

## Press releases 2018 - **102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches**

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- Press release 2018.001 - 11 January 2018:  
**Single registration period for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches**
- Press release 2018.002 - 30 March 2018:  
**51,130 registrations for 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches**
- Press release 2018.003 - 5 July 2018:  
**Facts and Figures for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches**
- Press release 2018.004 - 17 July 2018:  
**Vierdaagse 2018-app**
- Press release 2018.005 - 18 September 2018:  
**Lowa new main sponsor Four Days Marches**



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**Press release 2018.001**  
Nijmegen, January 2018

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Participation limit 47,000; registration to open on 5 February

## Single registration period for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches

**The 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches will take place from 17 to 20 July 2018. Registration for the 102<sup>nd</sup> International Four Days Marches Nijmegen will open at 10am on Monday 5 February.**

### **47,000 participants**

As in 2017, the registration limit for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches has been set at 47,000. If the registration limit of 47,000 is exceeded, a draw will be held amongst first-time entrants, i.e. participants registering for reward 1. The draw only applies to those registered as individual participants. Alongside participants registered for reward 2 or higher, three other groups will be exempt from the draw - those born in 2006, those who were excluded by the draw from taking part in the 100<sup>th</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Four Days Marches and those who register through Via Vierdaagse. The Restriction Protocol, which regulates which walkers are guaranteed a starting ticket for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches, is available on the Four Days Marches website ([www.4daagse.nl](http://www.4daagse.nl)).

### **Single registration period**

This year, Stichting DE 4DAAGSE has decided for the first time to have a single registration period for those interested in participating in the 2018 Four Days Marches. The registration period will open at 10am on Monday 5 February and close at midnight at the end of Friday 23 March. The time at which you register will have no influence on the outcome of any draw that may take place. The registration fee for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches is €80. Members of the Royal Dutch Walking Association (KWBN) get a €5 discount. Walkers can register at [www.4daagse.nl](http://www.4daagse.nl). The registration procedure and associated terms and conditions are all available on the Four Days Marches website [www.4daagse.nl](http://www.4daagse.nl).

### **Higher registration fee to ensure continuity and quality**

Stichting DE 4DAAGSE has set the registration fee for participation in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches at €80. This is a larger increase than has been usual in previous years, but it is necessary if we are to continue to organise the event with the desired level of quality. The organisation itself requires further professionalisation, but the government is also setting an increasing number of requirements in relation to our event each year. This includes things like safety and traffic regulations, provision of

toilet facilities, renting of sites and offices and provision of medical support posts, including deployment of the Dutch Red Cross. For many of these things, cost increases are on the cards for our suppliers, and the increasing number of measures required means that more and more work has to be done over the course of the year. Although the organisation has a lot of volunteers (around 350 during the week of the Four Days Marches in July), during the rest of the year, Stichting DE 4DAAGSE has to get the job done with a team of around 25 people, many of whom are unpaid. Various other factors also necessitate an increase in the registration fee. For instance, the organisation has seen a dip in the portion of its budget coming from corporate sponsorship. Stichting DE 4DAAGSE also wants to set some money aside for future investments and modernisations. Higher participation fees are therefore unavoidable if we are to preserve the continuity of the Four Days Marches.

#### **Continuation of route reversal on first day**

The 101<sup>st</sup> Four Days Marches saw the route reversed on the first day. Changes in the Oosterhoutsedijk area in recent years have continually reduced access to the Oosterhoutsedijk in particular. During the 100<sup>th</sup> Four Days Marches in 2016, it was concluded that emergency services' response times could not be guaranteed as a result of the changes. The reversed route is also preferred because of the better flow of walkers and smoother exit from Elst, where the various routes go their separate ways. Evaluations carried out in collaboration with participants, the relevant councils, the police and other emergency services reveal that reversing the route on the first day of the Four Days Marches was a success. It has therefore been decided to keep the route reversal on the first day for the 2018 event.

End of press release



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Press release 2018.002

Nijmegen, 6 April 2018

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## 51,130 Registrations for 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches

**51,130 people from all over the world have registered for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches. Of these people, 38,443 walkers were immediately guaranteed a starting place. A maximum of 47,000 starting tickets are available, so the remaining 8,557 starting places will be divided in the draw on Friday 30 March. This means that 4,130 people will get the unfortunate message that they will not be able to participate this year.**

### **Duplicate registrations**

Before the draw under supervision of the notary takes place, all duplicate and other incorrect registrations were removed from Stichting DE 4DAAGSE's registration file. The results of the draw will be announced on [www.4daagse.nl](http://www.4daagse.nl) after the draw has taken place and all participants will be informed personally of the outcome per e-mail or letter.

