

The following 5K training program is brought to you by Capital Road Race Management, race organizer for the 2008 Nutrition Fuels Fitness 5k/10k. This nine-week schedule is designed for a beginner runner interested in completing his/her first 5K (3.1 miles) at this year's event on Sunday, March 30th. For this program, we define a beginner runner as one who cannot run for 10 consecutive minutes at a steady, comfortable pace. The schedule is a very gradual buildup designed to get you to the starting line injury free. The first five weeks of the schedule is based on workout time and combines running and brisk walking. It's very important that you don't do too much too soon. We switch to miles in the sixth week.

Please keep the following in mind when embarking on this program:

- It's always smart to consult a physician prior to starting any new exercise program.
- Invest in a quality pair of running shoes if you don't already have a good pair.
- Be patient - fitness gains will not come overnight.
- You should walk/run at a pace that allows you to talk comfortably, but fast enough to gain fitness.
- Keep it fun - encourage a friend to train with you. Run in different places or at different times of the day. The Sacramento area offers some incredible places to run/walk. If you haven't already, check out the 31-mile American River Parkway (parts of it that is) that extends from Discovery Park near downtown to Beal's Point in Folsom. Or, head to McKinley Park, voted Sacramento's favorite running park by *Sacramento News & Review*, or Elk Grove Regional Park where we hold our Nutrition Fuels Fitness event.
- When training on a treadmill, set the elevation to 1% to equate to outdoor running.
- Listen to your body. Your own intuition is your best coach. Take an extra day off if you're feeling tired or rundown. However, don't confuse tiredness with laziness. Stay consistent. Remember, walking out the door is sometimes the hardest part of the run.
- Enjoy your first 5K race. Don't put time pressures on yourself. You'll be participating along with hundreds of other runners so you're sure to have plenty of company.

We hope you find these hints and the following schedule helpful in training for and participating in the 2008 Nutrition Fuels Fitness 5k.

Week	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan. 26	12 min. alternating 2 min. run 2 min. walk	off	12 min. alternating 2 min. run 2 min. walk	off	12 min. alternating 2 min. run 2 min. walk	off	15 min. alternating 3 min. run 2 min. walk
Feb. 3	12 min. alternating 2 min run 1 min. walk	off	15 min. alternating 3 min. run 2 min. walk	off	12 min. alternating 3 min. run 1 min. walk	off	15 min. alternating 4 min. run 1 min. walk
Feb. 10	16 min. alternating 3 min. run 1 min. walk	off	15 min. alternating 4 min. run 1 min. walk	off	18 min. alternating 5 min. 1 min. walk	off	20 min. alternating 4 min. run 1 min. walk
Feb. 17	18 min alternating 5 min. run 1 min. walk	off	21 min alternating 6 min. run 1 min. walk	off	20 min. alternating 4 min. run 1 min. walk	off	24 min. alternating 7 min. 1 min. walk
Feb. 24	21 min alternating 6 min. run 1 min. walk	off	27 min. alternating 8 min. run 1 min. walk	off	21 min. alternating 6 mi. run 1 min. walk	off	30 min. alternating 9 min. run 1 min. walk
Mar. 2	1.5 miles	off	1.5 miles	off	2 miles	off	2 miles
Mar. 9	2 miles	off	2.5 miles	off	2 miles	off	2.5 miles
Mar. 16	2 miles	off	3 miles	off	2 miles	off	3 miles
Mar. 23	2 miles	off	3 miles	off	1.5 miles	off	off
Mar. 30	NFF 5K Good Luck!						