciting kick through the final two miles.

Eritrea's Daniel Mesfun finished second in 1:02:16 after leading for the majority of the race, while U.S. Olympic silver medalist Paul Chelimo took third in 1:02:19 in his half-marathon debut.

A record eight American men finished in the top 10 in the open division, as Chelimo was followed by Jared Ward, Noah Droddy, Brogan Austin, Tim Ritchie, John Raneri, Parker Stinson, and Ben True, respectively.

In the women's open division, Jepkosgei, the half marathon world record-holder, won her first-ever race in the United States on a solo run to the finish in a time of 1:10:07. The world championship silver medalist in the distance became the sixth woman from Kenya to win the event, and the first to do so since 2014.

Fellow Kenyan Mary Ngugi came through the finish line one minute later in 1:11:07 to take second place, 15-hundredths of a second ahead of last year's champion, Ethiopia's Buze Diriba.

Emma Bates, the 2018 USATF Marathon champion, was the top American in the women's open division, taking fourth place in 1:11:13. She was followed by 2018 Boston Marathon winner Des Linden in fifth place in 1:11:22.

In the men's wheelchair division, Daniel Romanchuk followed up his TCS New York City Marathon title with his first United Airlines NYC Half title, taking the tape in 51:35.

After winning the last four editions of the event, South Africa's Ernst van Dyk took second place in 52:08, as American Aaron Pike clocked in just seconds behind to finish in third.

McFadden, an NYRR Team for Kids Ambassador, won her second career United Airlines NYC Half title and first NYRR race since 2016 with a time of 57:18.

Switzerland's two-time defending TCS New York City Marathon champion Manuela Schär was unable to defend her title, finishing just behind McFadden in 57:27. American Susannah Scaroni recorded her fifth consecutive career podium finish in the event, taking third place in 58:51.

The professional athlete field included nine Olympians and nine Paralympians who navigated the 13.1-mile course through neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Manhattan and past iconic New York City landmarks, including Grand Army Plaza, the United Nations, Grand Central Terminal, and Times Square.

The United Airlines NYC Half is one of seven races ““ from the mile to the marathon ““ organized by New York Road Runners, which features invited professional athlete fields and makes up the NYRR Pro Racing Series. The NYRR Pro Racing Series also includes the NYRR Wanamaker Mile, UAE Healthy Kidney 10K, NYRR New York Mini 10K, New Balance 5th Avenue Mile, USATF 5K Championships, and the TCS New York City Marathon.

In addition to the professional athletes and citizen runners who covered 13.1 miles, the 2019 United Airlines NYC Half hosted more than 1,000 youth runners in the Rising New York Road Runners at the United Airlines NYC Half on a 1200-meter out-and-back course on Seventh Avenue. Rising New York Road Runners is NYRR’s free, year-round youth program and events platform that serves nearly 250,000 youth across the country annually.

New this year, those not running the race in person have been able to bring the race their own neighborhood and run it virtually. The NYRR NYC Half “Virtual 13.1M has allowed runners to race anywhere in the world on their own time between March 14 and 17. Runners who completed the virtual race will receive one guaranteed, non-complimentary entry to the 2020 United Airlines NYC Half and a finisher medal."

Race Results courtesy of Watch Athletics www.watchathletics.com

Top Men

1. Belay Tilahun (ETH) 1:02:10
2. Daniel Mesfun (ERI) 1:02:16
3. Paul Chelimo (USA) 1:02:19
4. Jared Ward (USA) 1:02:33
5. Noah Droddy (USA) 1:02:39
6. Brogan Austin (USA) 1:02:41
7. Tim Ritchie (USA) 1:02:51
8. John Raneri (USA) 1:02:51
9. Parker Stinson (USA) 1:02:55
10. Ben True (USA) 1:02:56

Top Women

1. Joyciline Jepkosgei (KEN) 1:10:07
2. Mary Ngugi (KEN) 1:11:07
3. Buze Diriba (ETH) 1:11:07
4. Emma Bates (USA) 1:11:13
5. Desiree Linden (USA) 1:11:22
6. Birtukan Fente Alemu (ETH) 1:12:17
7. Beverly Ramos (PRI) 1:12:33
8. Kellyn Taylor (USA) 1:12:43
9. Samantha Palmer (USA) 1:12:52
10. Lindsay Flanagan (USA) 1:13:13

Wheelchair Women

1. Tatyana McFadden (USA) 57:18
2. Manuel Schar (SUI) 57:27
3. Susannah Scaroni (USA) 57:51
4. Margriet Van Den Broek (NED) 1:04:27
5. Katrina Gerhard (USA) 1:04:54
6. Arielle Rausin (USA) 1:07:20
7. Michelle Wheeler (USA) 1:13:23

Wheelchair Men

1. Daniel Romanchuk (USA) 51:35
2. Ernst Van Dyk (RSA) 52:08
3. Aaron Pike (USA) 52:08
4. Josh George (USA) 56:47
5. Brian Siemann (USA) 1:05:13

Images courtesy of M. Nuri Shakoore, Photojournalist and freelance photographer for www.newyorkcityartsandsports.com | www.uabn-nyc.com

To view the entire image database of the 2019 United Airlines New York City Half Marathon log on to the following link:

<https://www.uabn-nyc.com/photojournalism/2019/3/18/images-nyrr-united-airlines-nyc-half-marathon-unitednyhalf>

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