Inaugural Mitchell Street Mile a real winner

21 September 2014

More than 3500 onlookers flocked to Mitchell Street in Darwin’s CBD today for the running of the inaugural Mitchell Street Mile.

In front of the vocal crowd, Australia mile record holder Craig Mottram claimed the title of the fastest miler in a sprint finish in a time of 4.03.6. While in the elite women’s race, Australian cross country champion Bridey Delaney crossed the line first in a time of 4.47.2.

“Despite the hot and humid conditions, it was great to see such exciting races in both of the elite categories and such quick times with Craig going oh so close to breaking the 4 minute mile,” said Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing Matt Conlan who fired the starter’s gun on the inaugural race today.

“It was a real coup to secure four Australian athletes for this year’s event and it gives us great confidence we can really turn the Mitchell Street Mile into a major highlight on the national sporting calendar going forward.

“With our close proximity to Asia, we will also be looking lure more international athletes in the future as we build on this year’s event and ensure the Mitchell Street Mile comes back even bigger and better next year.

“The Mile is a great addition to our FestivalsNT calendar of events where Territorians can come together and celebrate our unique lifestyle. It was fantastic to see so many families come into the city today and either watch the action or compete together in the Mile.

“It was also great to see such community spirit on show with everyone supporting and cheering on all the runners, which included our fire fighters, defence, police force members and even the bomb squad, as they ran down Mitchell Street or as they crossed the finish line.

“I’d like to thank Athletics NT and all our volunteers for helping to put on the event and also the Mitchell Street traders, businesses including tourism, hospitality and service providers, City of Darwin and the Department of Transport for their support in helping us deliver the event safely.

“Congratulations to all the winners today and everyone who competed, see you all again next year.”
The inaugural Mitchell Street Mile saw 410 competitors from every state and territory complete the 1.6 kilometre course from the Deck Bar to the Darwin Entertainment Centre and back with the youngest competitor 6 years old and oldest 83.

For a full list of winners go to: http://www.mitchellstreetmile.com.au/

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