

## ***THE BIG EVENT, Saturday, August 13th***

***The County Open Half Marathon*** (13.1 miles) is a one of a kind race for runners who vacation in, or live in Maine and New Brunswick. Runners begin the race in downtown Island Falls and run toward Houlton on Route 2 and back to the start finish line for the first quarter, and then on quiet roads (some dirt) to complete the 13.1 miles loop course. Views are terrific, deer are often seen by runners as they progress over the rolling hills (but mostly flat) course. With little or no automobile traffic, the race is a favorite of runners who prefer a peaceful, natural setting.

### ***AWARDS...\$1000.00+***

Runners in the race will be competing for a purse of \$1,000 broken down as follows:

1st place male and female - \$200

2nd place male and female - \$150

3rd place male and female - \$100

First place male and female Masters - \$50

Other prizes will also be awarded to the top finishers in various age divisions.

### ***THE COUNTY OPEN RELAY***

For those not quite feeling up to the full 13.1 miles, The County Open Half Marathon Relay allows runners to form relay teams of 2 or 4 runners to compete. Each runner will run at least 3.1 miles. Awards will be presented to the top finishers in the all male, all female, and mixed categories. The race is run on the same course and at the same time as The County Open Half Marathon.

## ***OTHER FEATURES***

- County Open baseball caps for first 100 registrants
- Aid stations with water and sports drinks will be available at every relay location
- Other Random Draw Prizes, over \$2000!!!
- Race results published in the Houlton Pioneer Times, the Bangor Daily, and on the Website: [www.countyopen.com](http://www.countyopen.com)
- Refreshments after the race

## ***AFFILIATIONS***

The race has been included in the [Aroostook Musterds](#) summer circuit promising a competitive race between runners from around the nation, state of Maine, and Eastern Canada.



## ***INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW***

**Packet Pick-up:** Saturday, the 13th, at the registration table or contact John Walker in advance at 207-415-1688.

**Lodging:** For lodging information, please call The Greater Houlton Chamber of Commerce at 207-532-4216, or the Northern Katahdin Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce at 207-463-4634.

### **Directions:**

**Starting Line for Race** - Take I-95 to Island Falls (Exit 276). Upon exiting, take Route 159 east to Route 2 east to the Island Falls Municipal Building (will be on the left just past the center of town, 1/10 mile from when you reach Route 2 east).

## ***HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OPEN***

The 22nd Annual County Open Weekend is an annual event encompassing a one-day golf tournament (Friday, Aug 12th) in Houlton, a golf scramble (Saturday, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>) in Island Falls, the half marathon/relay, and "Dinner Under the Tent" event on Saturday evening at Houlton Community Golf Course. Monies raised from this event benefit the Health Service Foundation, which promotes excellence in health care in Southern Aroostook. To date, over \$480,000 has been raised from the County Open events.

## ***SPONSORSHIP***

First Choice Real Estate, with offices in Houlton and in Island Falls, is the sponsor of the County Open Half Marathon. Call them at 532-4037; 532-4500; or 463-3232.

## ***THE COURSE***

The race course is a challenging loop course beginning and ending at the Island Falls Municipal Building. The mostly flat course, with some rolling hills, winds through rural roads taking runners along side and over Dyer Brook, the Mattawamkeag River and Fish Stream, several times. The course goes by potato fields, a couple of cemeteries, and several farms. There is a large viewing area by the start/finish line, where the first baton pass also occurs (for relay racers), so it offers enhanced excitement for spectators.

## ENTRY FORM

### HALF MARATHON PARTICIPANT

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Years you have been a runner \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I for myself, and my executors, administrators and assignees, do hereby release and discharge The County Open Committee and the other sponsors for all claims of damages, demands and actions whatsoever in any manner arising or growing out of my participating in said athletic event. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event and am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event. Event sponsored by: First Choice Real Estate.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### RELAY PARTICIPANTS

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. Team Captain \_\_\_\_\_

**(Captain should fill top part of form and have team members fill out the form below)**

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### FEES

Entry Fee:           \$25 by July 15<sup>th</sup>  
                              \$30 (after July 15<sup>th</sup>)

Relay Team       \$15/runner           \$

Total enclosed       \$

**Please make all checks payable to The County Open and return with entry form & SASE (if confirmation desired) to: The County Open Half Marathon, PO Box 10, Houlton, ME 04730.**

The County Open  
PO Box 10  
Houlton ME 04730

**The 2011 Annual  
County Open Half  
Marathon or Relay  
Saturday, August 13, 2011  
8:00AM**

*Sponsored by:* First Choice Real Estate, with offices in Houlton and Island Falls. Call them. Thank you.



**“The Easternmost  
Half Marathon in  
the United States”**

**Houlton, Maine**

[www.countyopen.com](http://www.countyopen.com)

John Walker, Race Director: 207-415-1688 or email  
jswalkerinc@gmail.com