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For Immediate Release

John Ray Onifa and Elsa Jeandedieu claim titles at 44km MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po while Sota Ogawa 119km double feat

[Hong Kong, Sunday, March 31, 2019] Pat Sin Leng, the “Eight Immortals” mountain range so named for its eight peaks, is one of Hong Kong’s most difficult trails. The winners of today’s **44km MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po**, however, have made light work of it.

John Ray Onifa was the first across the finish line at The Country Club at Hong Lok Yuen, completing the challenging circumnavigation of Pat Sin Leng Country Park in a blazing time of 04:52:56.

Micheal Skobierski claimed second place among the men in 04:55:57, while Bin Lang was third in 05:25:31.

“I found this course extremely difficult last year and this year with the sun and heat. This year I really took the time to study the course and prepared to come back strong. My efforts paid off and I’m very proud to take on top spot for the 44.” Said John Ray Onifa the male 44 km winner.

Among the women, Elsa Jeandedieu emerged victorious in 05:54:05, and also pocketed HK\$2,000 plus other prizes for her efforts.

The 44km female winner Elsa Jeandedieu said “I’ve had to take near 4 months off running following knee surgery. I’ve made my opening comeback at the MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po 18k yesterday and the 44k today. Such a fun and memorable weekend!”

Eszter Csillag was second among women in 06:13:25, and Katrina Hamlin was third in 06:20:14.

Officially introduced this year was the Double Category, where participants ran the 75km MSIG Ultra yesterday, followed by the 44km today for a total of 119 treacherous kilometres.

Last year, four brave men did the double, simply out of a personal challenge. This year, race director Martin Cai of The Green Race decided to make the double an official category.

20 people completed the challenge this year, with Sota Ogawa clocking the fastest combined time of 16:06:11 to walk away with the title.

“This was very tough race, I could find no time to rest. I would describe the 2-day 119k Challenge with one Japanese word: ‘Saiko’, which means the best!” said Sota Ogawa.



The MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po was the second leg of the four-race 2019 MSIG Trail Running Series, which offers a total prize pot of HK\$92,000. Winners of individual races earn cash prizes as well as points towards overall series standings, which have further cash rewards. Overall winners of the Long Series will earn race entry to a Racing The Planet - 4Deserts multi-day 250km stage race.

All series participants also earn precious UTMB qualifying points, with 2 ITRA points for the 44km race completed today, and 1 ITRA point and 3 ITRA points for 18km and 75km finishers yesterday.

The MSIG Trail Running Series aims to bring the Hong Kong running community a meaningful new trail challenge that showcases the city's spectacular and unique country parks. The Series endeavours to create development opportunities for Hong Kong's local running talent, with a focus on nurturing the city's talented young trail runners through the inaugural MSIG Youth Development Programme.

The next stop of the series is the MSIG Immortals @ Pat Sin Leng on September 21.

Race results of 44km races and the Double Category can be seen below, and at the following link: <https://msig.tgr.run/results/>

**The results may subject to change within a week after the race, please refer to official website for the latest and final result*

44k Solo

Position	Male	Female
1 st	John Ray Onifa (4:52:56)	Elsa Jeandedieu (5:54:04)
2 nd	Michael Skobierski (4:55:57)	Eszter Csillag (6:13:25)
3 rd	Bin Lang (5:25:31)	Katrina Hamlin (6:20:14)

44k – Male Age Categories

Position	16-24 yrs	25-29 yrs	30-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55+ yrs
1 st	Ho Fung Hung	John Ray Onifa	Micheal Skobierski	Nick Metson	Tze Wan Wong
2 nd	Wai Hei Ng	Gregor McMillan	Bin Lang	Susumu Hattori	Paul Hunt
3 rd	/	James Bowen	Diarmuid O'shea	Francois Perrin	Steve Chung



44k – Female Age Categories

Position	25-29 yrs	30-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55+ yrs
1 st	Ho Yi Charlotte Man	Elsa Jeandedieu	Linna Chan	Yuk Pui Poon
2 nd	Bin Wan	Eszter Csillag	Ping Yee Wong	Wan Lan Louisa Cheng
3 rd	Mary Hui	Katrina Hamlin	Kit Mui Corinna Wong	/

Double Category

Position	Male	Female
1 st	Sota Ogawa	Evelyn Lek
2 nd	Alex Ang	Su Lin Woo
3 rd	Rowell Campos	Dolly Sales

For more information, please visit www.msigitrailseries.com or Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/MSIGtrailrunningseries.



Photo Captions

Photo 1



Second race of the MSIG Trail Running Series – MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po kick started today with races of 18km and 75km, to conquer the persistent peaks of the Pat Sin Leng Range. 44km race continues tomorrow, start and finish at Hong Lok Yuen.

Photo 2



44km solo male winners: John Ray Onifa (1st-Middle), Michael Skobierski (2nd – Left) , Bin Lang (3rd – Right)



Photo 3



44km solo female winners: Elsa Jeandedieu (1st-Middle), Eszter Csillag (2nd-Left), Katrina Hamlin (3rd-Right)

Photo 4



The 44km female winner Elsa Jeandedieu said “I’ve had to take near 4 months off running following knee surgery. I’ve made my opening comeback at the MSIG Ultra @ Tai Po 18k yesterday and the 44k today. Such a fun and memorable weekend!”

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This press release is released on behalf of TGR International Limited by ActionHouse International Limited.

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About MSIG Insurance (Hong Kong) Limited

With a network of operations dating as far back as 1855, MSIG Insurance (Hong Kong) Limited (“MSIG”) has been providing general insurance solutions and products to customers in Hong Kong for more than 150 years. MSIG is backed by the solid foundation and rich heritage of Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Company Limited, an established insurer that has received strong financial ratings from leading rating agencies, including Standard & Poor’s and Moody’s. Today, MSIG is one of the few foreign-based general insurers to have representation in every ASEAN country, a testament to its strength and reach. MSIG also benefits from being a member of the MS&AD Insurance Group – one of the largest general insurance groups in the world. Leveraging their multi-channel distribution, their strong partnerships with intermediaries and an extensive geographical network, MSIG offers a wide range of insurance solutions across personal and commercial lines. MSIG builds and nurtures enduring relationships, forging close partnerships through good times and bad.



About TGR International Ltd (GreenRace)

GreenRace is an event organiser specialising in sustainable and all-inclusive trail running races, with a diverse catalogue of events ranging across the Asia-Pacific region. Many hosted independently and others with partners, the majority of their races take place in Hong Kong and Japan. The driving mission of GreenRace is to ignite passion in their community of runners, designing trail running events that participants and volunteers of all ages and abilities will love. GreenRace remains vigilant in honouring its responsibility to the greater community and to the environment by striving for zero waste events. With every trail race created, they focus continually on quality, sustainability and

total runner satisfaction for people from all walks of life. GreenRace has earned the loyalty of the Asian trail running community, and thrives thanks to the vital support of dedicated and like-minded volunteers.