



March 16, 2020

Thank you all for your patience and understanding. As an ultra runner I am extremely optimistic and look to problem solve before DNF'ing.

It has become clear to the Lake Sonoma 50 team, that due to the COVID-19 developments, it is in the best interest of the passionate running community to cancel the 2020 Lake Sonoma 50 race. We know each of you have put in countless hours of training and are ready to run Lake Sonoma on April 11th, but your safety and health, and that of the greater community are our highest priority at this time.

We've been closely monitoring the situation over the past few weeks which was changing day-to-day but now seems hour-by-hour. At this time, the State of California banned gatherings of 250 people through March and is likely to be extended into April. Our medical team just found out Sunday that the CDC guidance is for "large events and mass gatherings" of 50 people or more be postponed for the next 8 weeks.

We know many of you travel from all corners of the world to run Lake Sonoma and we are honored and thankful for that. We realize you all have travel arrangements to work with, and we are confident the generous policies the airlines and travel industry are offering will be helpful.

Our all-volunteer staff, generous sponsors, longstanding vendors, and Healdsburg community work tirelessly to ensure our iconic charity race exceeds your expectations year-after-year. For the last twelve years the Lake Sonoma 50 proceeds go to the Children of the Vineyard Workers Scholarship Fund. We are working with our sponsors, vendors and the running community to ensure we are able to help our charity as well as our small, but mighty resilient Healdsburg community that has seen devastating fires and floods over the last few years.

The Lake Sonoma 50 team has done a ton of work to prepare for our charity race and is ready to produce the best ultra weekend possible for you on April 10, 2021. As one of the most competitive fields in ultra running and a Golden Ticket Race we know the entire Elite International and National Field is counting on the Lake Sonoma 50.

No need to do anything, your entry fee will be automatically rolled to 2021 and you will bypass the Lottery. If you choose to withdraw instead of rolling, we will refund 50% of your entry fee. *Runners can cancel their registration via their registration history at [UltraSignup.com](https://ultrasignup.com).* Refunds may take up to 30 days.

Thank you for understanding, it is a difficult decision and not one we make lightly. As always, our runners provide kind words, generous acts of selflessness and honesty as we always have for each other during runs, races and now pandemics. We hope that you and your family remain safe and healthy through all of this.

Thank you,
Skip Brand
Lake Sonoma 50 Race Director
Healdsburg Running Company
