

GTC CORPORATE SHIELD RUNNING/WALKING COMPETITION BYLAWS

Overview

The GTC Corporate Shield, which began in 1979, is a competition under the auspices of the Greenville Track Club (GTC) for companies, civic organizations and educational institutions in upstate South Carolina which promotes running and walking. The schedule includes events for runners and walkers of all ability levels. Points are scored for performance and participation in four [4] categories: Open, Female, Masters (40 and older), and Grandmasters (50 and older).

Corporate Shield Race Schedule includes GTC events “Piggyback Races” (i.e., the GTC led events - Run Downtown 5K and the Sunrise Run 8K, etc.) and Stand-alone CS events which are hosted by a Division 1 CS team.

There is no cost for a team to join the Corporate Shield, however a Team Captain who is a member of the Greenville Track Club must be named. To create a team, send the team/company name, Team Captain name and contact info, and company size to corporateshield@greenvilletrackclub.com .

Race Awards

For the Open, Female, Masters and Grandmasters categories, awards are given to the top three (3) teams for each race. The top three (3) individual awards in the following categories are also awarded at each race, with the exception of “Piggyback Races”: Open, Female, Masters, Female Masters, Grandmasters, Female Grandmasters, Seniors (60 and older), and Female Seniors. There is no duplication of individual awards.

If possible, those winning more than one category should be allowed to choose which award they would like to receive.

Entry Fee / Race Requirements

The cost per race per registrant varies, but generally ranges around \$15 (Corporate Shield Stand-alone) and \$25-\$35 (Piggyback) per participant. The race director determines the entry fee, but it is recommended that a no-shirt option be made available at a cost around \$10 - \$15 for stand-alone. All Corporate Shield events are managed in RunSignUp. All participants and volunteers must register in RunSignUp to ensure that contact information and waivers are properly documented.

After the event’s completion, RunSignUp sends the proceeds of the event to GTC. GTC will then issue the proceeds check to the Race Director, for Stand-alone events less the \$1.50 GTC Fee per every registration.

Eligibility

Any individual who works for a company more than 20 hours per week or is a past employee receiving benefits from a company is eligible to participate. Eligibility will be determined by a paycheck stub or other documented proof of compensation such as a letter signed by the personnel manager or manager of human resources. Team captains may petition the Corporate Shield executive committee to request a waiver.

The following individuals are also eligible to participate:

- Spouses of eligible employees as defined above
- Children of eligible employees as defined above, ages 5 to 20, regardless of their place of residence or affiliation with a competitive team outside of Corporate Shield
- Retired employees who are receiving a pension from a company or who have worked at a company the last 3 years before retiring.
- Temporary employees who receive their compensation directly from the company and who work at least 20 hours the week before an event.
- Contractors who work at least 20 hours per week and are physically located on the company site.

In the event of a suspected eligibility infringement, the protesting team captain must file a protest (by telephone or written) with the Corporate Shield Director. Protests must be made within 10 calendar days after the official results are mailed. The specific details concerning the suspected eligibility infringement must be presented in the protest. If the Corporate Shield committee upholds the protest, the protested runner will be disqualified, and the initial Corporate Shield points earned by this individual shall be subtracted from the team totals. Eligibility is not dependent upon the geographical location where the runners (company employees, spouses, dependent children) live or work.

Combining Teams

At the beginning of each season, two companies of 10 eligible employees or less can join to form one team. The companies desiring to join must petition the Corporate Shield executive committee of their intent by January 15 of each year. This petition must contain documentation that each company has 10 eligible employees or less. Satisfactory documentation would be a letter signed by the personnel manager or manager of human resources of each company stating that their company has 10 employees or less working in Upstate South Carolina, i.e., Abbeville, Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Laurens, Newberry, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, or Union counties.

Corporate Shield Divisions

Corporate Shield Teams compete in three divisions (Division I, Division II and Division III) based on the size of the company and level of competitiveness. Division classifications are re-evaluated at the end of each Corporate Shield year for the upcoming year.

- Division 1 – Averages more than 12 participants per CS event in the previous CS year and/or hosts a Corporate Shield event.
- Division 2 – Averages 4 to 12 participants per CS event in the previous CS year, or a new team with over 100 employees in the upstate.
- Division 3 – Averages less than 4 participants per CS event in the previous CS year, or a new team with less than 100 employees in the upstate.

