

**Former Event Champions Return to Glory at 17<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Historic Half***Over 3,720 runners completed the Greatest Half in History*

**QUANTICO, VA (May 19, 2024)** – The cloudy skies provided ideal weather for over 3,700 runners who took to the historic streets of Fredericksburg and conquered Hospital Hill as part of the Marine Corps Historic Half on Sunday, May 19. The half marathon celebrated 3,729 finishers from 46 states, the District of Columbia and 14 countries.

The “Greatest Half in History” was won by Samuel Yakulis, Jr., 20, from Stafford, Va. with a time of 01:13:27. “I’ve done the five mile in recent years, but with that being discontinued, I decided to move up and give it a shot,” stated Yakulis. In 2023, Yakulis won the Semper 5ive with the second fastest time recorded in the event’s history at 26:34.

Coming in a little over a minute behind Yakulis was Jonathan Ladson, 32, from Woodbridge, Va. with a time of 1:14:33. Rounding out the top three males was James Erickson, 38, from Woodberry For, Va. coming in at a time with 1:15:55.

Natalie Daniels, 32, from Fredericksburg, Va., came in with a time of 1:24:12, finishing as the top female for the Historic Half, “I’m actually four months pregnant. This is my last race before I have a baby,” expressed Daniels. Her future child can celebrate mom’s past, current and future running success as Daniels was the Historic Half female winner in 2022 when the event returned to live and in-person racing following the pandemic.

The second place female was Grace Vandegrift, 31, from Washington, D.C, followed by Stacy Mercer, 38, from Charlotte, N.C. coming in third. Their times were 1:27:39 and 1:29:19 respectfully.

All results are currently unofficial and are available at [www.marinemarathon.com](http://www.marinemarathon.com).

Additional event highlights include:

- Fredericksburg Mayor Kerry Devine served as the ceremonial starter for the Marine Corps Historic Half. Other officials in attendance included Colonel Michael L. Brooks, commanding officer of Marine Corps Base Quantico. He was joined by Sergeant Major Michael Brown, also of Marine Corps Base Quantico. Major General David Maxwell, commander of Marine Corps Installations Command, participated in the event.
- The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, who is currently in the middle of an East Coast Tour, presented the colors to start the race. Participants and spectators were also able to meet the horses and their riders as part of the Finish Festival.

Another 203 runners across the United States and world are also registered to complete the Historic Half virtually. Participants in both the in-person and virtual events received a specially designed technical shirt, finisher medal and more.

Runners can #RunWithTheMarines next on August 24 at the Quantico12K aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico. Like the Marine Corps Historic Half Events, the Quantico 12K is a part of the 2024 Distinguished Participant program. Interested runners can register at [marinemarathon.com](http://marinemarathon.com).

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