



April 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in support of the Poplollies, aka Willamette Valley Women's Cycling. My name is Marc Lyda and I am the Assistant Director for the Eugene Marathon. One of my responsibilities is to coordinate volunteers. This can be a rather large task that requires recruiting well over a thousand volunteers and assigning them in 12 different aid areas.

The Poplollies approached me early in this process and offered the services of the team. Team members were very eager and willing to work in any capacity where help was most needed. After some discussion, I placed them at one of the more time-consuming positions – a water station just before mile 26 of the marathon and just before mile 3 of the 5K race.

This position required the Poplollie crew to operate the station between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. They did this with great enthusiasm and no complaint. This is a long and lonely stretch where the marathoner's blood sugar levels are going crazy and consequently they require a great deal of patience, tolerance and even assistance. The Poplollies provided this volunteer service with great poise and composure. They required no supervision and I was very proud of them.

In closing, I would highly recommend the Poplollies to be involved in community and civic events and would confidently count on their commitment and follow through. The water station volunteer groups are often paid a small fundraiser fee, however the Poplollies donated their time for no charge.

Sincerely,

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