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News Release

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31 COMPETE FOR ANNUAL TAGA KIDS TRIATHLON

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Taga Kids Triathlon capped off the 2012 Saipan Sportsfest with 31 young athletes completing the afternoon race at the American Memorial Park on March 31, 2012.

Rintaro Miyawaki, Kaga Coume, Logan Mister, and Sato Karen emerged as top finishers in their respective divisions and were recognized during the awards ceremony in conjunction with the 23rd Annual Tagaman Triathlon. The Top 3 finishers in each age group received medals during the ceremony at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Miyawaki was the first overall finisher of the shortest course to top the boys' 6-8 age group. He timed in at 2.17 in the swim split, 9.19 in the bike race, and 3.89 in the run leg for a total time of 15.25.94. Rounding out the Top 3 were Akira Kadokura (16.16.33) and Taka Horimoto (16.57.06).

The annual Taga Kids Triathlon, which came after Tagaman concluded, started with a 100m swim sprint in the waters off Micro Beach for the 6-8 age group and 200m for 9-and-above. Then in the bike course, the 6-8 age group headed to the flag circle and back to the transition area for the run split, which brought runners near the bell tower and back. In the 9-12 division, bikers went to as far as the Army Reserve Center, while the oldest age group had to pass Charley Dock entrance before heading back to the park for the run leg.

In the girls' 6-8 age group, Kaga had the best time at 18.04. She clocked in at 2.25 in the swim race, 10.22 in the bike split, and 5.57 in the run portion to prevail over Conatsu Kaga (17.05.94) and Soleil Lamar (18.24.04).

In the boys' 9-12 age division, Logan Mister submitted 28.08 to win against Cole Chambers (30.39), and Kasai Naoki (32.11). Mister tallied 2.31 in the swim split, 17.73 in the bike race, and 10.35 in the run leg.

Sato took the top honors in the girls 9-12 age division after completing the longer race in 39.07. Her lone competitor Maya Shimizu followed in 46.48.

The race was sponsored by Gatorade, KKMP radio station, Team PDI, Northern Marianas Athletics, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Delta Air Lines, MWA, Refaluwasch Warriors and CNMI Domatsuri Team, and Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana Airlines provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. Fly Guam/Fly Marianas provides direct flights from Hong Kong and Nagoya, Japan. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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