



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 2015 BEIJING INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON DRAWS ELITE INTERNATIONAL PRO FIELD FOR RACE ON SEPTEMBER 20

**BEIJING – (August 26, 2015)** – IMG, a global leader in sports, events, media and fashion, in partnership with the Fengtai Sports Bureau of Beijing, announced the elite pro field set to race in the 2015 Beijing International Triathlon taking place on September 20, in the Fengtai District of Beijing, China. Olympians Greg Bennett, Laura Bennett, Ricarda Lisk and Matt Reed as well as 2015 Escape from Alcatraz Triathlon Champion Eric Lagerstrom lead a top field of professional athletes set to compete in the Olympic distance race for \$100,000 in prize money.

The Beijing International Triathlon participation has steadily grown over the last four years with registration numbers tripling since its inception in 2012. The race continues to expand and attract new elite pro racers from around the world, including the return of some of the top names in triathlon as well as the addition of several new faces that are set to compete in Beijing for the first time. Professional triathletes participating in the 2015 Beijing International Triathlon include:

### **Men:**

Josh Amberger (Australia)  
Greg Bennett (Australia)  
Max Fennell (United States of America)  
Cesc Godoy (Spain)  
Eric Lagerstrom (United States of America)  
Graham O'Grady (New Zealand)  
Matt Reed (United States of America)  
Ruzhuang She (China)

### **Women:**

Laura Bennett (United States of America)  
Lauren Goss (United States of America)  
Ricarda Lisk (Germany)  
Felicity Sheedy-Ryan (Australia)  
Caroline Steffen (Switzerland)  
Magali Tisseyre (Canada)  
Radka Vodickova (Czech Republic)  
Yi Zhang (China)  
Mengying Zhong (China)

"I'm excited to compete in the Beijing International Triathlon for the third consecutive year," said Olympian and Two-time ITU Champion Greg Bennett. "I look forward to returning to the beautiful Fengtai District of Beijing. This is my favorite race of the long International season and I can't wait."

The triathlon is part of the Escape to Alcatraz Triathlon Series and the only qualifying event in Asia for the Escape from Alcatraz™ Triathlon. Coveted race slots for the 2016 Escape from Alcatraz™ Triathlon will be awarded to the top 50 men and women across each group and in the Olympic distance race division, at the 2015 Beijing International Triathlon.

For the fourth year, the event will take over the Fengtai District of Beijing, China, on Sunday, September 20. The race will showcase the eco-friendly environment and cultural attractions of the area. Starting and finishing in Garden Expo Park, the race will feature a 1.5km swim in Garden Expo Lake; a challenging 40km bike ride through the quaint villages of Fengtai and up Qianling Mountain, the highest peak in southwest Beijing; and a 10km run through the colorful gardens and steep steps of the Garden Expo Park. For the second year, the event will also host a Beijing Sprint Triathlon (750m swim, 20km bike and 5km run) on Saturday, September 19.

The public is invited to watch the races at the start/finish line and along the course throughout the park, as well as attend the free Health and Fitness Race Expo taking place September 19-20. The IMG-produced Beijing International Triathlon is owned by the Fengtai Sports Bureau of Beijing.

Interested participants are encouraged to register online early, as space is limited. For additional information, visit [www.beijinginternationaltriathlon.com](http://www.beijinginternationaltriathlon.com) or follow at [www.facebook.com/BeijingTri](http://www.facebook.com/BeijingTri) and [www.twitter.com/Beijing\\_Tri](http://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 is a global leader in sports, events, media and fashion, operating in more than 25 countries. The company represents and manages some of the world's greatest sports figures and fashion icons; stages thousands of live events and branded entertainment experiences annually; and is the world's largest independent producer and distributor of sports media. IMG also specializes in sports training; league development; and marketing, media and licensing for brands, sports organizations and collegiate institutions. In 2014, IMG was acquired by WME, the world's leading entertainment agency, to form WME | IMG.

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