### **Possible reregistration for those who were excluded by the draw**

As mentioned in Article 11 of the Restriction protocol, the option of reregistration may be open to anyone who has been excluded by the draw from participating in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches. The Four Days Marches Board can decide to provide this option if it turns out that, after the payment and cancellation deadline of 13 April, the number of registrations has dropped significantly below the permitted 47,000, due to non-payment or cancellation. People who have been excluded by the draw will receive an email on Monday 16 April telling them whether reregistration is possible, and if so, how this will work.

### **History**

Since 2013 onwards, the number of registrations has exceeded 50,000 registrations every year. In 2005, 53,336 people registered for the Four Days Marches and this record was broken for the second time in 2016 when 54,325 walkers registered to participate in 'The Walk of the World'. The record for the highest number of people starting now belongs to the 2016 jubilee edition, when 47,166 walkers turned up for the first day of the Four Days Marches.

End of press release



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Press release 2018.003

Nijmegen, 5 July 2018

## Facts and Figures for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches

(participant numbers, including military participants, as of 3 July 2018)

### 1. Barometerdata

	2018		2017	
	Participants	% withdrawals	Participants	% withdrawals
Number of registrations as of 1-7	<b>47.431</b>		<b>44.680</b>	
No shows			2.644	5,92%
Signed in			<b>42.036</b>	
Non-starters/withdrawals on 1 <sup>st</sup> day			792	1,88%
Completed 1 <sup>st</sup> day			41.244	
Non-starters/withdrawals on 2 <sup>nd</sup> day			1.525	3,70%
Completed 2 <sup>nd</sup> day			39.719	
Non-starters/withdrawals on 3 <sup>rd</sup> day			1.002	2,52%
Completed 3 <sup>rd</sup> day			38.717	
Non-starters/withdrawals on 4 <sup>th</sup> day			308	0,80%
Completed the Four Days Marches			38.409	
Withdrawals versus registrations			3.627	8,63%

### 2. Number of military participants

The number of military participants registered is 5.849 in 2018

### 3. Nationalities

The number of different nationalities among civilian participants in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches is: 82

Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palestine, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

The number of different nationalities among military participants is: 28

Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania,

Russia, Singapore, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, United Kingdom, United States, Sweden, Switzerland.

The number of different nationalities among all participants is: 84

Afghanistan, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palestine, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

It is the first time that the following nationalities have been registered for the Four Days Marches: Eritrea, Gambia, Oman, Palestine and Tanzania.

#### 4. Number of participants who are going for reward

Reward	Men	Women	Total
1	8476	6903	15379
2	2901	2675	5576
5	1120	878	1998
10	959	620	1579
25	158	63	221
40	35	4	39
50	7	3	10
51	6	1	7
52	6	0	6
53	9	0	9
54	5	1	6
55	3	2	5
56	5	1	6
57	3	1	4
58	2	0	2
60	1	0	1
69	1	0	1
71	1	0	1

#### 5. Gender spread of participants in the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches

Of all 47.431 participants currently registered, 27.548 (=58,08%) are male and 19.883 (=41.92%) are female.

#### 6. Age distribution of civilian participants

Age category (by year of birth)	Men	Women	Total
11 to 20 yrs (born 1998 to 2006)	1753	1364	3117
21 to 30 yrs (born 1988 to 1997)	3958	3190	7148
31 to 40 yrs (born 1978 to 1987)	2906	2077	4983
41 to 50 yrs (born 1968 to 1977)	2851	2867	5718
51 to 60 yrs (born 1958 to 1967)	6216	4974	11190
61 to 70 yrs (born 1948 to 1957)	6809	4315	11124
71 to 80 yrs (born 1938 to 1947)	2820	1047	3867
81 to 90 yrs (born 1928 to 1937)	232	49	281

91 yrs and older (born before 1928)	3	0	3
Total number of civilian participants	27548	19883	47431

## 7. Participant numbers per distance

Individual civilian registrations: 41.655

30km (Blue) individual walkers = 11.584 (= 28,46% of individual civilian registrations)

