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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



B Magri in London Tri

Mr. Azzopardi noted with satisfaction the increase in the number of athletes taking part in Triathlon races, which in turn has prompted two leading running clubs, namely St Patrick's AC and Pembroke Athleta, to open Triathlon Sections within their folds.

Mr. Azzopardi thanked the Maltese Olympic Committee and the Kunsill Malti għall-iSport without whose help none of the above would have been possible. He also thanked the B'Kara St Joseph SC who co-organized the MTA races, Joseph F. Spiteri & Co (1927) Ltd., local agents for Kee Klamp, who assisted the MTA in its major races, the Malta Tourism Authority, the Plum Tree Restaurant, Kristal Water and the Mayor of the Mgarr Local Council. At the end of the AGM, Danica Bonello Spiteri and Brian Magri were presented with the Triathlete of the Year Award – an award given to those athletes who consistently perform well throughout the Season.

MEDITERRANEAN FRIENDSHIP GAMES

The MOC and CONI (Sicilia) held the 4th edition of the Mediterranean Friendship Games between the 19th and 20th November here in Malta. Triathlon was one of ten sports included in these Games. Malta was represented by 2 Teams: Team A: Women: Danica Bonello Spiteri & Donatelle Callus; Men: Keith Galea & Mark Zammit; Team B: Women: Suzanne Farrugia & Marica Micallef; Men: Brian Magri & Nathan Farrugia. The Sicilian Team was composed of: Women: Frederica Cernigliaro & Maria Grazia Prestigiacomio; Men: Salvatore Campagna & Nicola Di Fatta. In all 28 athletes took part in the Sprint Triathlon which the MTA put up with the assistance of B'Kara St Joseph SC and Joseph F Spiteri & Co (1927) Ltd. The Men's Team was won by Keith Galea and Mark Zammit while Sicily won the Women's Team Event. The following are the positions and times achieved by the athletes: Women: 1st: F.Cernigliaro (SIC): 1:09:48; 2nd: Maria G Prestigiacomio (SIC): 2:10:36; 3rd: Danica Bonello Spiteri (MLT): 1:11:02; 4th: Donatelle Callus (MLT): 1:14:33; 7th: Marica Micallef (MLT): 1:19:06; 10th: Suzanne Farrugia (MLT): 1:23:26. Men: 1st: Salvatore Campagna (SIC): 1:01:42; 2nd: Keith Galea (MLT): 1:01:47; 3rd: Mark Zammit (MLT): 1:02:13; 4th: Nicola Di Fatta (SIC): 1:04:00; 5th: Brian Magri (MLT) 1:04:52; 6th: Nathan Farrugia (MLT): 1:07:28.



CHANGES TO THE 2011 TRIATHLON CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There have been some changes to the 2011 Race Calendar, mainly due to the early date of the TCSSE. These changes affect the following 2 Championship Races: the National Duathlon Championship and the Salina Bay Triathlon. The Nat Dua Champ has now moved to Saturday 29th January at 14:00hrs (Registration: 13:00), while the Salina Bay Tri has been converted to a Sprint and is scheduled for Sunday 13th March at 07:30 a.m. (Reg: 06:30). Race fees for both events are as follows: U23 (23 or under by 31/12/11): €10; Open & Seniors (24 or over by 31/12/11): €14; Not Affiliated: €18.

TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE SMALL STATES OF EUROPE

The 12th Edition of the TCSSE is scheduled to be held in Alaminos, Cyprus, on Sunday 27th March. The Race is an Olympic one. After the successful staging of the 11th Edition of the TCSSE in Liechtenstein, the Championship returns to Cyprus where it has already been held twice before: in 2004 and 2007. Liechtenstein saw the participation of athletes from San Marino and it is to be hoped that the recent formation of the Triathlon Federation in Iceland will mean that for the first time in the 12 year history of the TCSSE we will see athletes from Luxembourg, Monaco, Liechtenstein, Malta, Cyprus, San Marino and Iceland taking part. This will be a dream come true to the organisers of the TCSSE back in 2000. The MTA will be holding a Selection Race (13th March) to see which athletes to send to this, our most important international race in the 2011 Season.

THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The year 2010 has been a historic one for Triathlon. In February, Marisol Casado, ITU President, became an IOC Member at the Vancouver Winter Olympics; Triathlon was included in the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore where the exciting super-sprint mixed relay was also introduced on the world stage for the first time. The ITU is also working hard to include this Mixed Relay Team Event in the 2016 Rio De Janeiro Olympic Games. On the other hand, Paratriathlon has been confirmed as one of the sports in the 2016 Rio Paralympics. Finally, 7 new countries have been confirmed as new members in the ITU Triathlon community; of special interest to us are the Triathlon Federations in Morocco and Iceland.

HELLFIRE DUATHLON AND MIDDLE DISTANCE TRI

If you want to experience something different, then there are several events aimed at testing your limits. The first one is the Hellfire Duathlon organised by Nathan Farrugia and his Team and scheduled for Thursday 31st March (a public holiday). For more information check: <http://hellfiretriathlon.org>.

Charlie Demanuele will be organising a Middle Distance Triathlon towards the end of May. The exact date and venue are still to be decided. For more information contact Charlie at: charliedemanuele@yahoo.com

GOZO-MALTA TRIATHLON

The Malta Triathlon Association, together with its partners the B'Kara St Joseph SC and Joseph F. Spiteri & Co (1927) Ltd, will be organising the Gozo-Malta Triathlon on Saturday 23rd April. Although there will be prizes for first 3 Finishers and first 3 Relay Teams, the main focus of the Event will be as a Fund-Raising activity for the Library at St Paul's Missionary College, Rabat. The G-M Tri will consist of a Run of 12km from Gharb to Hondoq ir-Rummien, a Swim of about 5.5km from Hondoq to Cirkewwa and a Cycle of about 30km from Cirkewwa to Rabat. Since the roads will not be closed to traffic, only athletes with mountain-bikes will be allowed to participate. This, hopefully, will help to slow the athletes a little as well as enable them to tackle some of the tough routes. More info will be put on the Association's website in due course.

KMS 2010 SPORTSMALTA AWARDS

The KMS and the Sportswriters Association will be presenting the 2010 Ghazliet Sportivi Nazzjonali on Saturday 29th January at the Mediterranean Conference Centre. Triathlon has been short listed for two separate Awards: the Sportswoman and the Team Awards. Danica Bonello Spiteri will be vying with Tenpin bowler Sue Abela, Canoeist Nicola Borg Costanzi, and Swimmer Davina Mangion. Malta's Triathlon Team for the Liechtenstein TCSSE, Danica Bonello Spiteri, Dermot Galea and Mark Zammit, will be competing for the Team Award with shooting duo, Darren Vella and Clive Farrugia, as well as the National Teams of Table Football and Horse Racing.

CLUBS

St Patrick's AC and Pembroke Athleta, two popular running clubs, were both unanimously acclaimed and welcomed within the Triathlon Association at the latter's AGM. Pembroke Athleta have even renamed their Club as Pembroke Athleta Athletics & Triathlon Club. We welcome these additions to the Triathlon community, which thus has a choice of 3 clubs to be affiliated to – the other club being the well-established B'Kara St Joseph SC.

AN ADDITION TO THE TRIATHLON FAMILY

Baby Katie-Anne was born to her parents Michelle & Philip Vella Wood on 1st January. Weighing in at 3.28kg, she is reportedly doing well on the bike. Her Mum's next project is Ironman Austria in July – which should be peanuts compared to the last 9 months.