

PRESS RELEASE

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Community favourite attracts international flavour

Registrations to the 2009 Rebel Sport City to Surf for Activ opened this week with the first official registration being made by an international participant from Penang, Malaysia.

Event Manager Laura McKelvey commented "With the inclusion of a full marathon in this year's program we had expected to receive increased national and international interest, so it's fantastic that our very first registered participant for 2009 is an international, taking part in the Marathon".

Marathon Running has become an institution for hundreds of thousands of people around the world. In 2008 an accumulated total of over 165,000 people participated in the five world marathon majors hosted in New York (over 38,000 participants), Chicago (over 37,000), Boston (over 22,000), London (over 30,000) and Berlin (over 40,000).

"People travel to take part in events of this nature, even more so when you have invested the time into the training necessary to complete a Marathon. More and more people are making the decision to take an active holiday, while seeing different parts of the world" Event Manager Laura McKelvey.

The Marathon course will showcase some of Perth's most beautiful scenery from the picturesque Swan River, through beautiful Kings Park and finishing on the Indian Ocean at one of WA's stunning beaches – City Beach.

City marathons are notoriously run on unattractive courses until very near the finish line. The City to Surf Marathon is unique by offering a beautiful course for the full 42.2kms.

Interest in the marathon has come from all around the world since the announcement in February of it's inclusion in the Rebel Sport City to Surf for Activ "Since we launched the marathon we've had interest from all over the globe. Runners from the Americas', Europe, Asia and Africa have all voiced their interest in registering for the event this year. We had anticipated that the Marathon would entice runners from interstate and overseas to make the journey to our wonderful City to take part; it seems now after just a short time that our goal of establishing this Marathon as Australia's Premiere Marathon event is well on track".

Event organisers believe that with the global interest in Marathon running continuing to increase, Perth and in particular the new City to Surf Marathon will become the Marathon of choice within Australia.

Registrations do not officially launch until June 3rd, however early birds can get in now with online entries open at www.perthcitytosurf.com.

This is the 35th year of the running carnival in Perth, Western Australia. The Rebel Sport City to Surf for Activ includes a Marathon, Half Marathon, 12km Run, 12km walk, 11km wheelchair event and 4km walk/run. Organisers expect participation to top 40,000 in 2009. Funds raised by the City to Surf will help Activ continue its mission to create a better life for people with disability.

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