40km (Yellow) individual walkers = 20.035 (= 48,10% of individual civilian registrations)

50km (Red) individual walkers = 8.571 (= 20,58% of individual civilian registrations)

40km (Green) individual walkers = 1.195 (= 2,87% of the individual civilian registrations)

Civilian registrations in a total of civilian groups: 1.551

30km (Blue) walkers in civilian groups = 167 (= 10,77% of civilian group registrations)

40km (Yellow) walkers in civilian groups = 851 (= 54,87% of civilian group registrations)

50km (Red) walkers in civilian groups = 533 (= 34,36 % of civilian group registrations)

Military registrations in a detachment: 4.225 participants

40km (Green) walkers in detachments = 4.225

## 8. Number of non-Dutch participants

In total, 14,31% (=6.787) of the registered participants are not Dutch. Of the men, 19,22 % (=5.295 out of 27.548) are not Dutch, while 7,50% (= 1.492 out of 19.883) of the women are not Dutch.

## 9. Number of participants born before 2006

For the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches 430 registered participants were born in 2006, of which 245 men and 185 women (56,98% male and 43,02% female).

## 10. Number of first-time entrants

The number of civilian participants registered for reward 1 is 15.379 (=32,42% of all participants)

## 11. Draw by lots

The limit for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches is 47.000. The total number of registered participants upon conclusion of the registration is 51.130. The number of persons who were eliminated by the draws for the 102<sup>nd</sup> Four Days Marches is 4.130.

## 12. Number of participants who registered and successfully completed the Four Days Marches up to and including the 102<sup>nd</sup> edition

Barometers up to and including 2018 put the total number of people ever to have registered for the Four Days Marches at 1.847.300. The total number of people to have completed the Four Days Marches up to and including 2017 is 1.611.276.

## 13. Number of registered participants in a wheelchair

There will be 25 participants in a wheelchair in 2018.

End of press release



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Press release 2018.004

Nijmegen 17 July 2018

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## Vierdaagse 2018-app

**This year we have developed a new app that can be used by both participants as well as followers. Unfortunately development took longer than expected. Therefore, publication was delayed. Up until now the app can only be downloaded in the Google Playstore (Android), not in the App Store (iOS/Apple). Both parties - Stichting DE 4DAAGSE and the app developer - offer their sincere apologies for this undesirable situation.**

The contracts and the time schedule were clear and feasible according to both parties.

Unfortunately, due to internal causes, the planning turned out not to be achievable for the developer of the app. Eventually the app was available for download on Wednesday 11 July, but it turned out that a search function in the app did not work properly, as a result of which the privacy of the participants could not be guaranteed. The app was then immediately withdrawn from the stores. This decision was difficult because then it became uncertain whether the app for iPhone users would be available during the Four Days Marches. But for Stichting DE 4DAAGSE it was clear that the privacy of the participants is paramount and must remain guaranteed. We had to take it for granted that the app might not be available in time after the adjustments and that we would have to disappoint many people.

Last night the app did not pass the review of the App Store. Today new adjustments were made, but it remained uncertain when the app would come through the review. To put an end to the uncertainty, Stichting DE 4DAAGSE has decided to permanently withdraw the app from the App Store (iOS / Apple).

The function of the app is twofold. On the one hand, the app can be used to follow participants on the route and get information about the location and the average speed of the participant. On the other hand, the app is used by the organization to monitor the route and as an extra means of communication with the participants (think of the latest news and the weather forecast). The information given by the app about the route is complementary to the camera images taken during the walking days of the route. Based on this, the organization makes decisions regarding a.o. the closing of checkpoints or the maintenance of roadblocks. In short, measures that ensure that the walking legion has as few problems as possible. Many hikers use the Android version of the app so that the monitoring of the walkers on the route via the app is sufficient.

End of press release





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**Press release 2018.005**

Nijmegen, September 2018.

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**Lowa new main sponsor Four Days Marches**

Starting 2019 LOWA Sportschuhe GmbH commits to a four year partnership with the Four Days Marches. With this agreement both partners can use each other's expertise in the field of walking and develop the level of service surrounding the Four Days Marches to a higher level. Lowa produces hiking and outdoor footwear. All Lowa boots and shoes are 100% made in Europe.

Both the Four Days Marches and Lowa are looking forward to their collaboration.

Einde persbericht