

PRESS RELEASE
27th November 2017

RunCzech to welcome the millionth runner next year

The RunCzech race organisers have put together a number of new features for 2018. All share a common denominator – a commitment to meeting runners' needs and requests. The biggest change on the cards next season will be the option of changing the runner's name. In practice this means that if a runner isn't able to take part, for a small fee he or she may transfer it to another person. On top of this, runners will soon be able to access on www.runczech.com the race results from previous years as well as the start list prior to each event. But we've left the very best till last – next spring RunCzech will celebrate its millionth runner!

A whopping 972 952 runners. That's how many people have taken part in RunCzech races from the first marathon in 1995 to the last run of this season. *"It means we managed to change the lives of ten percent of the Czech population and got an incredible number of people out running,"* RunCzech president Carlo Capalbo reveals. The millionth runner will most likely appear at the Volkswagen Prague Marathon 2018.

"Twenty-three years ago I first expressed my thoughts about setting up a marathon in Prague. I couldn't possibly have known how such a small event could flourish. At the time, just over five hundred runners made it across the finish, although it has to be said that only a few years following the velvet revolution, recruiting eager participants capable of completing the marathon was no easy feat. The running boom was a long way off. And what about now? Things couldn't be more different. An incredible 82,883 men and women runners took part in RunCzech Running League races in 2017 alone. Adding in expo visitors, runners' friends and families, plus spectators on race day saw us reaching upwards of 390,000 people. That's quite a leap compared to the first year, wouldn't you say? And next year we expect to welcome our millionth runner!"

"I'm truly delighted to report that this year's RunCzech Running League runners did exceptionally well, resulting in five world records, four Czech records and nine race records! The accomplishments of our beloved Joyciline Jepkosgei, in particular, from the RunCzech Racing Team, has shone a light on RunCzech events," adds Vaclav Skrivanek, RunCzech race director.

The described changes will also include a new feature, which will be of interest to a large number of runners. Starting from the first race next season, the organisers will allow runners, for a small fee, to transfer their start number to another person. *"I think that the right time has come for this to happen since we want to make runners' lives a bit easier. Not just during the race but also before and afterwards,"* Capalbo adds.

Runners will continue to have the option of cancelling their participation in a race, with the option of a refundable start fee.

Runners can also keep abreast of further planned changes on www.runczech.com. The full set of RunCzech race results will be posted on the website over the course of several weeks, allowing participants to rank themselves



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according to their official as well as chip time. Results are currently available from 2003 to the present time. The start list of a given race will also be available on the web prior to the actual races.

Registrations are currently open for all RunCzech races 2018. Start numbers for the Sportisimo Prague Half Marathon are currently only available as part of the third price release phase, and in the second for the rest.

Should you be interested in further information or print quality photography, please get in touch with:

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Note: Attached photographs may only be used in conjunction with this press release by citing RunCzech as the source.

Notes for editors: <http://www.runczech.com/cs/pro-media/poznamky-pro-editory/index.shtml>



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