



The Doynton HARD HALF Marathon

Emersons Green Running Club



Cancellation of Doynton Hard Half Marathon (January 2021)

We're very sad to announce that Emerson's Green Run Club has taken the very difficult decision to CANCEL the 2021 DHHM Event due to be held on January the 17th 2021

A few weeks ago, we felt very positive about our plans to run DHHM2021 in a Covid safe way. We have got in touch with landowners, suppliers and parish councils and received positive support from everyone. However, although Covid-19 cases in the South West remain relatively low, the national picture is rapidly worsening – hence the changes in law and guidance issued rapidly by Government in the last three weeks.

There are three reasons why we have to cancel:

- The latest changes in law and guidance require a further change to our plans and a dilution of the quality of the event – it just wouldn't be fun anymore
- Over the years, we've made many friends in Doynton – our friends are volunteer Marshalls, they provide facilities, they cheer on runners and some are runners themselves! We are sure many Doynton residents would continue to support the 2021 event, we also know there are elderly and vulnerable residents and we don't want to make anyone feel any more anxious in these difficult times
- The increasing likelihood of a further tightening of Social Distancing measures this winter would mean cancellation of the event after people pay money to enter the event and after we spend that money on major costs – things can get very messy - and not messy in a good, muddy Doynton way ☺

We're sorry to disappoint runners, suppliers, landowners, residents and supports alike. We're particularly sorry we cannot continue to make the charitable donations (last year the event raised ~£2000 for local charities). Before you ask, unfortunately we cannot move the event to Spring or Summer because there is livestock in the fields - our cow friends, usually with calves who don't mix well with hundreds of runners.

If you're a regular runner, for a bit of nostalgia please revisit the pictures of 2020 event, courtesy of Resound Camera Club, which are here: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/dhbm2020/>

Contacting us

DHHM has changed every year and will continue to do so to keep it fresh, lively and exciting. The best ideas come from... everyone! If you have an idea about DHHM, would like to join Emersons Green Running Club for a run, or would just like to say 'hello' then please get in touch we'd love to hear from you.

The race web site www.doyntonhardhalfmarathon.co.uk and the race Facebook page www.facebook.com/doyntonhardhalfmarathon. We aim to promptly reply to all messages that we receive on the Facebook page and the race email address dhbm@emersonsgreenrunningclub.co.uk.

Finally, *thank you* for supporting our race and see you in 2022 xxx

Lots of love from
The DHHM Race Team
Emersons Green Running Club