

Race Organisers Diary.

- John O'Leary

We are delighted to report that everything is going according to plan so far. Certain parts of the race event will incur an unavoidable cost and we are very aware of what these costs are. We can assure you that where these occur, our team has negotiated the very best deals possible and in almost all cases the service providers are providing these services at cost price. Such is the goodwill that it seems that we only have to ask and people are bending over backwards to facilitate us. Thank you. We are steadfast in our promise that all money raised by participants will go directly to the charities and the member of our committee responsible for financial matters – Eugene T. Doyle, is tasked with guaranteeing that this happens.

Since our last update we are sad to say that a company that had previously committed to supplying us water for the event cannot now fulfil their commitment. However when this came to light H. Murphy Gala Cash & Carry stepped in immediately and are prepared to supply us with the water. More importantly H.Murphy & Co. are allowing us to use their facilities on the Promenade for administrative purposes on race weekend. This is a very important facility to have and we are very grateful to them for it.

Event safety officer, Teo Leacy and myself met with Inspector Michael Walsh of the Garda Traffic Corps and Seargent Graham Rowley, Enniscorthy Gardaí to present them with our Safety Plan and our Traffic Management proposals. We are delighted to report that our plans were accepted and the Gardaí are fully supportive of our event. Our traffic management plan includes the requirement for considerable expertise for a traffic detour and 'Stop/Go' system for safety on the New Ross road section of the course. When this was highlighted as an issue, Michael Bennett of Michael Bennett Group stepped up to the mark and committed to managing this element of the safety plan. Michael Bennett Group will be responsible for implementing the traffic management plan on race day together with helping out with heavy lifting equipment for the 'Start/Finish' area 'build'. We are very grateful to Michael for this, thank you.

As mentioned already Teo Leacy is the event safety officer. He is responsible for managing all risks on the course. If he is not completely satisfied on race day that all safety contingencies haven't been fulfilled the race will not take place – such is the importance we have placed on safety. Teo pointed out that the river poses a risk due to its proximity to the Start/Finish area. Add to this the fact that a lot of children will be in attendance for the 'Little Dreamers Dash' and he decided action was required.

Kasia O'Leary and Caitlin Reck – organisers of the 'Little Dreamers Dash' have organised up to thirty volunteers to ensure the kids event is executed with as much safety and fun as possible. This event will be overseen by Paul Murphy – Slaney Olympic AC Child Protection Officer. Thanks to Slaney Olympic AC and to Paul. Event Chairman – Tom Herlihy met with Harry O'Connor of Slaney Search and Rescue to ask for help in patrolling the river on race day to ensure safety at the rivers edge. Tom was delighted with the response and we are very grateful to Slaney Search and Rescue who will provide River Patrols on the day. We want to point out that Slaney Search and Rescue is a voluntary service provided by local

Enniscorthy people and we ask you to remember them by helping to raise awareness of their services and raising funds when the opportunity arises.

At the recent launch we were approached by The Irish Red Cross who offered their services on April 1st. We are obliged to supply first aid services at an event like this and we were relieved at their offer. Services like these are always in demand for such events but are not always guaranteed due to high demand. Again we ask that you remember them if the opportunity arises to raise awareness or funds for this essential service. I would remind you that these services are usually provided by volunteers and rarely get enough recognition. So to the Irish Red Cross again, thank you.

So that's just about it for this update, I would like to add that opportunities exist for anyone or any company that might want to help out with administrative costs. We can offer a lot in return. As Micheál Ó Miurcheartaigh said at our launch night in December 'People are capable of doing amazing things. All you have to do is ask'. We are asking for your help to cover a few more costs so we can provide you with an amazing event. Please call John O'Leary on 053 9239090 or Tom Herlihy on 087 0530277 or email info@hopeanddream10.com.