

## **RACE COMPLAINTS (MOST COMMON BY RUNNERS AND RACE DIRECTORS)**

1. Bandits...runners who run unofficially, without paying and without a race number.
2. Runners who switch numbers, buy numbers, sell numbers or runners who allow someone else to run using his/her number. This is fraud and should be met with suspension or disbarment by USATF. (The same applies to computer chips) This practice makes accurate results impossible.
3. Wheeled vehicles on the race course...especially baby joggers, strollers and pushed wheelchairs This is a violation of USATF rules. Separate insurance to cover this violation does not apply when the violation occurs in a USATF race. Separate insurance means a separate race.
4. Straight 5-year age groups without an Open category.
5. Open category with age groups excluded. This is road racing's biggest farce.
6. Masters prize money, team awards and Clydesdale awards without WMA best performance scoring.
7. Runners who finish and then go back on the course to pace a friend or relative.
8. Slow runners who stage at the start in front of faster runners.
9. Exorbitant entry fees or exorbitant late fees.
10. No option on entry fee without a T-shirt or memento.
11. No splits called.
12. Mile splits in a metric race (or vice versa)
13. Animals on the course. This is a violation of USATF rules.
14. Lack of water or not enough water on course.
15. No mailed or online results.
16. Fewer than three awards in age groups.
17. No race day announcements.
18. Long race day registration lines.
19. No age group awards for over age 60 or under age 19 in shorter races.
20. Runners who carry their children. This is a violation of USATF rules.
21. No refreshments after finishing.
22. Giving two awards to one runner, such as Open and age group. (Runners should be recognized for both but should receive only one award.)
23. Giving outdated running figure trophies instead of something useful or unusual.
24. Races that do not allow registration through local running publications.
25. Countdown, whistle or "go" starts. This is a violation of USATF rules.
26. Long, drawn out awards ceremony, as in calling runners to stage more than once.
27. Late starts.
28. Rude and inconsiderate elite runners who make demands regarding prize money or those who do not want to follow the rules.
29. No rest rooms or not enough rest rooms.
30. Runners who switch chutes or pass in the chutes. Chute switching is an automatic disqualification. This practice makes accurate results very difficult.
31. Runners who cover their race numbers with clothing.
32. Runners who wear their race numbers on their back or side. This is a violation of USATF rules.
33. Publishing results without specific ages, cities and states.
34. Falsifying information on entry form. (intentionally listing wrong age, birth date, or running under a false name.)
35. No start line or finish line marked on the course. This is a USATF rules violation.
36. Inept and/or corny announcers during the race and at the awards ceremony.
37. Relay runners crossing the finish line with the anchor runner.