

Cheerpoint Volunteer

The MSA Trust has dedicated fundraisers who take on running challenges for us each year. They put in hours of training and work hard to raise money to support the Trust. In return we want to give them all the support and encouragement we can on the day, and make the event truly special for them.

What the role involves

Cheerpoint Volunteers work alongside MSA Trust staff to set up welcome points, cheer stations and post-event meet-ups at events like the London Marathon and the Great North Run. They spot our runners, cheer them as they pass, and bring lots of energy and enthusiasm to a special day.

On the day, you might be asked to

- Meet staff at the start of an event or a cheerpoint along the route to set up MSA-branding
- Welcome runners and their supporters at the start of the event
- Look out for our runners along the route
- Join other staff and volunteers in cheering runners as they pass – make as much happy noise as possible to keep them going
- Meet runners and their supporters at the post-event meet up, making sure they have refreshments
- Help staff pack down cheer stations or meeting points, and help them carry branding for short distances
- Follow directions from and assist MSA Trust Staff to make sure things run safely and smoothly
- Act as an Ambassador for the MSA Trust throughout the day

If you don't feel able to do some of these tasks, you can talk to the volunteer manager or volunteer officer. They can discuss options with you.

What skills are needed?

- Bringing positive energy and enthusiasm to cheer on runners and chat to their family and friends
- Being friendly and approachable
- A positive, can-do attitude
- Able to spend several hours outside on a busy run route
- Able to follow instructions from staff and foresters and ask them for help if needed

Running events take place outside. The weather might be hot, cold or wet, so you will need to dress to suit the weather and location. We do our best to provide seating and make sure our cheer stations are accessible for wheelchair users or people with mobility issues. You may need to use public transport to reach the event. There may be a lot of people along the event routes. There may be limited access to toilet facilities.

Although volunteers are welcome to stay for the whole event, we don't expect this. We ask that volunteers can give us at least 2 hours of their time on the day.

What you can expect from us

- A named role manager to support you before and after the event
- Staff support on the day, to explain what's needed and answer your questions
- Being part of a friendly team
- An induction to make sure you feel confident and safe before and on the day
- Experience of a fundraising event
- The chance to gain confidence and have fun
- MSA Trust T-shirt for you to wear on the day
- Refreshments provided on the day
- Help with pre-agreed travel expenses
- Experience in supporting people affected by MSA
- Ongoing communications, including news about volunteering opportunities, volunteer newsletters and free MSA News magazine

What we ask of you

- Respond to communications before and after the event
- Arrive on time on the day
- Commitment to cover agreed hours of volunteering
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear to suit the weather and keep you comfortable while you're volunteering
- Follow the directions of staff
- Encourage all our runners on the day
- Act as a positive ambassador for the MSA Trust
- Treat all runners and their family and friends with respect

If you have any questions about this role, please email volunteer@msatrust.org.uk