

3 March 2012

PRESS RELEASE

To Editors

TWO-TIME WINNER DYLAN MCNIECE NAMED CHAMPION AT SINGAPORE BIATHLON 2012

More than 2,200 participants competed in the 12th edition of the Singapore Biathlon held at East Coast Park this morning.

Some 73 fathers also participated in the inaugural Dads For Life Father and Child Relay to bond with their children aged seven to 15 years old. This unique non-competitive category featured a 200m swim by dad followed by an exuberant 800m run to the finish line together.

For 15 of these fathers who also competed in the Open and Masters categories in the morning, the event was an ideal opportunity to share their passion for the sport with their family and kids as many arrived early to cheer them on before the relay.

Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister of State for Defence and President of SAFRA, graced the event as Guest of Honour and flagged off the Men's Open category at 8.15am.

Mr Wong commented, "The Singapore Biathlon has grown to be an established event in the sports calendar. Through such races, our NSmen get to compete alongside top athletes and be motivated to continue engaging in active lifestyles to keep themselves physically fit throughout their National Service. It also provides them with opportunities to bond and to foster stronger camaraderie with their NS mates when they train and compete together."

Colonel Tan Tai Tiong, Chairman of the Organising Committee for Singapore Biathlon 2012, added: "When Singapore Biathlon was first introduced, there were not many endurance events in Singapore. Over the years, the sports scene has grown. The Organising Committee is heartened to note the strong support for Singapore Biathlon over the years. This indicates the confidence of this niche sporting event in the national sports calendar."

The Men's open title was once again clinched by Dylan McNiece, followed by first runner up Clement Chow. The Women's Open title went to Clara Wong.

The first runner up of the Men's Open category, 23-year-old NSman Clement Chow, commented, "I've participated in the past few Singapore Biathlon races, but I've not won before. I am therefore very pleased with my win as I've been training intensively. It has been a very good experience."

In the Master category, the Men's title was awarded to Richard Parkinson. 45-year-old Dai Matsui, first runner up of the Men's Master race, shared, "This is my first time

Issued by the Communications & Public Relations Division, SAFRA.

participating in the Singapore Biathlon. I am a professional triathlete and decided to join the race this year as part of my training. The biggest obstacle for me was the long distance running, but I'm glad I managed to overcome it."

The Singapore Biathlon 2012 is jointly organised by SAFRA and the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN). The event comprises four competitive categories – Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's Masters and Women's Masters, each featuring a 1.5km swim followed by a 10km run. The Dads For Life Father and Child Relay was introduced this year as part of SAFRA's partnership with the Dads For Life movement to promote active fatherhood among NSmen.

The following are attached for your reference:

- Annex A - Fact Sheet
- Annex B - Winners List

About SAFRA National Service Association

SAFRA was formed in 1972 to provide for the social and recreational needs of NSmen and their families through quality sports, social, educational and cultural programmes to recognise NSmen for their contributions to National Defence.

SAFRA currently has a network of four clubs conveniently located in Jurong, Mount Faber, Tampines and Yishun; the oldest SAFRA club located in Toa Payoh is being redeveloped and is due to open by early 2013. Complementing the modern facilities at SAFRA clubs is a host of quality membership benefits and activities specially packaged for over 220,000 members and their families.

SINGAPORE BIATHLON 2012**FACT SHEET**

Date	:	Saturday, 3 March 2012
Time	:	7.15 am (Flag-off time)
Venue	:	East Coast Park (Near Carpark F2)
Organisers	:	SAFRA National Service Association and Republic of Singapore Navy

<p>Singapore Biathlon</p>	<p>: Singapore Biathlon is the largest and most competitive biathlon in South-East Asia featuring an Olympic standard 1.5km swim and 10km run race.</p> <p>The 12th Singapore Biathlon will take place at East Coast Park.</p> <p>Besides the race, supporters of the biathletes can cheer on for their families and friends to give them moral support and encouragement.</p>	
<p>Categories</p>	<p><u>Individual</u></p> <p>Men's Open</p> <p>Men's Master</p> <p>Women's Open</p> <p>Women's Master</p> <p><u>Teams</u></p> <p>Dads For Life Father and Child Relay (<i>Non-Competitive</i>)</p> <p>SAF Invitation</p>	<p>: 15 years & above</p> <p>: 40 years & above</p> <p>: 15 years & above</p> <p>: 35 years & above</p> <p>: Child must be between 7 & 16 years old</p> <p>Team of 5 - Open to SAF & Home Team Personnel</p>
<p>Registered Participation Figures</p>	<p>Men's Open</p> <p>Women's Open</p>	<p>1513</p> <p>191</p>

