

# 2nd Annual Mississippi Blues Marathon & Half-Marathon

www.msbluesmarathon.com  
January 3, 2009

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Registration Currently More Than Double the Inaugural Race**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mississippi Blues Marathon & Half-Marathon, scheduled for Saturday, January 3, 2009 now has more than double the number of participants than were registered at this time last year.

“Word of the success of our inaugural race spread quickly in the running community, and we’re seeing the impact of that in our registration this year,” said John Sewell, Director of Corporate Communications for Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi. “People know that we’ve got a challenging course, we’re focused on the experience for the runners, and we’ve got the best volunteers of any race around.”

As of November 30, there were 1,022 participants registered for the January 3, 2009 race, compared to only 487 at the same time last year. The race courses for both the marathon and the half-marathon are certified by USA Track and Field; and the race is a qualifier for the Boston Marathon.

Here are interesting facts regarding registered participants for 2009:  
(As of November 30, 2008)

- Ages range from 16 to 74
- From 37 states and the District of Columbia
- From 9 foreign countries (Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria and Switzerland)

There still is time to register at [www.msbluesmarathon.com](http://www.msbluesmarathon.com), and it is important to register now because the inaugural race actually sold out! The field for the race is limited to 3,000 runners.

Races include the marathon (26.2 miles), half-marathon (13.1 miles), 5-person relay (4 people each run 5 miles and the 5<sup>th</sup> person runs 6.2 miles), and the 1-mile Kids’ Marathon for ages 6 to 13.

More race details are available at [www.msbluesmarathon.com](http://www.msbluesmarathon.com). Get the blues!

