

## Registration Process for the Bridger Ridge Run

May 2010 355 people were signed-up online in 4 minutes. For good reason, many people were dissatisfied with this sign-up system, so we will now use a lottery system to choose who runs this race. In typical BSWD fashion, it will be done with compassion, forbearance, agony in the choices, and occasional loopholes and exceptions. Here's how it will work:

**May 13<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>:** open registration for as many people who want their names in the hopper. You'll go to [racemontana.com](http://racemontana.com), pay your \$5.00 plus \$1.55 handling fee, and sit and wait. This is the only time and place for **ALL** people who want to run. This includes the "freebees": first timers, 10 timers, 23 timers (Andy Pilskalns), former winners, auctioned-off entries, last years' and anyone who thinks they are on a "secret" list (I guess only I know who they are). There. So, by May 19<sup>th</sup>, the field is set. No one else has any chance to get in the race, period.

**May 20<sup>th</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup>:** The Ridge Run Committee (RRC) will convene and conduct the "selection process". This means going through ALL \$6.55 entries, sorting them into appropriate categories, and conducting the lottery on those who need to be lotted. At this point, the selectees will be notified via email to go sign-up. There is no alternate list. Nobody else will be notified. This is your only chance to get in this year! Good Luck!

**May 31<sup>st</sup>:** Lottery winner notification.

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> – June 9<sup>th</sup>:** One week for THE selectees to go online, and actually register for the Ridge Run. Again, it is through [racemontana.com](http://racemontana.com), \$60.00 plus \$4.25 handling fee. No hurry. No need for a fancy computer, or fast dial-up speed, or tech-savviness. If you're in the selectees and don't register by 11:59pm June 9<sup>th</sup>, you have missed your chance. I am sorry, but this is the only way to keep it fair for all.

**June 15<sup>th</sup>:** Ta daaaaa! The official list will be published on the BRR website, and the BRR Registrar (Celia) has hopefully sidestepped a lot of uncomfortable phone/email conversations trying to convince people that "no, you can't get into the race anymore, etc."

**Finer Points: Fine Point #1:** When you go online the first time, you will have the opportunity to write a small paragraph telling the RRC why you really need to get into the race. It may simply be – "I've tried to get in the last 4 years, and this really isn't fair anymore, is it?" or, "I have a terminal illness, and this is the only thing that is keeping me alive" or, "My name is Scott Creel" or, "My grandfather is Ed Anacker and it would be a shame if the Chronicle got hold of my story and you wouldn't let me in the race!". Keep in mind that the selection committee is looking at 500+ applications, so be concise and direct in your paragraph. The RRC will save a small number of slots for some of the most convincing stories.

**Fine Point #2:** so if you are not notified on May 31st, then you are simply not in for this year. There will be no passwords to enter the race, so if you are not selected but choose to enter the race anyway, we appreciate your donation and you should know we do not give refunds. No refunds for any reason.

**Fine Point #3:** And it has to be always pointed out that there are NO refunds for ANY reason. Your entry fee, if not used, will be donated to a good local non-profit, and they thank-you for it! Your race slot cannot be transferred to someone else (...but my son is flying in from Texas to watch me run, but I sprained my knee, so can't he take my place?) (no!)

**Fine Point #4:** I sincerely apologize if I sound harsh. You just can't believe how many calls I get when I sound too open to reason!!

Check the blog for updates: <http://bridgerridgerun.wordpress.com/>