

KIDS TRIATHLON

Development of the sport in Papua New Guinea

Introduction



- Triathlon has been run in Papua New Guinea since the early 1990s but had not really taken off until recently.
- In past years, Triathlon has always been run as a team relay event in the Sprint Distance mainly for the adults, in the capital city, Port Moresby and in Wewak, located in the most northern part of the country.
- Triathlon Association was established and affiliated with the PNG Sports Federations & Olympic Committee in 2009. The Association in the same year introduced three Sprint Distance Triathlon events to Port Moresby with huge popularity.
- Since 2010, the interest in Triathlon has seen exponential growth with clubs established and events introduced in four other towns outside Port Moresby.



- Whilst most events, have mostly been run for adults, there has also been great interest shown by children.
- PNG Triathlon Association introduced the first triathlon to the kids in March this year. The popularity of kids Triathlon has grown immensely with over 1,500 kids competing in the last 12 months.

Events



- ❑ **Port Moresby**

- ❑ March – Triathlon in two categories
- ❑ August - Aquathlon in two categories
- ❑ October – Triathlon in two categories
- ❑ November – Aquathlon in two categories
- ❑ **Buka**
- ❑ September – Aquathlon in two categories

- ❑ **Manus**

- ❑ November – Aquathlon in two categories

- ❑ **Lihir**

- ❑ October – Triathlon in two categories

- ❑ **Wewak**

- ❑ October – Aquathlon in two categories
- ❑ November – Aquathlon in two categories

- ❑ **Tabubil**

- ❑ November – Aquathlon in two categories



- In less than 12 months, we have established kids Triathlon events in five towns around the country.
- Kids in some of these towns do not own bicycles, so we instead ran Aquathlons to get more participation from the kids.
- We hope that with the growing popularity, parents who have shown great interest in encouraging and supporting their children will get them bicycles so we may run the full Triathlon events in 2011.
- We give credit to Terry Sheldrake of ITU NZ and Sanitarium NZ for supplying the Weetbix t-shirts, swim caps and medals which played a big part in drawing the interest amongst the kids.
- Credit also goes to the volunteers who worked with us in developing the sport these past 12 months

Port Moresby



Buka



Lihir



Wewak

