

## 2026 Aliens vs. Astronauts 5K Virtual Event Backup Plan



### Overview

In the event of inclement weather requiring cancellation of the in-person Aliens vs. Astronauts 5K scheduled for Saturday, May 9, 2026, the event will transition to a virtual format. This ensures continuity of the event while maintaining participant engagement and safety.

### Event Activation & Contingency Protocol

The event is scheduled to take place rain or shine; however, cancellation of the in-person event will be triggered in the case of severe weather, thunderstorms, or flooding that impacts course safety. The decision to activate the virtual contingency plan will be made by Starport Leadership the evening prior to the event.

### Virtual Event Format

A virtual run allows participants to complete their race at any location and at any time within the designated event window. Participants may walk, run outdoors, or use a treadmill at their own pace.

### Event Window

May 9 – May 16, 2026

### Event Options

- 1K Fun Run
- Individual 5K
- Team 5K

### Age Categories (Male & Female)

- 20 & Under
- 21–30
- 31–40
- 41–50
- 51–60
- 61 & Over

### Registration & Participation Policy

All registered participants will be automatically transferred to the virtual event format.

- Refunds and deferrals will not be permitted
- All participants will retain their event registration and eligibility for awards
- Participants will receive updated instructions for completing and submitting their virtual run

### Participation Guidelines

- Participants are encouraged to wear NASA or themed Aliens vs. Astronauts attire
- Complete the race at any location (outdoors, treadmill, track, etc.)
- Submit race times using the official results platform (link provided upon activation)
- Proof of completion (GPS watch, fitness app screenshot, etc.) is required when submitting results

### Results Submission & Data Management

- Submission deadline: 11:59 PM on May 16, 2026

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### Virtual Event Backup Plan

- All participants will be uploaded into the event system prior to the start of the virtual window
- Only bib numbers will be displayed publicly to protect participant identity
- Participants must submit proof of completion

### Results & Awards

- Only bib numbers will be displayed publicly to protect participant identity
- Participants will submit their best time during the event window
- Final results will be compiled and posted within one week after the submission deadline
- Awards will be given for:
  - Top 3 finishers (Male & Female) in each age category (Individual 5K)
  - Top 3 Team 5K finishers (lowest combined time)
  - Fastest Overall Individual 5K
  - Best Dressed (submitted via social media with event hashtag)

### Volunteer Reassignment Plan

Volunteers could be reassigned to support packet pickup and distribution operations.

Volunteer responsibilities may include:

- Packet distribution (drive-through setup)
- Traffic flow support
- Participant check-in verification
- General event support

### Participant Experience

- All registered participants will receive their race packet, including event shirt and finisher medal
- Packet pickup will be conducted via a drive-through distribution model at the Gilruth Center
- Participants are encouraged to share photos and videos on social media to maintain engagement

### Sponsor Visibility & Recognition

Sponsor benefits will transition to digital visibility including:

- Social media shoutouts
- Virtual event recognition
- Logo placement on digital materials and results platforms

### Communication Plan

Participants will be notified via:

- Email communication
- Starport app notifications
- Digital signage and internal communication channels

This backup plan ensures a seamless transition while preserving the integrity and experience of the Aliens vs. Astronauts 5K event.