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2014 BEIJING INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON DRAWS TOP INTERNATIONAL PRO FIELD FOR RACE ON SEPTEMBER 14

2013 Champions Javier Gomez and Lisa Norden Return to Defend Titles

BEIJING – (April 25, 2014) – IMG Worldwide, the global sports, fashion and media company, in partnership with the Fengtai Sports Bureau of Beijing, today announced the elite pro field set to race in the 2014 Beijing International Triathlon taking place on Sunday, September 14, in the Fengtai District of Beijing, China. 2012 Olympic Silver Medalists and 2013 Beijing International Triathlon Champions Javier Gomez and Lisa Norden return leading a top field of pros set to compete in this Olympic distance race for \$100,000 in prize money.

“The Beijing International Triathlon continues to grow and attract new elite pro racers from all over the world,” said IMG Senior Vice President James Leitz. “We’re excited for the return of our 2013 champions Javier Gomez and Lisa Norden and to watch them defend their titles against this year’s top pro field.”

Professional triathletes set to participate in the 2014 Beijing International Triathlon to date include:

Men:

Josh Amberger (Australia)
Greg Bennett (Australia)
Brian Fleischmann (United States of America)
Javier Gomez Noya (Spain)
Mario Mola (Spain)
Graham O’Grady (New Zealand)
Matt Reed (United States of America)

Women:

Laura Bennett (United States of America)
Ashleigh Gentle (Australia)
Gwen Jorgensen (United States of America)
Emma-Kate Lidbury (United Kingdom)
Ricarda Lisk (Germany)
Lisa Norden (Sweden)
Carolina Routier (Spain)

“I’m excited to race again in the Beijing International Triathlon and look forward to returning to the beautiful Fengtai District of Beijing,” said 2013 Beijing International Triathlon Champion Javier Gomez. “The pro field is the strongest in the world and I expect a tough race this year.”

This triathlon is part of the Escape to Alcatraz Triathlon Series, and the only qualifying event in Asia for the iconic Escape from Alcatraz™ Triathlon. Coveted race slots for the infamous and grueling 2015 Escape from Alcatraz™ Triathlon will be awarded to the top 50 men and women across each group and division of the Olympic distance race, at the 2014 Beijing International Triathlon.

For a third straight year, this renowned triathlon will take over the Fengtai District of Beijing, China, on Sunday, September 14. New this year, the race will start and finish in Garden Expo Park and feature a 1.5km swim in Garden Expo Lake; a 40km bike ride up to Qianling Mountain, the highest peak in southwest Beijing; and a 10km run through the state-of-the-art gardens, in Garden Expo Park. The race will also host a new Beijing Sprint Triathlon (750m swim, 20km bike and 5km run) on Saturday, September 13.

The public is invited to watch both races along the course and at the start/finish line in the park, as well as attend the free Health and Fitness Race Expo on Saturday and Sunday. Race registration is now open on the official event website www.beijinginternationaltriathlon.com. The Beijing International Triathlon is owned by the Fengtai Sports Bureau of Beijing and produced by IMG Worldwide. Interested participants are encouraged to register online early as space is limited. Follow the race at www.facebook.com/BeijingTri and www.twitter.com/Beijing_Tri.

About Fengtai

The Beijing International Triathlon will primarily take place within the Wang Zuo County, in the Fengtai District, with a history that dates back to 221 BC. With a population of 2.1 million, the Fengtai District is located in Southwest Beijing at the foot of the Western Hills, by the Yong Ding River. Dating back to the Liao and Jin Dynasties, the Fengtai District was the location of the Imperial City. Racers, family and friends visiting the area will be treated to several of China's most famous sites including the 900 year old Lotus Pool; the Lu Gou Bridge (Marco Polo Bridge) that dates back 800 years and the Wan Ping Fortress from the 17th century.

About IMG

IMG Worldwide is a global sports, fashion and media business, with 3,500 employees operating in more than 30 countries around the globe. IMG's areas of expertise are diverse and wide ranging: IMG College; IMG's Joint Ventures in India, Brazil, China and Turkey; IMG Media; IMG Events and Federations; IMG Golf and IMG Tennis; IMG Fashion; IMG Models; IMG Art+Commerce; IMG Clients; IMG Academy; IMG Consulting and IMG Licensing. More information is available at www.img.com. Follow us on Twitter: @IMG_Worldwide and Facebook: www.facebook.com/IMGWorldwide.

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