

# Registration now open for Clearwater USATF certified race with \$25k prize purse

Posted on [September 20, 2018](#)



CLEARWATER, Fla. – Representatives from the Doganiero Foundation and board members from Clearwater For Youth pose for a photo during a check presentation of \$25,000 from the Doganiero Foundation to the Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Race, which will serve as the prize purse for the race. All of the proceeds from the race will benefit Clearwater For Youth. (Left to right: Blake Doganiero, Frank Chivas, Dawn Doganiero, Kevin Dunbar, Brian Aungst Sr., Dawn Daugherty and J.C. Daugherty)

CLEARWATER, Fla. – Registration is now open for up to 4,000 runners who will compete for their part of a \$25,000 prize purse on Nov. 10 in Clearwater's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Half Marathon, 5K & 1M, which benefits Clearwater For Youth.

On Thursday, the Doganiero Foundation presented representatives from Clearwater For Youth and race organizers with a \$25,000 check in downtown Clearwater at Clear Sky on Cleveland. The donation will fund the prize purse for this year's Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Race.

“While we know there are many other road races in the area during November, our amazing course of three challenging and scenic bridges and unprecedented \$25,000 prize purse, which is one of the largest purses of any running event in the area, is sure to make this event memorable” said Susan Daniels, Race Director.

Three runs are scheduled to take place on Nov. 10 and include a half marathon, 5k and a 1 mile fun run, but only the half marathon and 5k will have prize money awarded to winners. All three courses are USATF certified, and runners who complete the half marathon will be able to use their time to qualify for other USATF races.

The half marathon will begin in Coachman Park in Clearwater, and participants will run over Clearwater Memorial Causeway, Sand Key Bridge, Belleair Causeway Bridge and then return to Coachman Park.

If the race event sells out, organizers expect it to raise more than \$250,000 for Clearwater For Youth, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which supports local youth athletic programs by providing grants and provides scholarships for athletes who are from the area. CFY is dedicated to building character through sports and helping provide young athletes a foundation to succeed in life.

“We are incredibly thankful for the continued support provided by the Doganiero family, all of our other sponsors, and are looking forward to hosting this year’s event, which is looking to be our best yet,” said J.C. Daugherty, a CFY board member and one of the organizers of the Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Half Marathon, 5K & 1M.

The Inaugural Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Race in 2017 raised more than \$150,000 for Clearwater For Youth.

For more information about the Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Race or to register for the event, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Clearwater/PhilDoganiero3BridgeHalfMarathon5K1MileFunRunWalk>.

### **About the Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Half Marathon, 5K and 1M**

The Phil Doganiero 3 Bridge Half Marathon, 5K, and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk is an annual event focused on promoting athletic excellence and offering a family-friendly activity for those living in the Tampa Bay-area. Proceeds from the race help further the Clearwater For Youth mission that no child will be denied the ability to play in a sports program because of financial concerns. The half marathon course crosses over three iconic bridges in the Clearwater area, including the Memorial Causeway, Sand Key Bridge and Belleair Bridge.

### **About Clearwater For Youth**

Founded in 1966, Clearwater For Youth’s mission is to help ensure “no child is turned away” from pursuing athletic initiatives due to financial concerns and to elevate youth sports in the local communities. CFY offers support to young athletes through scholarships and grants to constructive athletic programs where children from all backgrounds can play and learn together. Through a unique partnership with the City of Clearwater, CFY supports all city co-sponsored youth sports programs. CFY also supplements youth athletic organizations across northern

Pinellas County. In total, over 8,000 children are served annually. CFY also provides a college scholarship program, and in 2018, awarded 14 deserving high school seniors \$90,000 in college scholarships. Since 2006, CFY has awarded over \$500,000 in college scholarships. To learn more about CFY, visit <http://www.clearwaterforyouth.org/>.

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