Why Heart Rate Training?

Most runners tend to run according to how they feel. If you feel good, you will push the pace. This is a recipe for over training and/or possible injury. HR training will allow for endurance gains and proper recovery between runs.

There are three main topics when discussing HR Training.

• Max Heart Rate
• Heart Rate Zones (1 to 5)
• Training Runs - Endurance, Tempo, Interval
How do you find Max Heart Rate?

- 220 minus your age to find MHR (example 220 - 40 for a max HR of 180bpm). Age and Genetics will determine your MHR. Fitness level has no bearing on this number.

- Resting HR - Before you get out of bed in the morning take your heart rate for 4 days. Take the average of this reading to establish RHR.

- VO2 Max Testing - This is a test of your body’s maximum capacity to transport and use oxygen during maximum effort. VO2 Max testing will give you a true MHR. This is a clinical setting on a treadmill with more of an accurate reading. Coaches can scheduled through Max Sports with Dr. Stephen Devor for a precise individualized prescription of HR training zones.
Heart Rate Zones

- Zone 1: Active recovery
  Active recover
- Zone 2: Steady state aerobic
  Long distance training runs
- Zone 3: Tempo
  Introducing anaerobic component
  Lactate produced but not overwhelming
- Zone 4: Interval I
  Anaerobic
- Zone 5: Interval II
  Anaerobic

Steven T. Devor, Ph.D
Training Runs

• **Endurance** - Your endurance runs will cover 3 to 4 days of your weekly mileage. Long run, recovery runs. These runs should stay in zone 2. (most people run somewhere zone 3)

• **Tempo** - 80% of MAX HR, duration of 30 to 90 minutes. This should be comfortably hard. (High zone 3 to high zone 4) This is conditioning the body to stay at or close to race pace.

• **Interval** - 90 to 100% of MAX HR, duration of 30 seconds to 5 minutes (Zone 5) These are repetitive with an active recovery down to zone 1 between sets.