

McGrath

WOLLONGONG  
RUNNING  
FESTIVAL

# McGrath Wollongong Running Festival Press Release Pack

#RunWithUs



# Introduction

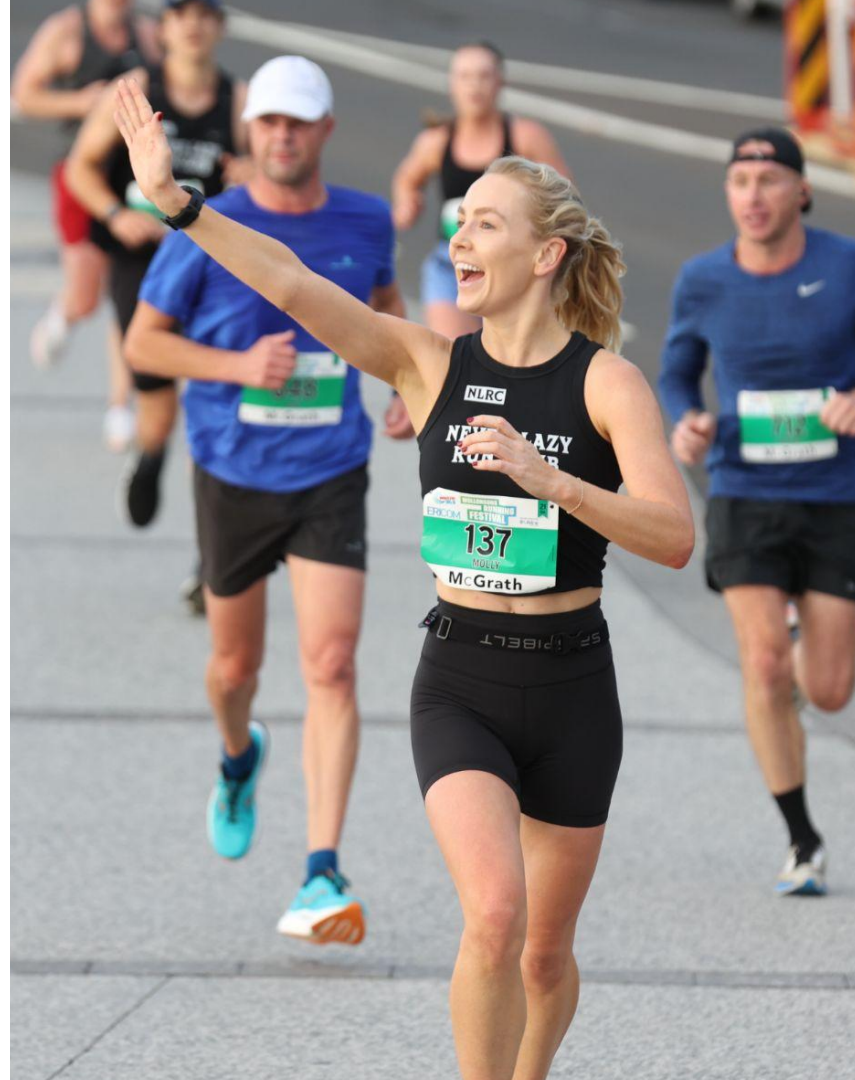
**What:** The Wollongong Running Festival celebrates freedom of running and Wollongong's active coastal culture. Runners will enjoy a busy and vibrant race precinct and will be motivated on course by cheer squads and live music. The run takes place along a spectacular run route utilising both trail and coastal paths with stunning ocean views.

The event is not only family friendly and fun, but also accurately measured and timed ensuring we meet the needs of all of our participants from fun runners to the more advanced, serious competitors.

The first Wollongong Running festival was held in 2009 under the name "Bulli Burn". It became Wollongong Running Festival in 2021. It has since evolved into Wollongong's largest running event and takes place on the first Sunday of June.

**When:** Sunday, 1 June 2025

**Where:** Lang Park, 1 Marine Dr, Wollongong NSW 2500



# Strategic Context

**VISION:** To create and deliver a community running event that celebrates the joy of movement, in which every participant feels empowered and included.

**MISSION:** To cultivate an inclusive community that brings together individuals of all backgrounds, abilities, and ages, inspiring collaboration and connection through the shared experience of running. We strive to empower participants to challenge themselves, celebrate their achievements, and contribute to the vitality of the community we have created.

## KEY GOALS

**LEGACY:** Reposition Wollongong as a destination for running

**REGISTRATIONS:** Reach 400 registrants

**VOLUNTEERS:** Recruit 180 volunteers to support the delivery of the event.



# Growth 2021- 2024

## Participants

- 2021 - 602
- 2022 - 942
- 2023 - 1426
- 2024 - 2318

**Note:** 2024 was a sell out at full capacity across all 4 events  
2025 will see a newly designed course with a big lift in capacity.



# Race Options

## Kids 2km Fun Run

A family-friendly event specifically aimed at primary school aged children and their parents. [Learn more here](#)

## 5km Fun Run

Dedicated to 2011 Wollongong Running Festival winner Mark Scott who suffered a serious cycling accident in June 2011. \$5 from every registration from this event will assist in the ongoing care and treatment for Mark and support for his young family.

[Learn more here](#)

## 10km

The 10km run shows off the best of Wollongong and is designed for recreational through to advanced runners. [Learn more here](#)

## Half Marathon

The Half Marathon course will be a two loop course to maximise course atmosphere and provide spectators with the opportunity to motivate runners throughout the race.

[Learn more here](#)



## Quotes from Key Stakeholders

“I wholeheartedly believe that the McGrath Wollongong Running Festival is something very special for our region. It's not just a running race but an opportunity to engage our community and empower individuals of all ages and abilities to realise their potential. This event creates the opportunity for people to come together to simply celebrate movement and at the same time make a difference. This event showcases all that Wollongong has to offer.” **Event Owner, Angela Saville**

“The McGrath Wollongong Running Festival is a great event for runners of all levels. You'll race through a stunning new course featuring breathtaking ocean views, iconic landmarks, and lush bushland. With a lively event precinct and a high-energy atmosphere along the course, it's sure to be a day full of fun and excitement! We can't wait to show you our amazing event - mark your calendar for the 1st of June” **Event Coordinator, Katy Sanders**

“Lifeline South Coast is absolutely thrilled to be a part of the Wollongong Running Festival again! The energy and spirit of the event is truly contagious, and it's fantastic to see the community come together for such a fun, family focused day. The funds raised play a role in supporting the vital services provided by Lifeline South Coast including the 13 11 14 Crisis Support line and suicide prevention initiatives. Every step we take helps to reach our vision to create an Australia free of suicide.” **Lifeline South Coast CEO, Renee Green**

## Links

### Website

[wollongongrunningfestival.com](http://wollongongrunningfestival.com)

### Socials

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

### Registration

[Enter here](#)



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Thank you

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