



HOW THE DUCK RACES WORK:

This special event race is patterned after the famed Iron Man Triathlon, where competitors (human, that is) challenge one another over a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 2.2-mile marathon along the Kona (hawaii) coast each October. However, instead of 1800 human racing machines, Maris Farms will serve up a half dozen of the finest tri-QUACK-aletes in Pierce County, and they'll cover a grand total of 200 feet!

The ducks start at one end of an old cow fieder by swimming 100 feet one direction, then climbing a ramp to a platform built over the swim pond and "running/fluttering" back to where they started. First one back is the winner. In all, there are 20 races during the season. The duck with the most victories over that period is crowned Iron 'DUCK' World Champion.

The month-long event helps raise money for the Fisher House by allowing people to place bets on who they believe will win each race. Those bets are given in the form of a donation the Fisher House. To date, the event has raised more than \$3,200 for the Fisher House and Wounded Warrior Project since starting in 2013. Each "betting" participant receives a special duck bill. They also receive a numbered raffle ticket – they keep half and put the other half in the *betting* slot of their "predicted" winner. At the end of the race, the announcer will draw a name from the "winning" duck's slot, and that individual will win a prize from one of our sponsors.

Dates of the races: Sept. 28/29, Oct. 5/6, Oct. 12/13, Oct. 19/20 and Oct. 26/27 (weather permitting); Time: 1 pm and 3 pm each weekend day; Price: included with farm admission.

MORE ABOUT FISHER HOUSE: The Fisher House Foundation is best known for a network of comfort homes where military and veterans' families can stay at no cost while a loved one is receiving treatment. These homes are located at major military and VA medical centers nationwide, close to the medical center or hospital they serve.

MORE ABOUT MARIS FARMS: In its 20th year of operation at this current site, Maris Farms is located in scenic east Pierce County about 3 miles west of Buckley, Washington, at 25001 Sumner-Buckley Highway. It has been selling pumpkins for 22 years (first five years were at a different location) and started a corn maze at its current location in 2000. Since then, the 40-acre operation has grown into a mega-agritainment venue with more than 40 activities and events for visitors of all ages to enjoy.