

The Times-Picayune

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1996

CRESCENT CITY CLASSIC
10,000-METER ROAD RACE, RUN AND WALK[®]

WIND REPORT

WAYNE B. NICOLL

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Potter Place, New Hampshire 03216
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14 April 1995

Peter S. Riegel
3354 Kirkham Road
Columbus, OH 43221

Dear Pete,

This is a report on wind observations at the 1996 Crescent City Classic 10K Road Race in New Orleans, LA on 6 April 1996. The course is a flat, point-to-point configuration with the start and finish about 7 kilometers apart. The elevations at the start and finish are the same. The course, which starts in the French Quarter, flows southwest, west, and northwest until it reaches Audubon Park and with about a mile to go, makes a counterclockwise loop, finishing facing east.

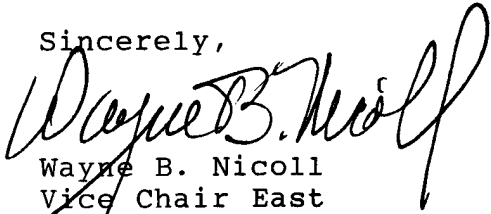
The National Weather Service report at 6:00 AM on race day reported a temperature of 50 degrees F, cloudy skies, wind from the north at 13 MPH, 96% humidity, and a slight chance of showers. By race time (9AM) the conditions were about the same and winds were gusting and swirling lightly at an estimated 5-10 MPH. There was intermittent light rain during the race.

I placed helium-filled balloons on street sign poles and other objects along the course. While mounting the balloons along the course, I accidentally locked myself out of the rental vehicle and it took me two hours to find a locksmith to unlock the car. Despite that problem there were more balloons mounted along the course than in previous years. I rode on the press truck and photographed the position of the balloons and other flags and banners, using a camera with telephoto lens. Only two balloons were mounted on the loop in the park due to a lack of poles to tie the balloons to. However, there were enough on the course to clearly show the effects of the wind gusting lightly, predominantly in a southerly direction. I have included photos which show there was no significant tailwind assisting the runners for 50% or more of the course distance. There are six more photos which support this conclusion but were not included due to lack of identification of their location.

Again there were a few lessons learned in the deployment of the balloons. This year I went back to the smaller size balloon because they were cheaper and easier to tie. Also one could fill more balloons from the one gallon capacity of a small helium tank. Not as many balloons were lost as last year. The smaller ones are less obvious to people and thus less likely to be taken. Also, a stepladder was used to mount the balloons, which put them out of reach of most people. Orange colored balloons are definitely easier to spot and photograph.

In my opinion, the winds provided insignificant advantage to the runners in the 1996 Crescent City Classic 10K Road Race. In addition, I can verify the race was run on the race course as it was originally measured and certified. The wind and race path observations should support any pending record performances.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne B. Nicoll". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Wayne B. Nicoll
Vice Chair East
Road Running Technical Council

Copy: Mac DeVaughn, Neil MacDonald,
Ryan Lamma, Mike Wickiser
George Regan



Road Running Technical Committee TAC/RRCA



Certificate

Name of the course CRESCENT CITY CLASSIC ALTERNATE COURSE CERTIFICATION.
LA 8435 PR RETAINS Advised distance 10 K

Location: (state) LA (city) NEW ORLEANS (part) AUDUBON PK.

Type of course: loop (mi.), p/w, out/beck, by hold POINT-TO-TO-POINT

Type of surface: paved 100% dirt 0% gravel 0% grass 0%

Type of course: road race cross country calibration track

Type of terrain: flat rolling hilly total climb ~ 0 (optional)

Straight line distance between the start and finish 7 KM (optional)

Altitude: (meters/feet above sea level) Start 3 FT Highest 3 Lowest 3 Finish 3

Measured by: (name, address, & phone) PETE RIEGEL - KEN LOTTE - PERRY DUFRENE

RIEGL: G14-451-5617 ADDRESS: Below

Measuring Methods: bicycle walking wheel steel tape electronic meter (EDM)

Number of measurements of the entire course: 3 Date(s) when course was measured: 2 MARCH 1985

Race date (if applicable) 30 MAR 85 Date when course paperwork sent for evaluation, was postmarked: N/A

Stated distance of the course (including 1% safety factor) 10010 METERS

Difference between longest and shortest measurements 10010 METERS Certification Code: LA 85014 PR

Be It Officially Noted That

Based on our examination of data provided by the above-named measurer, the course described above and in the map attached is hereby certified to fulfill national standards for accurate measurement. A copy of this certificate should accompany race results sent to the National Running Data Center, P.O. Box 42888, Tucson AZ 85733. If any changes are made to the course, this certification is void until the change is measured and data submitted for recertification.

Validation of Course — In the event a National Open Record is set on this course, or at the discretion of TAC, a validation re-measurement may be required, to be performed by a member of the Road Running Technical Committee. Such a re-measurement must show the course to be at least the advertised race distance in order for the record to be certified and certification to remain in effect.

