



Sunday, March 24, 2019

**Runners Celebrate Spring by Kicking Off the Running Season at the 40th Annual
Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle**

*Executive Race Director Carey Pinkowski Runs 8K and Raises more than \$49,000
for Local Charities*

CHICAGO – In a show of Chi-rish pride, thousands of runners gathered today in Grant Park under an overcast sky and ideal running conditions to officially kick off Chicago’s running season at the 40th annual Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle. Joe Moore sprinted across the line first in 23:18, outkicking a competitive men’s field that welcomed elite runners from more than 50 USATF-club teams from around the nation. The women’s winner, Olivia Pratt, claimed victory with a swift time of 26:26. Daniel Romanchuk and Susannah Scaroni took the crowns in the wheelchair competition in course record times, 16:29 and 19:02, respectively.

“The Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle has been celebrating Chicago running and runners for four decades,” said Executive Race Director Carey Pinkowski. “I love the legacy of this race – its welcoming energy to new runners and its athletic prowess up front. Mother nature cooperated with us today, and it was so much fun participating with our running community in the 8K this morning. There’s really no better way to kick off the running season and celebrate our city than with the Shamrock Shuffle.”

For the second year in a row, Pinkowski joined more than 20,000 runners on a green infused 8K run through the heart of downtown Chicago. Today’s race marked the culmination of his fundraising campaign for four local charities with a focus on youth initiatives: Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, After School Matters, Special Olympics Chicago and Shirley Ryan AbilityLab. Pinkowski exceeded his fundraising goal of \$40,000, raising more than \$49,000. Over the past two years, Pinkowski has raised more than \$75,000 for charity.

Moore, hailing from Manhattan, Kansas, led a hard charging men’s field down Columbus Drive, beating his teammate from the Kansas City Smoke to the line by five seconds. The top 12 men broke 24 minutes. Moore maintained a 4:42 pace to stop the clock in 23:18. James Wilson finished second in 23:23 and Christopher Zablocki took the third spot in 23:30.

“I was worried about being caught, and I was so happy to go 1-2 with my Kansas City Smoke teammate,” said Moore. “It was a really awesome feeling to be first today. I didn’t come in here thinking of winning. The Shuffle course includes all of the best parts of the [Bank of America Chicago] marathon course.”



The women's competition involved less of a close push down the homestretch with Pratt, from Madison, WI., claiming the top spot by 11 seconds, winning in 26:26. Molly Bookmyer finished several strides behind in 26:37, and Rosie Edwards hung on for third in 27:01. The women's competition also featured Olympic marathon bronze medalist and American record holder, Deena Kastor. Kastor set the 8K American Record at the 2005 Shamrock Shuffle, 24:36. She finished eighth today in 27:12.

"While I was standing at the start line, I saw a former teammate and it gave me this great feeling of camaraderie," said Pratt. "It was awesome to come here at the end of a training segment at peak fitness and put everything on the line. I was hurting, but it feels good. I really appreciated the fans out here today, too – the bands were great."

In the elite wheelchair competition, 2018 Bank of America Chicago Marathon and TCS New York City Marathon champion, Daniel Romanchuk, blazed the course in an amazing record time of 16:29.

"It was great coming back to Chicago, and it was fun to do this race with a team," said Romanchuk. "The conditions and course were wonderful."

Susannah Scaroni finished second overall in the elite wheelchair competition and first among the women, pausing the clock in a record time, 19:02. Scaroni and Romanchuk are both training for next month's B.A.A. Boston Marathon.

"I felt really good today, and it was great having my teammates out there with me," said Scaroni. "Daniel and I are prepping for Boston and we did 18 miles yesterday. Our muscles were warmed up for today."

The 2019 Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle proudly hosted the 11th annual Deloitte Elite Club Competition, featuring more than 50 elite USATF-member club teams from around the country. The clubs competed head to head for a \$20,000 prize purse. On the men's side, Chicago's own Second City Track Club took down 2018 champions, Kansas City Smoke, with their top four runners earning a combined score of 1:35:07. The Playmakers Elite finished second in 1:35:26 and the Kansas City Smoke, led by winner Joe Moore, rounded out the top three in 1:36:04.

