

The Cinco de Mayo Story

Cinco de Mayo de 1862
La Batalla de Puebla

Back in the year 1862, a French army of 6,000 well-armed men led by General Laurencez, invaded Mexico. France's reason for invading Mexico was outstanding debt. The French, under the false pretense of securing its debt, established a secret alliance with the powerful Mexican conservatives. Together they intended to overthrow the liberal government of President Juárez, establish an empire, and assist the Confederates in seceding from the Union.

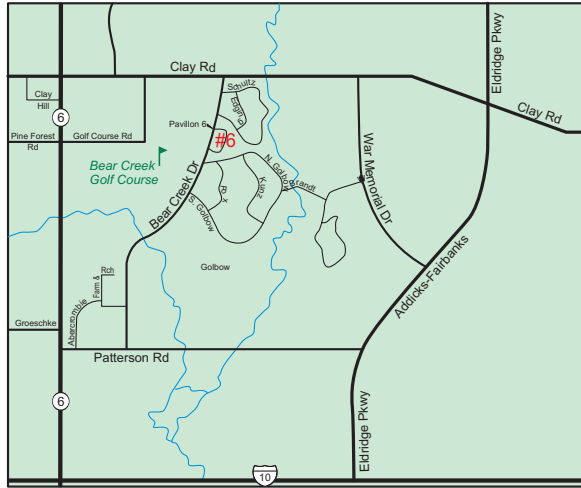
General Ignacio Zaragoza faced these forces in the city of Puebla supported only by 4,000 poorly-equipped men, who had little training. The French general was so sure of his superiority that he attacked the Mexican army head on, costing the lives of 1,000 French soldiers. The heroic army of Zaragoza defeated the French onslaught, forcing a retreat. Although this did not stop the imperialist Napoleon III from establishing a temporary foothold in Mexico, the event had great impact. It was the last time that an army from another continent invaded the Americas. So, each year, the people of Mexico, along with Hispanics in the United States, commemorate that battle on the fifth of May, a symbol of what a people can do when defending their culture and their land. The battle serves as a focal point for Hispanics, in Mexico and beyond, to celebrate their roots and to preserve the customs and richness of their culture.

Sources: "La Guerra", Enrique Krauze and Fausto Zerón Medina. Clío Editions. SEP, Department of Education
Modified from text provided by Casa Puebla - Houston

Sponsors



Map



Vicinity Map

Location/Course

Bear Creek Park, Houston, Texas, 77084. Certified two loop course through park streets. No baby strollers, roller blades or headphones will be allowed on the course.

Directions

From downtown Houston, go west on I-10 (about 18 miles), north on Hwy. 6 (about 3.5 miles), east on Clay Road (about 0.5 miles), south on Bear Creek Drive into the park and race staging area, Pavilion #6.

Contact Information

For more information contact: Manny Valle at 713.409.9961, or manny.valle1@gmail.com, or visit the Tornados Running Club website (www.tornadosrunningclub.com).

Parking and Restrooms

Numerous parking spots and restrooms within Bear Creek Park.



**Cinco de Mayo
5K & 1K
Run/Walk**
Saturday, May 5, 2012
7:30 AM

Bear Creek Park
Pavilion #6
Houston, Texas

Hosted by:



Tornados Running Club

All race proceeds are used to provide educational scholarships for Hispanic students.

Tornados Running Club

The Tornados Running Club has a 24-year history of running excellence. While the club welcomes runners of every ethnicity, it is Houston's only predominantly Latino running club. The Tornados Running Club is a member club of the Houston Area Road Runners Association (HARRA).

The club promotes health and wellness through its weekly training runs and periodic social events. Two of the high points in the club's history were sweeping all four categories in the Open Division of HARRA's spring competition in 2004 and winning the Mixed Open Division and Seniors Division of the 2005 "Beach to Bay" Marathon Relay. Each year, we have several runners, both male and female, who qualify for the Boston Marathon.

The Cinco de Mayo 5K & Kid's K is one of two races the club puts on annually. It is our "Give Back to the Community" race. Since its inception in 2005 we have given 8 scholarships totaling \$17,000. In addition, we have given \$12,000 to various community outreach programs.

