



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

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**SAIPAN SPORTS FEST 2013 BEGINS MARCH 8**  
**SCHEDULE CHANGES ANNOUNCED**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Saipan Sports Fest 2013 kicks off on Friday (March 8) with a slightly revised schedule highlighted by the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual XTERRA Saipan Championship on Saturday (March 9) and the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Tagaman Triathlon on March 16, 2013.

Organizers have revised the XTERRA registration and packet pick-up time at Pacific Islands Club (PIC) Saipan on Friday (March 8) to 2-5 p.m. Also, the Tagaman triathlon will start 15 minutes later than previously announced, with competitors now slated to commence at 6:15 a.m. at PIC.

Saipan Sports Fest provides educational seminars by the sport's top pros, plus other challenging activities. In particular, organizers invited the general public to come out for the XTERRA Saipan Scramble 5K and 10K on Friday (March 8) beginning at 5 p.m. at American Memorial Park. Proceeds will benefit Northern Marianas Athletics, and registration may be made on-site before the race. Children will also have the opportunity to join the fun with the XTERRA Kids Bike Race for ages 10-and-under on Saturday (March 9) beginning at 7:30 a.m.

at American Memorial Park (registration available on-site before the race) and the Tagakids Triathlon on March 16 (pre-registration required) beginning at 1 p.m.

Other activities for the weeklong celebration include Tank to Tank swims on March 8, 11, 13, and 15 at lunchtime, a bike tour of Marpi on March 11, a “Preparing for the Race” panel discussion with the pros open to the public on March 12 at 7 p.m. at PIC, and a Hash Run on March 13 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Bank of Guam parking lot in Garapan. A Best Ball Golf Tournament will be held on March 14 at 1 p.m. at Laolao Bay Golf Resort, and “The Race” panel discussion with pros will be held for the public that evening at 6 p.m. at PIC.

For full details and registration forms, visit [www.saipansports.com](http://www.saipansports.com).

The 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 and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. For more information visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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