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Media Release

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RESULTS: RÖSSING MARATHON NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, 10 KM RUN AND URANIUM TEAM RELAY.

Mynhardt Kauanivi of the Namibian Police (Nampol) became a first time winner of the Rössing Marathon National Championship when he won the 23rd edition of the event in Swakopmund in 2:25:14 today. A proud Kauanivi said after the race: "The Nampol Sport Club has been trying for a while to take the marathon champion title back from the Namibia Defence Force (NDF) runners. This year we finally managed to do so. Thank you to my club for and my team mates for all their support." The marathon, which was run in overcast, but humid conditions, attracted 74 runners. Simon Shipingana of the NDF managed another second place in 2:26:48 after coming second in 2013 as well. Paulus Vilho of the Kakandinwa Club from Ohangwena came third in 2:26:58.

In the Ladies Open category, Alina Armas, competing for the NDF, won for the second straight year in 2:48:58. She was followed by Helena lipinge (NDF) in 2:55:55 and Otilie Aimwata, also from the NDF, in 2:57:06.

The Namibian Defence Force continued their dominance in the 10km Run with Reonard Namupala taking the honours in a time of 32:36:00. He was followed by Johannes Skrywer of Nampol (32:47:00) and last year's marathon champion, Paulus Iyambo (NDF) in a time of 32:50:00.

In the Ladies Open category of the 10km Run, Helalia Johannes (NDF) won in 33:10:00 with Lavinia Haitope in second place (34:16:00) while Aina Imalwa (Nampol) came third in 36:00:00.

A total of 127 athletes took part in the 10km Run this year.

In the Uranium Relay Run, a team event over 10 kilometres for uranium companies in the Erongo Region, the "Plate and Pipe Maintenance" team of Rossing were crowned champions with a time of 44:54:00. Four runners each run 2.5 kilometres in this fun event, aimed at team building and camaraderie between members of the uranium industry.

The Men's Open and Ladies' Open Marathon winners won N\$10 000 cash each as well as a Development Bonus worth N\$20 000 each in support of the continued development of the athletics careers of these two champions over the remainder of the long distance running season in 2014.

Speaking at the main prize giving ceremony after the event, Rössing's Managing Director, Werner Duvenhage, said: "We are proud to re-commit to the development of professional athletes in Namibia. The development bonus was introduced in 2010 and this is the fourth year that Rössing is investing in the future of our country's sport heroes and heroines. You are now ambassadors for healthy lifestyles all over the country and beyond."

Duvenhage added: "Excellence in Health, Safety and Environmental management is one of the foundations of Rössing's commitment to being a responsible miner and the best corporate citizen that we can be. I am also happy to announce that we are committed to continue our sponsorship of this important event on the Namibian athletics calendar, and plan to do it for the 24th time next year."

The fun filled 5km Charity Fun Walk in aid of the Cancer Association of Namibia was well supported by walkers from the coastal towns, but also as far as Windhoek and even Europe. During the Fun Walk prize-giving, prizes were given in various categories, including for the oldest walker who was 77 years old and a medical doctor from France.

The event, hosted in Swakopmund by Swakop Striders Athletics Club and sponsored by Rössing Uranium, promoted healthy lifestyles with the theme for this year being "Champions maintain their health – Keep up the pace."

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