



RunCzech intent on creating running rankings for everyone. New for 2013 - the Karlovy Vary Half Marathon and Košice Peace Marathon to be included.

The first year of the RunCzech running series ending with the Volkswagen Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon in mid-September has been rated by organisers as a huge success. 64 043 runners from 106 countries took part in a total of 48 races spanning 14 cities, boasting world stars at the helm including world record-holder, Patrick Makau! "We had some goals in mind but the results are possibly even better. We're delighted to have been able to provide so many people with so much pleasure derived from running," commented Carlo Capalbo, Chair of the Organising Committee.

"By the end of November, we plan to publish the unrivalled ranking system for RunCzech running league," promised Václav Skřivánek from the organizing team. It classifies runners in terms of gender but also includes 6 age categories and 68 professions with a special coefficient according to the times attained in the various races, ranging from the 5 km (1), the 10 km (1.5), and half-marathon (3) right up to the marathon (5). In running, it can be said that everyone emerges as a winner. However we want to offer something as running league in addition to this. We spent a long time searching for the correct algorithm to make it as intelligible as possible and allowing everyone to find himself in the rotation easily, Skřivánek added.

The six competing runs attracted a total of 34 347 runners, of whom 7 997 participants were competing for the first time ever. Capacity for start numbers was already reached several days before the actual race. The Hervis Prague Half Marathon kicking off the season in March made history surpassing the highest participation rate ever recorded on Czech soil at 11 085 participants. Meanwhile the premiere of the Mattoni České Budějovice Half Marathon confirmed the huge public interest in running throughout the country by managing to hit 1438 start places in advance of the race.

"Men dominated in the competing runs constituting 71% of all participants. However, at 56%, we witnessed a greater number of women taking part in the non-competing family runs," revealed Zoran Bartek from the organising team. "The Czech Republic is currently experiencing a boom in running with the number of participants increasing by 23% compared to last year. During the eighteen years of races that have been taking place, we have recorded in excess of 550 000 participants. Despite this, statistics from research carried out by GfK reveal that 81% of the population don't run at all. It presents a new challenge for us to bring this number down," race coordinator, Tomáš Mirovský stated.

First-rate sporting quality unquestionably also plays a role. The winning time of 58:47 by Atsedu Tsegaye at the Hervis Prague Half Marathon managed to come out as the best world time for the whole year! The Olomouc Half Marathon also scooped up a new IAAF Silver Road Race Label after just three years of being launched. Only seven countries throughout





the world can pride themselves on organising four or more races with an IAAF quality label (The Volkswagen Prague Marathon and Hervis Prague Half Marathon boast Gold labels, the METRO 10k Race held as part of the Mattoni Prague Grand Prix has Silver alongside the Olomouc Half Marathon).

In time for the next season, the RunCzech running league will welcome yet another race; that of the Karlovy Vary Half Marathon. The race will kick off on May 25 at the popular early evening time slot of 6 pm. The registration for this new event is already open. The ranking system 2013 will also include the race results from the oldest marathon in Europe, the Košice Peace Marathon.

tempo team prague s.r.o. / Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o.

Tomáš Nohejl

PR a media manager

Záhořanského 3, 120 00 Prague 2

tel: +420 224 919 209; fax: +420 224 923 355

email: nohejl@pim.cz

Notes for editors:

RunCzech.com

The RunCzech.com running series emerged in 2012 as a joint project (organised by Prague International Marathon and tempo team prague companies) uniting mass-participation long-distance runs taking place at attractive locations around the Czech Republic. Alongside three main races taking place in Prague, the initiative also boasts running events in a variety of regions. Such events draw attention from local runners as well as foreign tourists. All of them are able to merge their passion for running with travel experiences. Organisers of the RunCzech.com running series have secured themselves a total of four IAAF Road Race Label Awards, attesting to the overall quality in terms of organisation.

In 2013, RunCzech.com will comprise the following races: Hervis Prague Half Marathon (6th April), Volkswagen Prague Marathon (12th May), Mattoni Prague Grand Prix (7th September), České Budějovice Half Marathon (8th June), Olomouc Half Marathon (22nd June), Ústí nad Labem Half Marathon (15th September) plus a completely new race – the first edition of Karlovy Vary Half Marathon (25th May). In 2012, as part of the RunCzech.com series, a total of 34 346 runners took part in competitive runs. A special point system has also been created for this, allowing results from completed races to be measured in categories according to age and profession. The running series should be completed in 2014 by adding one more race in another city and at this point organisers hope to attract over 81 000 runners.

Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o.

Prague International Marathon spol. s r.o. ("PIM") was set up in 1995 by Carlo Capalbo, President of the Company with the aim of organising a large-scale international marathon on the streets of Prague. A total of 958 runners made it to the start line of that first race. Since then the Volkswagen Prague Marathon attracts over 9000 participants and ranks among the top 10 marathons in the world held in one of the most beautiful settings and becoming the 7th fastest in the world in 2010 (with Eliud Kiptanui completing it in 2:05:39). As of 1999, PIM also organises the Prague half-marathon along with races over shorter courses, the Grand Prix.

Races organised by PIM are sponsored by some of the largest investors in the Czech Republic, Volkswagen, adidas, Hervis and Mattoni. The whole organisation and atmosphere of the races has drawn a crowd of



Záhořanského 3, 120 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic
Email: info@runczech.com

Tel: +420 224 919 209
Fax: +420 224 923 355

www.runczech.com



resounding names in the athlete world to the Czech Republic (Haile Gebrselassie, Stefano Baldini, Paul Tergat, Moses Tanui and Antonio Pinto) not to mention thousands of visitors.

RunCzech.com events hold a collection of 4 IAAF awards: the IAAF Road Race Silver Label for the Men's 10 km METRO Run as well as the IAAF Road Race Gold Label for the Hervis Half Marathon Prague and the Volkswagen Marathon Prague; In 2012 Olomouc Half Marathon was awarded by the IAAF Road Race Silver Label.

tempo team prague s.r.o.

The term "tempo" is an acronym for "The European Marathon Promotion Organization", which focuses on developing marathon races along with other running events in Europe. The tempo team company was set up in 2000 by a group of experts and sporting enthusiasts.

tempo team's activities entail concept creation, brand building, marketing as well as the actual organisation of sporting events. Right from the start, tempo team has played a key role in organising the Prague marathon as well as developing the PIM Running series. For the purpose of holding the Olomouc Half Marathon, tempo put together a special team of experts furnished with fifteen years of experience in the area of organising running events. The first ever Volkswagen Olomouc Half Marathon was held in 2010 and signified the first race the tempo team organised outside of Prague. In 2011 a further race was added to the series, the Volkswagen Ustí Half Marathon taking place in September 2011 and in 2012 the Mattoni Budějovice Half Marathon taking place in June.

