

Crazy 8s Facts/Background

2010 Date

July 17th, 2010

World's Fastest 8K:

In 1996, Peter Githuka from Kenya set a new 8K World Record at Crazy 8's with a time of 22:03. Asmae Leghzaoui of Morocco broke the women's world record in 2002 in 24:28. Both records still stand. The Regional Eye Center offers a \$10,008 bonus for the first man or woman to break their existing world records.

We're Number 1!

Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine named the Crazy 8s 8K Run the Top Road Race of 2008.

Top 5 Ranking:

1. *Indian Path Medical Center & SunTrust Bank Crazy 8s 8K, Kingsport, TN.*
2. *Cooper River Bridge 10K, Charleston, S.C.*
3. *Peachtree Road Race 10K, Atlanta, Ga.*
4. *Ukrops Monument Avenue 10K, Richmond, Va.*
5. *Cherry Blossom 10-Miler, Washington, D.C.*

World-Famous Figure-8 Course

Crazy 8s is world-renowned for its unique figure-8 course, with candle-lit streets, and thrilling stadium finish. Huge crowds gather along the course to cheer for the runners.

History

1980s

The Fun Fest road race goes back to 1981 with the beginning of Fun Fest. The first race was run on Bays Mountain, but moved to the Ft. Henry Mall a year later. The race, named the Fun Fest Midnight 5 Miler, became the "kickoff" event to Fun Fest as a Friday midnight event.

1990s

In 1990, the event changed to the Crazy 8s format, adopting a new 8-Kilometer course with a unique figure-8 design and candle-lit streets. Crazy 8s also moved from Friday night to Saturday night, and moved its start/finish down the street to the Greenacres Shopping Center. A walk was also added in 1990, and Little 8s Youth Runs in 1993. In 1996 Peter Githuka shocked the world by running a new 8K world record at Crazy 8s.

2002

Asmae Leghzaoui broke the women's world record in 2002, crossing the finish line in 24:28. Crazy 8s became one of only a few races in the world to hold both genders' world records.

2006-Present

In 2006, the event uprooted and moved to J. Fred Johnson Stadium with a thrilling finish inside the stadium. The Crazy Mile, run just prior to the Fun Fest Parade on Friday evening, was also added in 2006, making Crazy 8s a 2-day affair. Also in 2006, the Healthy Lifestyles Expo was introduced along with a new name for the 3k Heart Walk - Neil's Walk, named in memory of a good friend, Neil Danehy. In 2007, Special 8s, an event for individuals with special needs, was born, and the \$5000 Dash-For-The-Gold was introduced.

*In 2008, Crazy 8s officially went to the dogs with the first ever K-8s Dog Walk. Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine named **Crazy 8s the top road race of 2008**, finishing ahead of such mega-races as the Peachtree 10K in Atlanta and Cooper River Bridge Run in Charleston. In November of 2008, the Tikrit Running Club, a group of runners from the U.S. Army base in Tikrit, Iraq, staged the first ever Crazy 8s 8K Run in Iraq. Crazy 8s also received the Gold Award for Best Event within an Event at the 2008 Southeast Festival and Events Association Kaleidoscope Awards.*

*In 2009, Crazy 8s had over 3400 participants, marking a tremendous **64% growth** since 2004!*

Charity

Crazy 8s raised \$11,500 for the Neil Danehy Heart Foundation in 2009

Crazy 8s Events

Crazy Mile (July 16th)

K-8s Dog Walk (concurrent with Crazy Mile)

Healthy Lifestyles Expo

Little 8s Youth Field Day

Neil's Walk

Crazy 8s 8K Run

Crazy 8s Participation Figures

(Based on registration. All events combined. Records not available prior to 1990)

1990	903
1991	939
1992	1097
1993	1314
1994	1456
1995	1520
1996	1765
1997	1713
1998	1870
1999	1909
2000	2008
2001	2043
2002	2082
2003	2092
2004	2055
2005	2358
2006	2438
2007	2781
2008	3299
2009	3434
