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Louisville RaceRank™ by Endurance Nation



Here are six categories to consider, each ranking from 1 to 5, with 1 being the easiest score and 5 being the hardest. Possible scores range from 6 up to 30, with 30 being the hardest possible event on the planet.

Summary

The Louisville Total Score is 14 out of 30, placing the event in the Moderate Category. While many are concerned with the time-trial river start, the most difficult element of the race is the bike, with several technical sections and short, steep climbs. Be advised that patience on the bike and a good aero fit is critical.

Swim Venue [Score = 2] -- They have dialed in the river such that there's minimal current, but the lack of visibility remains. Don't rush out of transition to get there in the AM, and don't do anything different than normal. Slow is smooth, smooth is fast.

Total Bike [Score = 3] -- Total elevation gain is ~4,700 across 112 miles. The two loop layout of the bike course with the rolling terrain and several short climbs in the 4% plus range put it in the High Category.

Total Run [Score = 2] -- Total elevation gain is ~300 feet across 26.2 miles. The course trends upwards as you head out of town but the only true climbing is done as you navigate the underpasses. Minimal shade and the out/back nature puts it in the Normal Category.

Venue Elevation [Score = 2] -- Louisville is at 466 feet above sea level, making elevation a non-factor, earning it a Normal Score.

Average Weather [Score = 2] -- Weather on race day over the last five years has been an Avg Temperature of 76 degrees Fahrenheit, with a Dew Point of 60.8 degrees Fahrenheit. Both are good (not great) for racing, the most significant data point for IMLou is the "Temperature Swing", or the delta between the Min and Max Temperature Values, which averages 22 degrees Fahrenheit -- so a cool start that "warms up" for the racers over the day despite the ambient temperature.

Average Did Not Finish (DNF) [Score = 3] -- Over the last five years, there has been an average of 7.85% DNFs (211 out of 2629), which is just north of the baseline DNF rate of about 6%, earning it a Challenging Score. Since moving the race to the Fall, the DNF rate has normalized.

Disclaimer -- As with any exercise related to weather data, there is a high-degree of potential variability. Athletes should be prepared for all possible scenarios, and exercise diligence and caution at all times. Good luck!

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