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MarathonFoto/Road Race Management Lifetime Achievement Award Honors Joe Henderson

December 9, 2022 — Joe Henderson will be honored with the annual MarathonFoto/Road Race Management Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2022 Road Race Management Race Directors' Meeting in Hollywood, FL. The award is made for contributions to the sport of road running over the course of a lifetime. Scores of nominations were received that read like a Who's Who of running. The 10-member committee had the difficult task of reviewing the nominees.

Phil Stewart, Editor and Publisher of *Road Race Management* said: "Joe truly has been the troubadour of the sport for multiple generations, extending all the way back to the pre-running-boom days when his writing first showed up in *Runner's World Magazine* on a regular basis. Since then, he has made running fun and accessible to the masses through books, newsletters, and speaking engagements across the country for nearly 50 years. Joe's down to earth enthusiasm drew countless newcomers



Joe Henderson is being honored with the 2022 MarathonFoto/Road Race Management Lifetime Achievement Award for his many contributions to the sport of long-distance running. For nearly 50 years Henderson has made running fun and accessible to the masses through books, newsletters, and speaking engagements across the country. He was also instrumental in getting women's distance events accepted into the Olympic Games.

into the sport, while his gentle writing style guided and inspired legions of runners who were already out on the road, trails and track.”

Joe Henderson was a high school state champion in track and cross country in Iowa, where he began running at age 14. After high school, he ran for Drake University. His writing career began at the *Des Moines Register*, and he went on to write for *Track and Field News* and then became editor of *Runner's World*. It was Joe who talked Dr. George Sheehan (New Jersey cardiologist) into writing a column for the magazine, becoming *RW's* most popularly read writer. Later Joe published a book about his friend Dr. Sheehan, *Did I Win?*

Joe left *RW* in 1977 and devoted more time to his individual writing. He moved to Eugene, and eventually worked as an editor and writer for the Nike magazine *Running* until its demise, at which time he wrote for *RW* again. He was the executive director and newsletter editor for the International Runners Committee, a group of international movers and shakers in the running community, with the purpose of seeking inclusion of women's distance events – 5,000m , 10,000m and marathon – into the Olympic games. The committee was successful in its mission in large measure due to Joe's persistence and leadership.

Joe published a newsletter, *Running Commentary*, and has written more than twenty books. He coached running classes and taught writing classes at the University of Oregon and trained marathon teams in Eugene. He is a two-time recipient of the RRCA Jerry Little Memorial Journalism Award (1978 and 1996), among numerous other awards. He co-authored *The Running Encyclopedia* with Richard Benyo. He has made appearances as a keynote speaker at running expos and events across the nation and is recognized as one of the world's foremost authorities on running.

Joe suffered a stroke 3 years ago and, as with his athletic and writing skills, he has persevered and has now almost fully recovered.

The award will be presented on December 9 at the Road Race Management Race Directors' Meeting keynote dinner. Although Joe will be unable to attend, he has prepared a video acceptance.

Road Race Management (www.rrm.com) is a member-based organization that publishes a digital newsletter and many other publications designed for race and industry professionals and conducts a prestigious annual national race directors' meeting and trade show in Florida. MarathonFoto (www.marathonfoto.com) combines the industry's best logistics and customer service, all supported by cutting-edge technology, to create images and videos to celebrate and inspire athletes.

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