Harcourts Cooper & Co

HIBISCUS HALF MARATHON

18 OCTOBER 2026

2026 EVENT GUIDE



GARMIN | AUCKLAND HALF MARATHON SERIES



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RACE WEEKEND SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

2-4pm	Race number collection

SUNDAY

6:00am	Event HQ opens
6:00am	21k race number collection
7:30am	ALL race number collection
7:30am	**21k Half Marathon Start**
7:33am	21k Competitive Walk
8:30am	**10k Classic Run Start**
8:33am	10k Competitive Walk
9:30am	**5k Fun Run & Walk Start**
10:30am	**2k Kids' Dash**
10:50am	Spot prize draw open
11:00am	Awards ceremony
11:30am	Event close (approx.)

A compulsory safety briefing will take place at the START LINE five minutes prior to each race start. Please ensure you are in position to hear the important information - which may include last minute changes - during this briefing.

PURE

SPORTS NUTRITION

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WITH EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT CODE

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RACE GUIDE

RACE NUMBERS & MERCHANDISE

Everyone taking part in the event must wear their own official 2026 Hibiscus Half Marathon race number - with timing tag attached - on the front of their top.
> NUMBER COLLECTION / If you completed a single-race registration for the Hibiscus Half Marathon (or have not received your AHMS Series Pass race pack) you'll need to collect your race materials in person. We strongly recommend collecting on Saturday, particularly those running 21K, to take the stress out of race morning.

Saturday 17 October, 2-4pm: Event Base - Metro Park, Millwater.
Sunday 18 October: 6am for 21K; 7:30am for 10K, 5K and 2K. Look for the registration tents at Metro Park.

> COURIER DELIVERY / If you registered for the event as part of an Auckland Half Marathon Series Pass, your race numbers for the series were sent by courier before the first event of the series. If you already have your official Hibiscus Half Marathon race number, you do not need to line up on race morning ... just put your Hibiscus Half Marathon race number onto the front of your shirt and you are good to go.

> LATE ENTRY / Late Entry is available right up until the race starts but be aware that race day entry incurs an additional fee. You can do it online via the event web site or by using an iPad at the venue. Payment can be made by credit card online or by cash/EFTPOS at the race venue.

> MERCHANDISE / All Merchandise orders are available for collection during the pre-race number collection times above and also from 8:30am on race day. Show your race number at the orange Merchandise tents (next to Race Pack Pickup) to collect.

GETTING THERE

The race venue and Finish Line are at Metro Park, Millwater.

> PARKING / Parking is available in the Metro Park car park, which holds around 200 vehicles but is likely to fill soon after 6am. Additional parking is available in surrounding streets and on gravel opposite the Millwater shops. Please obey all parking restrictions and never block residents' driveways. Incorrectly parked vehicles may be ticketed or towed. Allow for a 5-10 minute walk from your parking spot to the venue.

> BY CAR / Millwater is easy to reach from Auckland using Exit 396 from the Northern Motorway. If you are travelling from the north, Exit 394 onto Grand Drive is another convenient option. Either exit will bring you within a few minutes of Metro Park. Allow time to park and walk in.

> BUSES / Local bus services can get you close to Metro Park, however service times on Sunday mornings may be infrequent and unsuitable for the half marathon or 10K. Use the Auckland Transport online Journey Planner to check current services before planning your journey.

> ROAD CLOSURES / Road closure details are still to be confirmed on the event website. Check the Travel, Traffic & Parking page before race day for the latest traffic management information. The published affected period is 4am to 11:30am on race day. Pay particular attention to no-parking areas and follow all traffic management directions when approaching the venue and parking nearby.

BEFORE YOU START

Not long to go now! The adrenaline is starting to kick in big time. Here's what you need to be thinking about now.

> TOILETS / A large number of event portaloos will be located next to the public toilet block at the north-west corner of Metro Park. Further toilets are near the hockey field on the southern side. With the final rush to get ready for race start, queues are highly likely and we strongly recommend 'taking care of business' before you arrive at the race site or as early as possible. All races will begin at the published time.

> GEAR DROP & KEY CHECK / A self-service Gear Drop area is accessed through the red tents at the race site. Show your race number to enter/exit and select a numbered aisle to set your bag down. Use a waterproof bag as this area is uncovered. If you only have keys to drop, a Key Drop container will be available at the entrance. Please label your bag and keys with your race number. Running Events operate an 'all care, no responsibility' baggage service - do not leave valuables in this area.

