



香港業餘田徑總會  
Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association



## Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013 Largest ever number of runners together “RUN FOR A REASON”

**[Hong Kong, 24 February, 2013]** The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013 has concluded successfully, delivering a fascinating race marked by fierce battles between the elite athletes and a record high number of runners taking part.

Despite the early-morning start, the energy and excitement of both runners and spectators was at a peak. Once the Honourable Leung Chun-ying, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, had fired the starting-gun, thousands of Marathon runners simultaneously took their first steps of the 42.195km race. Cheering from family, friends and the public spurred the runners on, helping them forget the difficulties of training and encouraging them to throw their all into enjoying the race.

Following its upgrade to Silver Label Road Race status by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF), the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013 attracted elite runners from 23 countries. After two years of rehearsals and reversals, Julius Maisei of Kenya got it right the third time, and won the 17<sup>th</sup> Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon on Sunday morning, in 2:14:18. It was enough to carry him clear of his pursuers – colleague James Kariuki Mbugua and Ethiopian Deribe Robi who respectively clocked 2:14:28 in second place and 2:14:37 in third place. “I was getting stressed with so many people being in the group. I was wondering when they were going to break up. I was feeling strong, but I just didn’t know about the others. At about 39 and a half, I could see the 40k marker, I decided to move. I thought if they catch me now, they deserve to win”. But it wasn’t to be, and Maisei duly won the first prize of US\$57,000.

Misiker Demissie had little trouble emulating herself in winning the women’s race, in 2:30:49, just over half a minute slower than the course record 2:30:12 she set in winning last year. “It was windy, it was very hard, because it was in the face a lot,” Demissie’s compatriot Makda Harun got the better of North Korean Kim Kum Ok, to finish second in 2:31:20. Kim finished third in 2:32:21, but that also won her the concurrent 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Marathon Championships title, thus emulating her victory the last time it was held in Hong Kong, in 2008. Kumi Ogura of Japan finished second in the time of 2:35:02 while Kirghizistan runner Andreeva Iuliia followed in third place with 2:39:49.

In the men’s race, the favourite, Ser-Od Bat-Ochir, from Mongolia, won the Asian title in a time of 2:17:56, almost two minutes and a half minute ahead of first runner up Anoley Petrov from Uzbekistan and four minutes and a half ahead of third runner up Japanese runner Kenzo Kawabata.



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Koyama Yuta of Japan won the men's Half Marathon race in 1:08:49. Followed by Hong Kong runner Thomas Kiprotich and John Philip Duenas of Philippines.

Hong Kong runner Yiu Kit Ching successfully defended her title finishing 1:20:47 in women's Half Marathon race. For the runners-up, Jane Hodgskin beat another Hong Kong runner Cheung Hoi Wah Sarah with less than a minute.

Defending champion Chan Ka Ho of Hong Kong finished second this year in the men's 10km, beaten by Australian Clinton Mackevkius while Tang Ho Fai also from Hong Kong followed in third place. In the women's race, Hong Kong runner Cheung Ting Yan won the champion while Yu Wing Hay and Kong Lai Ming are the runners up.

Also featured in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon are the Half Marathon and 3km Wheelchair race. Respectively, Fung Ying Ki and Cheng Yan Keung finished in first place.

Mr Benjamin Hung, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, said "We are honoured to have been the title sponsor of the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon for 17 consecutive years, and to have witnessed the event grow into one of the biggest sporting events in Hong Kong. With each step the runners take, they are helping to spread the four visions of the Marathon: "Charity", "Health", "Green", and "Unity". Their determination and persistence in running communicate a sense of positive energy to our wider Hong Kong society. I applaud everyone's efforts today, and am already looking forward next year."

Meanwhile, the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Leaders Cup attracted top decision-makers to put aside their work for the morning to take part in the 1.8km race, which was competitive yet filled with a spirit of fun. The participants spared no energy in their efforts to finish the race, while simultaneously enjoying every moment of this worthwhile charity event. The winner of the Cup, Mrs. Jennifer L. Harvey, Crown Worldwide Holdings Limited, once again proved herself to be not only a top decision maker, but also no mean athlete!

"RUN FOR A REASON" is the global theme for all nine Standard Chartered Marathons held around the world. In this race, runners ran for a wide range of different but equally valuable reasons. Paralympics Marathon medalist Henry Wanyoike and his guide Joseph Kibunja once again ran on behalf of charity to raise funds for "Seeing is Believing", one of the three beneficiaries of the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon Charity Programme.



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Sponsors of the 17<sup>th</sup> Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon included the Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited, Salompas, Citizen Watches (HK) Limited, Watsons Water, Xtep International Holdings Limited, F&H BY FANCL, Crown Motors Limited, Regal Hotels International, Physical Fitness, Polarline Development Limited, LION Corporation (Hong Kong) Limited, Nature's Village, Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Co. Ltd., Tao Heung Group, Maxim's Cakes. Supporting organizations included the Hong Kong Tourism Board, Major Sports Events Committee, Transport Infrastructure Management Limited, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Television Broadcasts Limited.

### Photo Captions



#### Photo 1

The Honourable C Y Leung, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (front row, middle) officially started the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013.

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Photo 2

Bat-Ochir Ser-Od from Mongolia winner of the champion of the 14<sup>th</sup> Asian Marathon Championships.



Photo 3

After winning the Asian Marathon Championships in 2008 held in Hong Kong, Kim Kum Ok from North Korea won again this year. She was also the overall women's 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013.

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Photo 4

After two years of rehearsals and reversals, Julius Maisei of Kenya won the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013 Overall Men's champion.



Photo 5

Misiker Demissie of Ethiopia won again this year the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon Overall Women's champion.

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Photo 6

Julius Maisei of Kenya and Misiker Demissie from Ethiopia, respectively showed their great pleasure in winning the Overall Men's and Women's categories.



Photo 7

Mr. Benjamin Hung (first row, 7th from the left), Chief Executive Officer of Standard Chartered Hong Kong, running in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2013 Leaders Cup, which featured 50 prominent Hong Kong's business and community leaders.





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Photo 8

This year's Leaders Cup was won by Jennifer L. Harvey of Crown Worldwide Holdings Limited. Also running for a good cause together, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> runners up was Paul Forrest of ORBIS International and Douglas Woo of Wheelock Properties (Hong Kong) Limited respectively.



Photo 9

The Best Marathon Spirit Award was newly introduced in the 2013 Leaders Cup. Leaders including Dr. Leong Che-hung of The University of Hong Kong, James E. Thompson of Crown Worldwide Holdings Limited and Patricia Chu Yeung Pak-yu of The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society were awarded the trophies after a round of voting by the Leaders.

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Photo 10

Hong Kong athlete Fung Ying Ki finished the first half marathon wheelchair race in first place with a time of 1 hour 9 minutes 56 seconds.



Photo 11

39 wheelchair runners at the start of the first 3km wheelchair race in the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon event. Cheng Yan Keung finished in first place with a time of 15 minutes 48 seconds.

~ End ~

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