

# IRONMAN 70.3 to open today

## Manama

Under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, the opening ceremony of the IRONMAN 70.3 Middle East Championship will be held today at 6:30pm at Bahrain Bay.

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa expressed his gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for his continuous support and follow-up for the triathlon sport, thanks to which this game witnessed a qualitative leap in the past period.

"The support drives us to present the best performance in the next stage. The Organising Committee is fully ready to host the Ironman

Middle East Championship," stated His Highness, noting that the Bahrain Triathlon Association (BTA) and the Organising Committee have worked with great effort and determination in the recent period.

"The event will increase the Organising Committee's expertise, which will highlight the good reputation of Bahraini cadres in the perfect organisation of sports events in the Kingdom," His Highness Shaikh Nasser added.

The Director of the IRONMAN 70.3 Middle East Championship Ahmad Al Haj revealed that "The Organising Committee is ready to host the race on Saturday. There are also many different programs accompanying the race, mainly the triathlon race for children on Friday and the Expo."

Thursday will be the official registration day to participate in IRONMAN, Ahmed

al-Haj added.

The Organising Committee of the IRONMAN 70.3 Middle East Championship Bahrain has announced the platinum sponsor of the championship, Al Hassanain Company B.S.C, the leading heavy equipment company in the Kingdom.

A press conference has also been organised today at 11am where members of the Organising Committee and the Technical Committee will speak about championship's route and various organisational and technical matters

## Adopting the Route

The Organising Committee announced the approval of the three-stage route of the championship. Swimming competitions will be held in Bahrain Bay for a distance of 1.9 km, the cycling competitions for 90 km, ending with a running race of 21.1 km. The track of the three competitions will pass by the urban, developmental and heritage sites in the Kingdom to introduce participants to Bahrain's growth, which is one of the objectives of the IRONMAN Championships.

## Big Turnout for IRONKIDS and IRONGIRLS

Many children have registered to participate in IRONKIDS and IRONGIRLS to be held on Friday. The children's race will be held at 11 am in Bahrain Bay. The triathlon race for girls will be held at 4 pm and the triathlon race for boys will take place at 5 pm. The Committee categorised the participants under the age of 14 years, as follows: the age group of 12-14 years will run for 2.5 km, the age group 10-12 years for 1.5 km, the age group 8-10 years for 1 km, the age group 6-8-years for 500 m, 4-6 years for 250 m, 4 years and younger for 100 m.