> RACE NUMBER / Your official race number - with timing tag attached to the back - must be worn on the front of your top throughout the event. Avoid folding or crumpling the electronic tag to ensure it works correctly and keep your bib with you after you finish if you want to be included in the spot prize draw - listen for PA instructions on how to register.

> RACE BRIEFING / A compulsory race briefing will take place at the start line five minutes before each start. It is essential that you listen, understand and comply with the instructions given in the briefing, which will focus primarily on the safety of yourself and your fellow athletes.

> COMPETITIVE WALK / To be included in the 21KM or 10KM Competitive Walk competition, athletes must:

Register themselves in the Competitive Walk

Start on the designated walk start gun (3 mins after runners)

Walk at all times whilst completing the course.

DURING THE RACE

The Hibiscus Half Marathon course starts at Metro Park in Millwater and follows the Te Ara Tahuna walkway, with an extended section along the Orewa beachfront. The course is mostly flat with rollers on the estuary walkway and one short climb near the 20km mark. It features coastal views, the Millennium Walkway at the northern end of Orewa Beach, a timed section around Settlers Grove and a lap of Maygrove Lake.

> COURSE MAPS / Detailed course maps for all events - in a variety of formats - are available from the event website: https://hibiscus.werun.nz/course/
View the interactive routes or download your course map before race day.

> COURSE NOTES / The half marathon is a single loop combining the 10K course with an 11.1km Orewa beachfront section. Follow the course arrows and marshals at all turns and intersections on course.

> AID STATIONS / Aid stations serve water and electrolyte drink approximately every 3-5km on the 21K and 10K courses. There are no on-course aid stations for 5K or 2K. Refuelling is available after finishing.

> TOILETS / Public toilets are available at Metro Park and Orewa Boat Ramp, plus Orewa SLSC, Moana Reserve and North Orewa on the half marathon. No on-course toilets serve 5K or 2K.

> TIMING & RESULTS / Live timing and race results will be online and updated throughout the day. Scan the QR code on your race number to go to your personal result page.

> CUT OFF TIMES / Marshals, aid stations, road closures and signage may all be withdrawn based on a 3.5hr half marathon cut-off schedule. If you are unable to maintain this pace, you may be asked by Traffic Management to move onto the footpath where you can decide to withdraw from the event or proceed as a member of the public. Every participant who completes the entire course and makes it to the finish line is a winner and we will continue to record finish times and award finisher medals until the race site is vacated.

WHEN YOU FINISH

Hey legend! You made it ... now what???

> FINISHER MEDAL / A finish worth celebrating deserves a medal worth keeping. This year's Hibiscus Half Marathon finisher medal is a beautiful commemorative keepsake for every official finisher, whatever distance you complete - a fitting reward for your race-day effort. Fancy a bigger challenge? Complete four lead-up events (one may be virtual) and finish the ASICS Waterfront Half Marathon Grand Finale in person to earn your Grand Slam Medal. Complete all seven series events in person and you'll also earn the Super Slam Halo. Any distance counts!

> REFUELLING / You'll receive a banana or snack bar with your finisher medal before leaving the finish chute. Next up is the nearby dedicated water and electrolyte tent for urgently needed re-supply! Now you're ready to find a spot on the grass and r-e-c-o-v-e-r!

> FOOD & DRINK / Bring along any extra snacks or drinks you would like to enjoy after your race at Metro Park. Metro Park has plenty of room to spread out on the grass, so settle in with your supporters and celebrate your finish. If you're meeting family or friends, arrange a meeting point at the venue before you start. Please help keep the park tidy and remember to collect your belongings before heading home.

> AWARDS & SPOT PRIZES / The Awards Ceremony will kick off at 11am sharp on the main stage, right in the heart of the event venue. Come along to acknowledge some of the great performances of the day and you might just be taking home your share of up to $5,000 of amazing spot prizes. Remember, you must be present in person - and be recorded on the spot prize mats - to be eligible. Keep your race number and listen for announcements 10-15 minutes before the ceremony.

KEEPING SAFE

The safety of everyone involved in the event; participants, contractors, crew and the public, is our number one priority and we expect all participants to act in support of this.
> ON COURSE / You must remain fully engaged in your environment at all times whilst participating. Look out for unexepected obstacles such as road medians, uneven surfaces, pedestrians or stray vehicles. Even when the road is closed, we cannot guarantee it will be traffic free. If you see a competitor in distress, stay with them and send a message to the next marshal.