In their Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle racing debut, the Nomad Track Club from Boulder, CO., rose to the top of the podium with a combined score of 1:21:19 (the top three runners count in the scoring). The Second City Track Club, led by local elites Hope Hoffman, Kelly McShea and Kristen Heckert, finished a close second in 1:21:31 and the Mammoth Track Club, headed by Kastor, finished third in 1:23:26.

Media photos will be available later today at shamrockshuffle.com/press.



2019 Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K Results

Top 10 Men – Open Field

1. Joe Moore (23:18)
2. James Wilson (23:23)
3. Christopher Zablocki (23:30)
4. Trent Lusignan (23:35)
5. Kevin Havel (23:38)
6. Razvan Pop (23:38)
7. Ryan Mahalsky (23:39)
8. Clark Ruiz (23:40)
9. Mitchell Klingler (23:42)
10. Jack Keelan (23:43)

Top 5 Men – Wheelchair Field

1. Daniel Romanchuk (16:29)
2. Brett Gravatt (19:31)
3. Raymond Martin (22:09)
4. Joey Gibbs (22:31)
5. Brendan Quinn (24:51)

Top 10 Women – Open Field

1. Olivia Pratt (26:26)
2. Molly Bookmyer (26:37)
3. Rosie Edwards (27:01)
4. Hiruni Wijayaratne (27:07)
5. Hope Hoffman (27:09)
6. Kelly McShea (27:09)
7. Molly Grabill (27:11)
8. Deena Kastor (27:12)
9. Kristen Heckert (27:13)
10. Elizabeth Weiler (27:22)

Top 5 Women – Wheelchair Field

1. Susannah Scaroni (19:02)
2. Arielle Rausin (21:05)



3. Chelsea McClammer (21:16)
4. Alexa Halko (24:02)
5. Kelsey Lefevour (26:19)

2019 Deloitte Elite Club Competition Results

Top 3 Men's Teams

1. Second City Track Club (Chicago, IL)
2. Playmakers Elite (Okemos, MI)
3. Kansas City Smoke (Kansas City, MO)

Top 3 Women's Teams

1. Nomad Track Club (Boulder, CO)
2. Second City Track Club (Chicago, IL)
3. Mammoth Track Club (Mammoth, CA)

Top 3 Wheelchair Teams

1. A 4ce to be Reckoned With (Champaign, IL)
2. The Romansizzlers (Champaign, IL)
3. Siemann's Demons (Champaign, IL)

The Mile

The inaugural Mile launched race weekend on Saturday, March 23 in Grant Park. The race featured runners in four categories: elite, competitive, competitive masters and recreational. Joshua Davis led the field home in 4:40 while Moira McAsey led the women in 6:06. Executive Race Director Carey Pinkowski finished third in his division in 7:15. On May 6, 1954, Roger Bannister made history by becoming the first person to run under four minutes in the mile, recording 3:59.4. While the feat has been accomplished many times over the last six decades, the lore of the mile remains. To commemorate the iconic status and revival of the mile, and to celebrate the diversity of Chicago's runners, the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle introduced this event to its race weekend line-up.

About the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle

Long recognized as an annual rite of spring, a celebration of St. Patrick's Day and the kickoff to the outdoor running season in Chicago, the 41st annual Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle treats runners to a scenic 8K run through downtown Chicago and two-mile walk along Chicago's lakefront. The 8K run will kick start at 8:30 a.m., followed by the two-mile walk at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22. Following the race, runners can enjoy live music at the Post-Race Party in



Grant Park. For more information about the event and how to get involved, go to shamrockshuffle.com.

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Reporters May Contact:

Alex Sawyer, Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle, 1.312.992.6618
alex.sawyer@cemevent.com

Diane Wagner, Bank of America, 1.312.992.2370
diane.wagner@bankofamerica.com