AS NATIONALLY CERTIFIED BY:

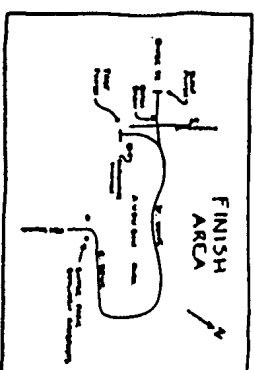
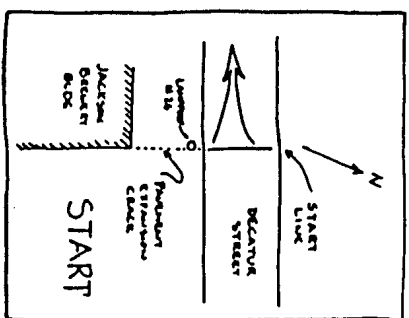
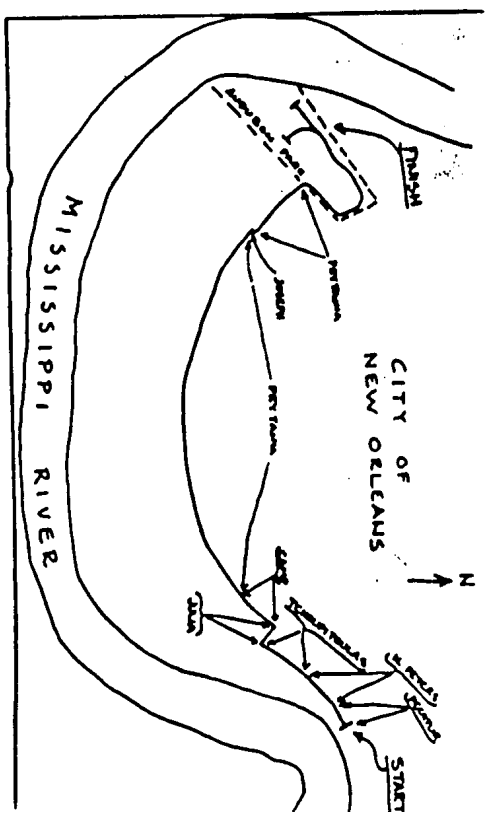
Peter S. Riegel

Peter S. Riegel
Vice-Chairman, RRCA, TAC

3354 KirKham Road
Columbus, OH 43221

Date: March 3, 1985

As Authenticated by Ted Cobbin,
National Chairman



MEASURED POINTS

- START - On the 400 block of Decatur street, corner of Jackson Brewery building, at light pole #28
 - 1 MILE - 16 ft toward Camp St. from the Camp St. building at 518 Julia St.
 - 2 MILE - On Prytanis St., 40 ft "back" from the "S" Josephine St.
 - 3 MILE - On Prytanis St., 22 ft "out" from the "out" white building supporting the crossover walkway at Indefary.
 - 5 KM - On Prytanis St., 15 ft "out" from "out" edge.
 - 4 MILE - On Prytanis St., 2 ft "back" from "back" basin across from 5016 Prytanis St.
 - 5 MILE - In Audubon Park, 45 ft "out" from Light.
 - 6 MILE - In Audubon Park, 140 ft "out" from Light.
 - "FAST" FINISH - In Audubon Park, 3.5 feet "out" from Lightpole #4.
 - "SLOW" FINISH - On River Dr., 111 ft "out" from "out" first catch basin "out" from Hegadine St.
- Note: "Out" means in direction of running; "Back" means reverse direction; lower.
- ROUTE DESCRIPTION
- From start, proceed on Decatur St. Continuing on N. right, continuing on Prytanis St. Turn right on left on Prytanis St. on Prytanis St. Under the Mississippi bridge, take a short right on Prytanis St. At the immediate left back onto Prytanis St. At the entrance, passing between the steel girders, take paved surface in park, follow the park path to the finish. Fast runner will bear left after a slight slower runner will keep right after a slight turn and proceed to SLOW FINISH. Number may use the path just so they remain between curves where curved, where not curved.



Start banner was wrinkled but not inflated.



In first half mile on N. Peters.
Balloon nearly straight up.



At 1 mile on Julia proceeding north. Balloon facing north and favoring runners.



At 1.5 miles Coors Light banner is inflated, shows wind favoring runners.



At 2 miles at Josephine, wind is from the north.



At 2.3 miles Coke banner shows no inflation.



At 3.4 miles at Milan. Balloon is leaning north.



At 4 miles Times Picayune banner shows little inflation.



At 2.7 miles at Pleasant, balloon is leaning south.



At 3 miles Southwest Airlines banner is lightly inflated, favoring runners.



At 4.6 miles at Eleanore balloon shows wind blowing lightly to south.



At 5.1 miles in Audubon Park headed north. Balloon reflects light wind to east.