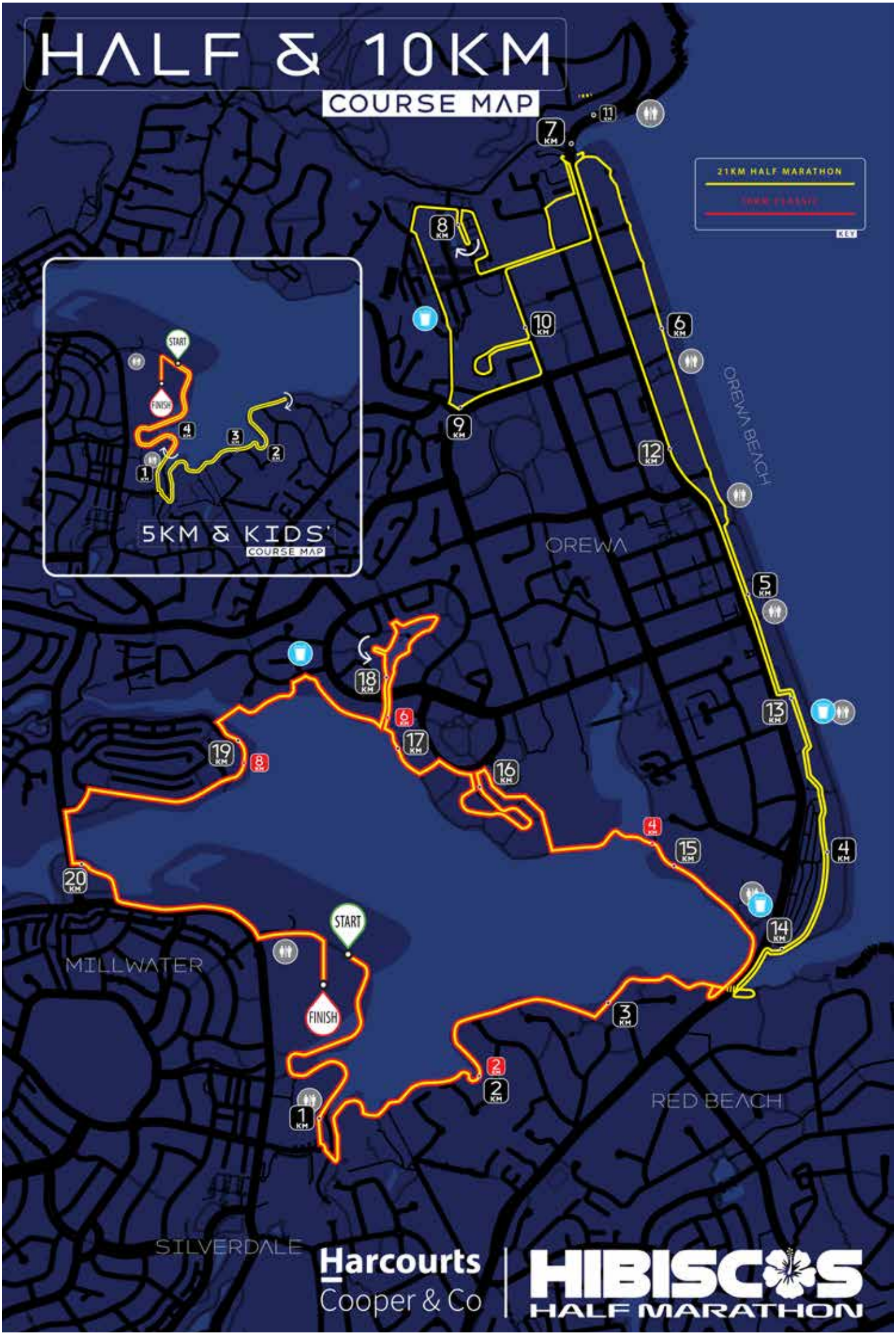
> MEDICS / The amazing team from St John will provide medical cover for our event. If you are feeling unwell as you finish, look out for their treatment area right after the finish line.

> FEELING UNWELL? / If you are experiencing cold, flu or other infectious symptoms, we ask that you please stay home. Remember that you have up to 3 weeks to complete the event virtually and still earn that beautiful finisher medal.

> UNSURE IN CROWDS? / The mass participation aspect is very much a part of our event but if you are nervous or unsure in crowds, just hold back on the start line for a few minutes and you'll find the crowds disperse quickly and you can still participate.

IF THERE IS A LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY,
ASK SOMEONE TO CALL 111




HALF & 10KM
COURSE MAP
21KM HALF MARATHON
KEY
5KM & KIDS'
COURSE MAP
START
FINISH
OREWA
OREWA BEACH
MILLWATER
RED BEACH
SILVERDALE
Harcourts
Cooper & Co
HIBISCUS
HALF MARATHON