

Tierra Bella Finish Line 2024, by Diane Sanchez-Costello

Dave Albertalli, a club member, designed and built the beautiful professional balloon arch and a new banner stand. After losing it's feet a few years back, the banner was never the same and needed a makeover, we now have a Finish Line that will last for years to come.

Friday 4 volunteers 10:00-12:00 at the church

4 volunteers using 2 balloon pumps inflated 150 balloons at the church. I have a balloon pump and we borrowed one from Barton Smith. Remember to bring extension cords, the electricity at the church is outside the sanctuary.

After inflating the balloons, the volunteers attached 4 balloons to each plastic clip and we put them 96 gallon trash can liner bags. 4 sets of balloons, attached to clips, fit in each bag and we needed 33 sets with several singles in case of popping, which did happen. We placed 10 bags of balloons in the big truck for delivery to CHP in the morning. This plan allowed us to save time setting up.

Improvement: Remember to tell Patty that I will have volunteers at the church so there will be enough pizza ordered.

Saturday 7:00 AM at registration

At Registration, set up photo banner and some flags if it is not raining.

Someone needs to retrieve these decorations and put them up at CHP when registration is over.

Saturday 8:30-1:00 6 volunteers at CHP

Set up balloon arch, we need at least 5 people, 6 would be better.

Set up flags, "used car lot" string pennants, cones, and yellow yard signs from where the riders turn left into the park to the finish line, the finish promenade. Then they ring the cowbells and greet the riders as they cross the finish line.

Improvement: Need a safety volunteer at the intersection of Miller and the park entrance. This is a safety hazard as cars are entering with cyclists crossing their path. Need signs directing the cyclists and the vehicles. The safety volunteer should be Dave Albertalli since he will be at CHP all day helping set up and take down the finish line. This year he had to leave mid day and drive to another safety position only to return to help with the take down.

Saturday 1:00-5:30 4 or 5 volunteers at CHP

Ring cowbells, take photos as the cyclists cross the finish line and at the photo banner. Take down the finish line and pack everything into the big truck.

Improvement: The photo banner is looking a little faded and sad, we should probably order a new one.

Rain related changes: We canceled the DJ and the security guard. We should revisit this next year. The massage therapist came, but he could not do his work in the cold rain, so he left. He is open to coming again next year. His name is Fred, [Mind Body Spirit Healing Zenter](#).

List of Gear:**Balloon Arch:**

2x red and orange stands
2x orange long poles
2x orange curved poles
1 box hardware for finish line and banner stand
2x 10 pound weight plates
2x 25 pound weight plates
orange hammer

Banner frame:

2x 8 ft white metal poles
2x white metal base
8' x 4" diameter tube inside is the banner and 2x 8 ft white metal poles

Also 2 cardboard boxes with 20 yellow yard signs and stakes melted in the rain and the signs and stakes were returned loose.