



John Lookabaugh  Tricia Schafer  Race Directors  
[team@thenightrun.org](mailto:team@thenightrun.org)  480 331 5706  [www.thenightrun.org](http://www.thenightrun.org)

## TIME OUT! THE NIGHT RUN™ LOOKS AHEAD TO 2017

One of the toughest decisions in sports, business, and life, is knowing when to sit one out. As athletes, we're wired to move. But our instincts tell us to call off The Night Run™ 2016, and focus on 2017. Here's why:

### The Course

Scottsdale generously hosted this race for 29 years. Due to a Stadium conflict in 2015, we moved it to Tempe. Both cities have been as accommodating as possible under the circumstances, as we explored various venues for this year. However, there are too many "what ifs" regarding the lake portions of the Scottsdale course (undergoing improvements this Spring) and the uncertain timing of re-filling Tempe Town Lake after the dam repair (who wants to run around a potentially dry lake bed?). We could run entirely through a City park, but that's not consistent with the history of this event. It's a road race. In the dark. That's the challenge we enjoy, and the feature that makes our race unique.

### Staffing & Collaboration

The Night Run™ is organized by a tiny nonprofit, and the backbone of this operation consists of roughly a half-dozen key people, all of whom have day jobs and an assortment of other commitments. Over the past four years we have relied on a combined total of several hundred vOWLunteers on race night – mostly personal friends for whom we are extremely grateful, and have done a fabulous job. Ideally we would have a corporate partner as we did in 2012 – not for monetary support, but rather to provide 50-60 responsible adult race-night vOWLunteers and a donation to a mutually-agreed upon charity in exchange for significant branding recognition. Thanks to your support, our race has enough of an impact in the host community to create a meaningful opportunity for a business that wants to send a strong message about wellness and teamwork. We welcome suggestions for 2017 corporate collaborators at [team@thenightrun.org](mailto:team@thenightrun.org).

### Stop the Rumors!

There are no internal disputes, no financial woes, no tension with any City, no drama, and no NFL mandate that we shut down due to the "Superb Owl" silliness. We are united in our love for this meaningful work. Our garage is full of reflective cones, water coolers, mile markers, light sabers, safety vests, megaphones, and other race-directing paraphernalia, so it's not like we've forgotten that this is what we do.

What's most important to us, during our brief hiatus, is that you all continue to run, walk, race, be fit, and enjoy the many events that our community has to offer. For starters, we're big fans of the [Mountain to Fountain 5K and 15K](#), coming up on March 6. We are humbled and grateful for your support and understanding.

"OWL BE BACK!!!"



  
John Lookabaugh

  
Tricia Schafer