

BT Alumni Spotlight

HALEY CHURA



Haley worked in Bennett Thrasher's Audit group for six years before becoming a professional Triathlete.



Haley and the Audit group together on an Atlanta Challenge outing.



1. Haley, when did you work at Bennett Thrasher?

May 2007-April 2013

2. What are you currently working on?

I have qualified to race in Ironman World Championships, which are in St George Utah (usually Hawaii) on May 7. This is my 4th time at the Ironman World Championships as a professional. I want to finish in top 15 (would be my best ever finish). I am also hopefully headed to Southern Chili in March to race half Ironman. Travel is a challenge with restrictions right now so tentative.

3. What part of the BT culture still influences you today?

As a new hire, hearing Rick Bennett say do what you say you'll do when you say you'll do it. It's hard to do but I have carried this quote with me throughout my life.

4. How has working at BT helped you succeed in your career & life?

As a professional triathlete, I basically run a really small business. I'm working with sponsors and race organizations, getting into races and racing for prize money. Having an accounting background really helps with that side. Even though I am an individual, audit was a team environment and so much of working in audit was communication which is so helpful in my job now, from invoicing to communicating via email and showing my value to sponsors. Auditing puts you in a lot of environments and different offices and as a professional athlete I travel a ton and audit helped me learn how to break things up into smaller pieces and analyze them.

5. What is a favorite memory from your time with BT?

First marathon I ever ran was with Michael Dukes/Ken Thrasher in Memphis. In 2007. Dukes challenged me to run a marathon (I was a 1st year staff). I followed a plan out of Running World and ended up beating Michael by one minute. Michael Dukes basically started my endurance career!