The club invites area runners of all levels to train with us, as we have experienced runners who can help others improve their times and avoid some of the pitfalls that lead to injury. The Tornados conduct a 7AM Sunday run at Memorial Park beginning at the stretching area next to the tennis center. We also have Tuesday and Thursday evening speed workouts at Memorial Park.

To become a member of the Tornados Running Club and for additional information, please visit our website at www.tornadosrunningclub.com. For questions pertaining to the club, please email Jen Brown, President, jabrowniel2345@gmail.com

Special Thanks

The Tornados Running Club and Race Coordinator, Manny Valle, send a "special thanks" to the 2012 Committee:

Jen Brown, Club President

Eddie Araguz	Pedro Ramos
Gina Araguz	Ruth Ramos
Gregg Felts	Jose Reyes
Amparo Flores	Leno Rios
Paco Garza	Eddie Rodriguez
Wilmer Gaviria	Jaime Rodriguez
Cindy Laidlaw Valle	Mary Sandoval
Jennifer Laidlaw	Joseph Schwieterman
Jeff Nash	Thomas Tsan
Joe Oviedo	Susan Velasquez
John Phillipis	Blanca Villafana
	Keith Willhelm

Pledge Form

Ask friends & family to make a tax deductible pledge for your efforts!

Name of Participant _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____

Phone (Evening) _____

E-Mail _____

Name of Sponsor	Pledge Amount
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1) _____ \$ _____

2) _____ \$ _____

3) _____ \$ _____

4) _____ \$ _____

5) _____ \$ _____

I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____.

Make checks payable to: **Tornados Running Club**

Race Info

Start Time

7:30 AM 5K Run/Walk

8:15 AM 1K Kids Run

9:00 AM Awards Ceremony

Entry Fees: (Entry fees are non-refundable)

1K Run (12 & under)	Late Registration	Race Day Registration
Early Registration up to Apr 30, (on-line)	May 1- May 4	(5:30AM - 7:00AM only)
\$ 5 - Kid's 1K Run	\$ 5 - Kid's 1K Run	\$ 5 - Kid's 1K Run
\$20 - 5K Walk/Run	\$25 - 5K Walk/Run	\$25 - 5K Walk/Run

Registration & Packet Pick-Up: 11:00AM - 7:00PM

Friday, May 4
Fleet Feet
2408 Rice Blvd.
Houston, TX, 77005
713.520.6353

Online registration is available through our website (www.tornadosrunningclub.com)

Timing: Will be by chip time.

Awards

Overall Awards: Top Open Male, Open Female, Masters Male (40 and older), Masters Female (40 and older).

Five Year Age Group Awards (top three finishers in each group):

Male: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70+;

Female: 14 and under, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70+.

All children (12 and under) running the 1K will receive finishers awards.

Post-Race Party

Enjoy post-race breakfast burritos, snacks and live Mariachi music. Check our website (www.tornadosrunningclub.com) for updated information.

Registration Form

Make checks payable to:

Tornados Running Club

Mail registration form to:

Cinco de Mayo 5K

P.O. Box 66723

Houston, TX 77266

Check one of the following:

Kid's 1K Run

\$ 5 early registration (must be postmarked by 4/27/12)

\$ 5 late registration

\$ 5 same-day registration

5K Run/Walk

\$20 early registration (must be postmarked by 4/27/12)

\$25 late registration

\$25 same-day registration

T-shirt size

Youth Large S M L XL

T-shirts are guaranteed for all early registrants. There will be limited quantities available to late and race-day registrants on a first-come, first-served basis.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

AGE (on race day) _____ MALE FEMALE

RUNNING CLUB _____

Waiver: All runners must read and sign waiver. (If under 18 years old, parent must sign)

I know that participating in a running event is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I assume all risks associated with running this event, including, but not limited to, contact with other participants, the effects of weather including heat and/or humidity, the conditions of the course, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waive and release the Road Runners Club of America (RRC), the Houston Area Road Runners Association (HARRA), the Tornados Running Club, the City of Houston and all sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims of liabilities of any kind arising out of my participating in this event, even though that liability may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of persons named on this waiver.

I have read the waiver and I understand its contents.

Signature _____ Date _____