



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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Ethiopian Runners Dominate
The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018
Top Three Runners of Women Marathon Overall Broke Course Record***

HONG KONG, 21 January 2018 – The world-renowned Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 came to a successful conclusion today with the participation of almost 74,000 local and overseas runners. The highlight of this year's race was the top three women runners, who are all from Ethiopia, smashing the course record of Women Marathon set in 2012, while Gulume Tollesa Chala, the defending champion of last year, succeeded the championship with a time of 2:29:36.

Overall Marathon Highlights

Continuing as an IAAF Gold Label Road Race, the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 was officiated by Mrs. Carrie LAM CHENG Yuet-ngor, GBM, GBS, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region ("HKSAR"). A record number of 11,000 overseas athletes including over 30 world-class elite runners participated in this year's race, joining the local elite runners to compete for a slice of the overall prize money for the marathon which totaled US\$300,000.

The all-new Public Ballot Entry (Group) was added to the 10KM Run this year, which allowed runners to form their own group, with two to eight members allowed in a group. Overall, the race attracted almost 900 groups of runners. The "Charity Entry" quota introduced last year received great support from runners, in view of this, the quota was doubled this year, attracting 600 local and overseas athletes to compete and raise funds for the official marathon charities.

About 3,000 participants also enthusiastically participated in the newly established 1KM "Family Run" and the 400M "Love From Past Life Run", with participants running from Central Pier No.10 to Tamar Park to enjoy this unforgettable experience with their families. An after party was held at the finish line of the "Family Run", celebrating the joy of the event with runners and the public.

The 2.2KM "Youth Dash" which was resumed this year attracted around 1,000 participants. The runners ran from Wan Chai Sports Ground to Victoria Park, Causeway Bay. This race, offering an exclusive opportunity for teenagers to enroll in an international sporting event to further nurture their interest in long-distance running and prepare them for longer distance runs in the future.

Marathon Challenge Highlights

Both the Men's and Women's Marathons this year saw fierce competition. In the Men's Marathon, 45-year-old Kenneth Mburu Mung'ara from Kenya took the top spot with a time of 2:13:38. In the Women's Marathon, Gulume Tollesa Chala from Ethiopia, won the top spot with a time of 2:29:36. The champions of both the men's and women's events each took home US\$65,000 in prize money.



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Half Marathon and 10KM Highlights

Li Chun Hui from China won the Men's Half Marathon with a time of 1:10:00.6, while Hao Xiao Fan from China took the top spot in the Women's Half Marathon with a time of 1:18:13.

In the Men's 10KM Race, Kok Yu Hang from Hong Kong took the top spot with a time of 0:31:57. In the Women's division, Choi Yan Yin from Hong Kong took first place at 0:37:16.

All funds raised from the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 will be donated to the race's three official charities: "Seeing is Believing" – Orbis; the Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society; and the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association for the Physically Disabled. As of mid-2017, 67 million had been raised for the charities.

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 has been designated a Brand Hong Kong event by the HKSAR government. Other sponsors of the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 include: the Western Harbour Tunnel Company Limited, Nike Hong Kong, Citizen Watches (H.K.) Limited, Watsons Water, POAD Group Limited, GP Batteries International Limited, Mars Foods Incorporated (Snickers), BMW Concessionaires (HK) Limited, InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong, DKSH Hong Kong Limited (Salonpas), Delonghi Kenwood APA Limited (Kenwood), Lukfook Jewellery, and General Mills – Hong Kong (Nature Valley). Supporting organisations include: the Information Services Department, Hong Kong Tourism Board, TIML MOM Limited, Leisure and Cultural Services Department and MTR Corporation Limited.

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About the Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon

www.hkmarathon.com

The Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon is Hong Kong's largest participatory annual sporting event, organised by the HKAAA. With a first title sponsorship in 1997, Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited will celebrate its 22nd year as title sponsor with the 2018 Event.

Standard Chartered also sponsors marathons in 7 other cities globally including Taipei, Singapore, Nairobi, Kuala Lumpur, Dubai, Stanley (Falkland Islands), and Jersey.

Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2018 has been recognised as an "M" Mark event that helps enhance the image of Hong Kong as Asia's sports event capital. The "M" Mark is awarded by the Major Sports Events Committee, symbolising intense, spectacular and signature events in the territories sports calendar.