A Division team shall move up a Division for at least one year if, at year's end, that team has won 1st place in all the categories for their Division for the second year in a row, regardless of the number of participants they averaged.

At the end of the season/year, Overall Division champions (1st, 2nd & 3rd place) are named for each of the 3 Divisions. Overall results are the sum of each organization's points in the Open, Female, Masters, Grandmasters and Volunteer categories during the year. First, Second and Third-place awards are also

presented in each of the Open, Female, Masters, and Grandmasters categories. Awards are presented in the Annual GTC Awards Dinner in February.

Categories and Scoring

The four [4] categories in Corporate Shield are Open, Masters, Female, and Grandmasters. Four individuals constitute an open team and three individuals constitute a Masters, Female, and Grandmasters team (Division III teams are 3-2-2-2 individuals). All participants race concurrently, and race day awards are given to the overall CS finishers, but scoring for each division is done separately. Individuals are eligible to participate on teams in each four [4] categories. For example, a fifty-year-old female is eligible to participate on her company's Open, Masters, Female, and Grandmasters teams.

Unattached runners are welcome to participate in the Corporate Shield races, but their finishing places will not be included in the calculation of team scores for each race. A scoring system has been developed with the objective of awarding points for performance and participation.

Scoring System:

Once all runners have finished, unattached runners (non-Corporate Shield) are removed from the list of finishers and all of the CS participants are assigned finishing places in each category based on their finish among CS runners to which they qualify by virtue of age or gender: Open, Female, Masters, and Grandmasters. The finish place of the fastest runner on a scoring team will be used as tie- breaker for team placing. Volunteers who meet eligibility requirements and have registered for a Volunteer role in RunSignUp receive 1 point, added to the company's "Overall" score for that race regardless of whether they participated in the race or not.

Point calculation: Open 15-4, Masters 15-3, Female 15-3, Grandmasters 15-3. The first-place team in each category receives 15 points, the second-place team receives 14 points, the third-place team receives 13 points The twelfth-place team 4 points and all remaining full / partial teams will receive 1 point per participant. If there are not full teams, then the additional points are not earned.

Reference

Race Schedule and additional information is published on the GTC CS Website at <http://www.greenvilletrackclub.com/corporate-shield.html> .

GTC Corporate Shield By-Laws Revision History

Revision	Revised By:	
Original	GTC Board	Original By-Laws
1993	GTC Board	Scoring system adopted.
1996	GTC Board	Addition of Children under 16. Discontinue separate scoring for walkers.
1997	GTC Board	Addition of Spouse of employees and Retired employees.
2000	GTC Board	Renaming of Categories (Open, Female, etc) versus Divisions. Individual Awards to include both M & F, removed Middle of the Pack & Clydesdale awards and avoid duplication of awards. Entry fee updated.
2001	GTC Board	Unattached runners removed from CS calculation. Trial basis Grandmaster & Fem GMaster added for 2002. Indiv awards for Senior added. Entry Fee updated to include no Shirt option.
2003	GTC Board	Added Trophies for Grandmaster and include in overall. Added criteria for moving from Div II to Div 1 with majority victory and within 50% percentile of Div 1.
2004	GTC Board	Addt of \$1 fee to GTC for non-Piggyback CS events. (Standalone) Update to scoring procedures including for tie breaker, Senior awards & process for team to go from Div 1 to Division II.
2005	GTC Board	Clarification regarding GTC fee for every participant and regarding no restriction on geographic eligibility.
2007	GTC Board	Update regarding Children eligibility, 16-20 permitted as long as parent is participant, child lives at home and is not on a competitive running team. Honor system is used to confirm eligibility.
2013	GTC Board	Add 3 rd place individual awards for Senior. Eligibility updates: Revised min work hours from 32 to 20, added on-site contractors, and all children under 20 regardless or residence or other team affiliation.
2017	Sarah Schoonover	Increase of fee to GTC to \$1.50 per registrant from non-piggyback events.
01 Feb 2024	Cherie McCain GTC CS Director	Revised structure of By-Laws. Expand to 3 Divisions based on participation and company size. Clarifications to Eligibility; volunteer scoring, Team Captain requirements, etc.