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I-35 Challenge returns bringing two cities together

KANSAS CITY, MO (June 10, 2015) – The I-35 Challenge is quickly becoming one of the premiere road race challenges in the United States and it is back for a second year in a row. The I-35 Challenge brings the Waddell & Reed Kansas City Marathon with Ivy Funds and the IMT Des Moines Marathon together in October with this unique challenge for runners. In 2014, these two events created a partnership that resulted in the I-35 Challenge. The goal of the I-35 Challenge is to complete both races; Kansas City on Saturday, October 17 and Des Moines on Sunday, October 18.

“It has been a true pleasure to work with the Kansas City Sports Commission to bring the I-35 Challenge from the idea stage to a challenging endurance event involving two great races, two great cities and one great weekend,” said Chris Burch, IMT Des Moines Marathon Race Director. “Not only are we giving athletes the chance to conquer two great races, we are giving them the opportunity to do it in the same weekend, while providing them with an awesome race experience.”

The I-35 Challenge is expanding this year to give even more people the opportunity to participate in this great two state challenge. Participants can choose from four different combinations of the two marathons to complete the I-35 Challenge. Participants can run the marathon in Kansas City and then the marathon in Des Moines. They can run the half marathon in Kansas City and the half marathon in Des Moines. Or they can split the two distances and run a full marathon in Kansas City and the half marathon in Des Moines or the half marathon in Kansas City and the full marathon in Des Moines.

“The I-35 Challenge is a great way to feature two cities over one weekend with two race events that highlight the different neighborhoods in both cities,” said Sarah Dee, Waddell & Reed Kansas City Marathon with Ivy Funds Director. “If someone is looking for a challenge, there is no doubt this will suffice.”

Each participant who completes both events receives an I-35 Challenge participant shirt and finisher medal in addition to receiving a participant shirt and finisher medal from each event. In 2014, 47 participants completed the full marathon in both cities and 144 participants completed the half marathon in both cities. Registration is on record pace this year, already surpassing the total number registered in 2014 in both the marathon and half marathon categories.

To learn about the I-35 Challenge [click here](#). To learn about the Waddell & Reed Kansas City Marathon with Ivy Funds visit the official website at www.kcmarathon.org. To learn about the IMT Des Moines Marathon go to www.desmoinesmarathon.com.

About The Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation

The Kansas City Sports Commission & Foundation benefits the Kansas City region through sports by creating, attracting and managing major sporting events for Kansas City and promotes the lifetime benefits of sports for youth through educational initiatives, tournaments and clinics. For the latest on Kansas City Sports Commission news, follow on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). Also follow the Waddell & Reed Kansas City Marathon on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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