

THE TRINEWSLETTER

SPECIAL ISSUE
MAY 2009

Official publication of the MALTA TRIATHLON ASSOCIATION – PO BOX 108 – VALLETTA – MALTA
www.maltatriathlon.org – info@maltatriathlon.org



TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE SMALL STATES OF EUROPE



Near perfect weather conditions produced some astonishing results at the 10th Edition of the Triathlon Championships of the Small States of Europe held on Sunday 10th May at the Salina Coast Road. In the past, only one Maltese athlete had managed to dip under two hours for the Olympic Triathlon on the Salina Route. That athlete was Mark Zammit who in a low-key Race in 2006 covered the distance in 1hr:59m:28s. Last Sunday, not only did he succeed in bettering his own time by finishing in 1hr:57m:53s, but he managed to inspire another Maltese athlete to do the same: Dermot Galea, who finished in 1hr:58:39s. And if that were not enough, a third Maltese athlete, Keith Galea, came agonisingly close to breaking the two hour barrier by just 22 seconds.

These heroic efforts, however, failed to secure the coveted first place for Malta as that honour went to Herve Banti of Monaco, who finished in 1hr:56m:06s. Zammit had to content himself with second place – a familiar position for Malta in these Championships, since Zammit himself occupied it in 2006 and Dermot Galea in 2002. Third place went to Tom Carrier of Luxembourg who finished in 1hr:58m:21s. Carrier, who in 2003 won the TCSSE when they were held in Malta in a time of 1hr:55m:47s, is familiar with the Podium as he has won these Championships three times, finished twice second and once third.



Malta had again to rely on Danica Spiteri to mount the highest step on the Podium. This is the second time she has placed first, having first won the TCSSE in 2006. Her winning time of 2hrs:24m:31s is not a Personal Best but it was enough to do the damage. In second place, just 30 seconds behind Spiteri, was Michelle Wood, a vastly improved athlete. Third place went to last year's winner, Myriam Reuland of Luxembourg in 2hrs:30m:50s.



TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE SMALL STATES OF EUROPE – TEAM EVENT



Dr Maria Deguara, Naxxar Mayor, presenting medals to Teams

The Team Event is determined by counting the Finish Time of the first 3 Men and Women of each State and the Team which gets the fastest time wins the Event.

In all 39 athletes took part in these TCSSE, sixteen of whom hailed from Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Monaco and Cyprus. The next edition of the TCSSE is planned for Liechtenstein in August 2010.

The trophies were distributed to the winners by Dr Maria Deguara, Mayor of the Naxxar Local Council, and Mr. Bernard Vassallo, Chairman of the Malta Sports Council.

The Malta Triathlon Association wishes to thank Joseph F. Spiteri & Co (1927) Ltd., local agents for Kee Klamp, the B'Kara St Joseph Sports Club, the Qawra Palace Hotel, Kristal Water and a host of volunteers who helped to make this a successful and memorable event.

Women

Pos'n	Country	Athletes	Time
1 st	Malta	Danica Spiteri/Michelle Wood/ Johanna Calleja	7hrs:24m:03s
2 nd	Others	Myriam Reuland/Julia Kannava	

Men

Pos'n	Country	Athletes	Time
1 st	Malta	Mark Zammit/Dermot Galea/Keith Galea	5hrs:56m:54s
2 nd	Monaco	Herve Banti/Remo Lentino/Alain Binsinger	6hrs:09m:33s
3 rd	Luxembourg	Tom Carier/Jean-Claude Feilen/Michel Koch	6hrs:13m:38s
4 th	Cyprus	Marian Konstantin/Christos Christou/Orpheas Kyriakou	6hrs:56m:18s
5 th	Liechtenstein	Elias Hofler/Michel Schaedler/Philip Schaedler	6hrs:57m:09s



Mr. Bernard Vassallo, KMS Chairman, presenting trophies to winners

TCSSE – 2010

A Meeting of the Officials from the 5 States of the TCSSE was held on Saturday 9th May at the Qawra Palace Hotel, just before the Registration and Race Briefing. The members present were Kypros Nikolaou for Cyprus, Philip Schaedler (Liechtenstein), Denis Watrin (Monaco) and Daniel Hendriks and Tom Carier (Luxembourg). The Meeting was chaired by Manuel Azzopardi and Faabienne Azzopardi, President & Secretary General of the MTA.

It was decided that every attempt should be made to retain the importance of the TCSSE rather than allow it to become a minor Race within an International Race.

It was also decided that our primary aim to include Triathlon within the Games of the Small States of Europe should never be forgotten and that renewed efforts should be made to attain this goal. Finally, Liechtenstein proposed that they will host the next edition of the TCSSE in 2010.