Eating for Competing: Fueling For Competition





Prepare

- · Continue to eat full meals & snacks
- . Don't eat unfamiliar foods



Snack time

- High in carbohydrates
- . Low in protein & fat
- · No fiber



Maximize performance

- Easy to digest carbohydrates
- . No protein, fat or fiber
- · Fuel exercise lasting longer than 1 hr



Continue recovering

- · Eat a full meal within 1-2 hrs
- Rehydrate
- Sleep 8-10 hours

2 days

1 day

3-4 hours

1-2 hours

<30 minutes

durina

within 30 minutes

within 2 hours

Prepare

- Eat 3 full meals + 2 snacks
- · Sleep 8-10 hours
- · Hydrate with electrolytes

Eat a full meal

- · High in carbohydrates
- · Moderate in protein
- . Low in fat & fiber

Top off energy

- · Easy to digest carbohydrates
- · Very low in protein
- · Very low in fat & no fiber

Start recovery

- · Within 15-30 minutes, have a snack high in carbohydrates & moderate in protein
- Replenish fluids and electrolytes

Before

Why:

- Top off energy stores
- Prevent hunger
- · Reduce fatique

Do:

- · Eat a snack before early morning workouts
- Focus on carbohydrates; #1 energy source for brain & muscles
- Drink 2-3 liters of fluid daily

Food Ideas:

- · Turkey & cheese with crackers & fruit
- · Peanut butter & banana on white bread
- Yogurt & granola with fruit

Don't:

- Skip meals or snacks
- Eat unfamiliar foods
- · Eat high protein, high fiber spicy or high fat foods
- · Rely on a pre-workout supplement for energy

During (Events longer than 1 hour)

Why:

- Prevent fatigue Maximize performance



- Consume easy to digest carbohydrates at breaks and/or halftime
- Maintain hydration and energy with a sports drink
- Mix whole foods with 'sports food' to decrease chances of stomach upset

Food Ideas:

- · Orange slices · Gu or chews
- · Granola bar · Dried fruit
- Applesauce
 Fig Newtons
- Sports drink
 Banana
- Pretzels · Goldfish



- Eat high fat or high protein
- Eat unfamiliar foods

After

Why:

- Repair & build muscle
- Replenish energy stores
- Rehydrate
- · Rest-avoid over-training

Do:

- Recognize the importance of this timeframe if competing the next day or in the next couple hours
- High carbohydrate snack within 15-30 minutes, and full meal within 1-2 hours
- No appetite post competition? Drink your carbs & protein to maximize recovery

Food Ideas:

- Chocolate milk & PBJ
- Fruit smoothie with milk or yogurt
- Burrito with rice, beans, and lean meat

Don't:

- Overeat
- · Eat only sugary or high fat foods (fast food)

Eating for Competing:Fueling For Competition



Easy/Rest

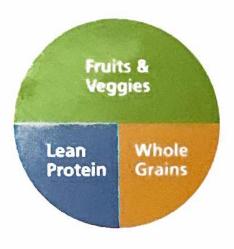
Moderate

Hard*

Recovery Day

Daily Training

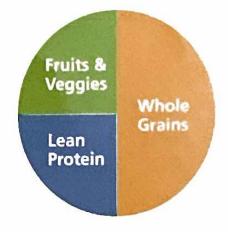
Competition Day



Fruits & Veggies

Lean Protein

Whole Grains



Same as the USDA MyPlate. Fruits and vegetables are important for keeping you healthy and help prevent you from getting sick*. Add flavorless veggies, like spinach, to smoothies, pizzas, pastas and quesadillas to make your meal more nutrient dense.

This is your baseline plate.
Remember your nutrient
needs change depending on
the intensity of your training.
Notice the amount of protein
stays the same for all 3 plates.

Try a new whole grain, like quinoa or brown rice pasta to keep you full longer by adding more fiber to your diet.

energy for competition day.
Start eating this way 3-4
days before competition.
Then, follow the nutrition
guidelines on the other
side for competition day.

This plate ensures adequate

*If you are struggling to gain or maintain your weight due to heavy training and/or high calorie needs, follow this plate everyday and don't skip meals or snacks

*Swap fries for apple slices or a salad when eating out