

Timing Contractor Solicitation: Equinox Marathon and Relay

Running Club North (RCN) seeks the services of a timing contractor for the 2026-2028 Equinox Marathon and Relay races, to be held September 19, 2026 (exact date subject to confirmation) and on similar dates in 2027 and 2028. RCN estimates that 500 runners and hikers will participate in the full marathon and up to 300 team members (100 teams) in the Relay, each year. These numbers are subject to change depending on actual participant registrations.

The contractor will, no later than 05 February of each year, open registration on a platform mutually agreed upon with RCN.

The contractor will supply timing chips for each participant; RCN will provide bibs and affix the chips to bibs.

The contractor will have, at minimum, the following initial, intermediate and final timing points:

Start
Mile 5.5

Exchange Point 1

Exit from trail at Henderson Road, Mile 11.5

Behind Ester Dome towers, Mile 13.5

End of Out and Back, Mile 15.5

Exchange Point 2

Exit from trail onto Henderson Road, Mile 21.7

On UAF ski trail, Mile 25.5

Mile 26, for announcer information

Mile 26.2

Mile 26.21 for backup

The contractor will also have a hand backup system.

The contractor will make results live at each of the intermediate and final timing points.

Results will be tabulated per RCN age and gender groups and a csv file made available to RCN within one week of the race of all racers' splits and total times.

Contractor will furnish all equipment including generator, display clock, timing mats and timing system.

Contractor will be intimately familiar with the course and all changeover points prior to the 2026 events.

Contractor will, in the bid proposal, explain how timing will be handled for relay teams at the two exchange points.

RCN will hold a public ZOOM meeting on Monday 15 December at 7:00 pm AK time to answer any questions and provide needed clarifications to all interested parties.

An intending contractor will have no operational control over any other aspects of the race, over and above those described herein.

Intending contractors should submit bids based on 500 full marathoners and 100 relay teams, with escalation and de-escalation clauses for actual numbers of participants. Prices shall be quoted for each year of the contract. Bid price shall include cost of timing chips, equipment usage/running costs and contractor's fees.

Bids shall be submitted by Monday, 12 January 2026, submitted to president@runningclubnorth.org. RCN is not bound to accept the lowest or any bid.

Questions, including pertaining to the ZOOM link for the 15 December informational meeting, may be addressed to the RCN President, president@runningclubnorth.org.