

How to carry a melon and run

How many ways are there to carry a watermelon? Well, after watching the participants juggle the melons in the Fort Worth Runners Club Watermelon Run on Sunday (Aug. 20) there are several. (See [Side Trips](#) for Fiona Green's photo contributions).



No, this was not a way to handicap the field by making the faster runners tote a watermelon. Rather, this was a fun relay with each member of a two-person team carrying the watermelon for a half-mile. Used to, this was a 2xmile relay, but the past few years the distance has been shortened and the size of the watermelons have shrunk -- they were barely bigger than a cantaloupe. With the changes, though, it allows youngsters such as 8-year-old Sophia Sonnemann and 11-year-old Alexandra Wozniczka (pictured) to participate.

The smaller melons barely slowed the overall winning team of barefoot runner Zoran Solaja and Mark Olateju as they breezed to victory in 5 minutes, 20 seconds.

In the 5K, where no one had to carry a melon, Estaban Mejorada won the men's title in 17:10, and Rachel Harp won the women's overall trophy with a 19:06 on the hot, sunny morning that was just right for eating...watermelons..





Some of the other participants in the Fort Worth Runners Club Watermelon Relay on Sunday, Aug. 20.

More Watermelon slices



Alex and Mandi Johnson won the coed relay with a 6:16.



Some of the participants in the Fort Worth Runners Club Watermelon Run.



Some tried their shoulders to shoulder their melon burden.



Sophia Sonnemann, 8, was one of the participants in the Watermelon Relay.