		Men's Master Women's Master Dads For Life Father & Child Relay Total:	457 58 73 Pairs (146 participants) 2365
		Note: New participants of the Singapore Biathlon, who have not completed an open water swim event of equivalent distance over the last two years, will have to clear an open water swim trial before they can compete in Singapore Biathlon 2011. The qualifying mark is to swim 1.5km within 50 minutes.	
Sanctioned by	:	Triathlon Association of Singapore (TAS) TAS is the national governing body for the multi-sport disciplines of triathlon, duathlon and aquathlon in Singapore. It is a not-for profit organisation, founded in 1992. TAS is also a member of the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC), the Asian Triathlon Confederation (ASTC) and the International Triathlon Union (ITU).	
Website	:	www.safra.sg/singaporebiathlon	

Fast Facts (2001 - 2011):

Singapore Biathlon 2011

- Held at East Coast Park (near Carpark F2)
- Record of 2,428 participants registered for the event.
- Introduction of the Youth sprint categories comprising of a 750m run and 5 km swim.
- Introduction of new safety measure which required new participants who have not completed an open water swim event of equivalent distance over the last two years, to clear an open water swim trial before they can compete at the event.

Singapore Biathlon 2010

- Held at East Coast Park (near Carpark F2)
- Celebrated its 10th anniversary
- Record of 2,310 participants registered for the event.
- Introduction of the Youth categories.

Singapore Biathlon 2009

- Held at East Coast Park (near Carpark F2)
- Record of 2,295 participants registered for the event.
- Introduction of the Youth Biathlon Awards.

Singapore Biathlon 2008

- Held at East Coast Park
- Registered 2,152 participants, exceeded target of 2,000.
- For enhanced safety, participants were required to answer a Par-Q questionnaire as part of a compulsory field in the registration procedure.
- Foreign participation from 28 countries.

Singapore Biathlon 2007

- Held at East Coast Park
- 1,924 participants, exceeded target of 1,800.
- International participation increased by more than two fold, from 97 in 2006 to 263 in 2007.
- Re-introduced Women's Veteran category.

Singapore Biathlon 2006

- Held at East Coast Park
- 1,721 participants

- Over 200 foreign participants from British, Japan, Nigeria, USA, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Holland, Philippines, France, Germany, Hong Kong and many more.

Singapore Biathlon 2005

- Event relocated to East Coast Park.
- 1,621 participants.
- East Coast Park also offers better swim and run routes.
- Champion Chip system introduced for the first time.
- Race time can now be recorded automatically and precisely.

Singapore Biathlon 2004

- Took place at Sentosa.
- 1,608 participants.

Singapore Biathlon 2003

- Took place at Sentosa.
- 1,515 participants.

Singapore Biathlon 2002

- New categories were introduced - Family Team, AXN Challenge contenders for Hong Kong sponsorship, Singapore Sports Council for the Disabled, National Schools' Challenge and the Asian Championship elite athletes.
- 1,299 participants.

Singapore Biathlon 2001

- First Singapore Biathlon was organised at Sentosa.
- More than 860 participants took part.

**SINGAPORE BIATHLON 2012
SATURDAY, 3 MARCH 2012
RESULTS**

Men's Open

Position	Name	Bib No.	Timing
1st	Dylan McNiece	3007	00:55:12
2nd	Clement Chow	3133	01:03:11
3rd	Foo Gen Lin	3053	01:04:41

Women's Open

Position	Name	Bib No.	Timing
1st	Wong Wan Qi, Clara	1178	01:10:22
2nd	Tan Siqi Angie	1038	01:14:10
3rd	Marie Leautey	1125	01:15:50

Men's Master

Position	Name	Bib No.	Timing
1st	Richard Parkinson	7163	01:08:31
2nd	Dai Matsui	4101	01:10:57
3rd	Low Han Keat	4011	01:13:35

Women's Master

Position	Name	Bib No	Timing
1st	Karen Kay Rayle	2021	01:14:49
2nd	Itsuko Tanaka	2002	01:15:25
3rd	Joanne Mak	2026	01:26:08

