



PRESS RELEASE

City of Los Alamitos
Contact: Recreation and Community Services
(562) 430 – 1073
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UWS Race on the Base

The Universal Waste Systems (UWS) Race on the Base returns! The exciting event was organized in collaboration with the City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department and the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base. The event took place on Saturday, March 1, 2025, and featured a reverse Sprint Triathlon and a 5K Run/Walk, encouraging participants of all ages to showcase their endurance. At the helm, Recreation Manager Jason Bruton, with assistance from Recreation Staff and Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Fox, ensured smooth operations on event day and set up the day prior. A special thank you goes to Universal Waste Systems (UWS) for their generous and highly impactful contribution as the event's Title Sponsor. Additional sponsors included Financial Partners Credit Union, The Family Plumber, and Motivated by Lisa.

Setup began in the early mornings the day before the race on Friday, February 28. The transition area was secured, ready for the sea of bikes and equipment to arrive the following day. Paths were cleared, and new sets of orange cones lined the military base's tarmac, creating clear and safe paths for the race. At the gym, located next to the pool, the Recreation Staff, vendors, and event partners prepared for the initial wave of eager participants ready to pick up their bibs and confirm registration. From 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., the community was welcomed to learn about partner services and event registration. For those who could not miss out on racing in such a unique setting, last-minute registration was available starting at 5:30 a.m. on race day, Saturday, March 1.

Recreation Staff secured the finishing touches as check-in opened and the sun began to slowly peer over the horizon. A trail of cars made their way into the event parking lot directly across the military pool and gym. An upbeat tracklist filled the air at the starting zone by the pool and the 5K finish line located next to the Reverse Sprint Triathlon transition area. Athletes decorated in their race gear began their race day warm-ups and rituals, preparing themselves physically and mentally for the challenge ahead. A wide range of ages were represented at the event for both the 5K and Reverse Sprint Triathlon including minors and older adults.



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It was a crisp, cool morning as Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Fox signaled the start of the first wave of the Reverse Sprint Triathlon at 7:00 a.m. after the national anthem. Athletes began the sequence of running, biking, and swimming. Meanwhile, shortly after, at 7:15 a.m., Mayor Shelley Hasselbrink led the start of the 5K with about 500 runners.

It wasn't long before triathlon athletes began to show up at the transition area to hastily grab their bikes. A few moments later the first few 5K finishers arrived. In the lead, 14-year-old Evan Weitzman from Newport Beach finished first overall, followed by 23-year-old Brian Rogers from Los Alamitos. Evan finished with a time of 18:15 while Brian clocked in at 18:44. Each finisher was presented with a race medal and a variety of light snacks and drinks to help revitalize their bodies. A photo backdrop was also available to snap a quick photo and cement their accomplishment. Shortly after, bikers began to arrive to rerack and transition into the last segment of the triathlon race over at the pool.

The day continued seamlessly as the first wave of triathlon athletes crossed the finish line. Finishing first overall was 43-year-old Todd Corley from Westlake Village, who celebrated a time of 54:48, with 38-year-old Mathew Wong from Los Angeles following closely behind, with a time of 55:54. A crowd began to form near the pool parking lot as a second wave of triathlon participants was set to begin at 8:30 a.m. Top finishers for the second wave included first place Kyle Vestermark from Aliso Viejo, finishing with a time of 1:08:48, followed by Noe Ruben Cortez from Tijuana, Mexico, with only a few seconds behind at 1:09:09.

The gym remained open throughout the event, offering athletes and spectators a space to collect resources on topics like health and wellness to resources for the U.S. military and their families. Vendors and partners included the following.

- Universal Waste Systems
- Financial Partners Credit Union
- The Family Plumber
- Motivated by Lisa
- Braithwaite Chiropractic
- Nutrishop
- United Services Organization (USO)
- Los Angeles Port Police
- Los Altos Modern Dentistry
- Salt & Pepper Food Truck

The event welcomed over 2,000 attendees, including approximately 1,000 participating athletes. This marks another successful collaboration between the Los Alamitos Joint



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Forces Training Base and the City of Los Alamitos Recreation and Community Services Department. It also kicks off the start of the event season for the City, with many more to follow, including the extraordinary 3rd of July Firework Spectacular, returning this summer and also held at the military base.

The Recreation & Community Services Department strives to continue providing safe and exciting events for all residents to gather. For more information about upcoming events and programs, please visit www.cityoflosalamitos.org/recreation or contact the Recreation and Community Services Department at (562) 430 – 1073.

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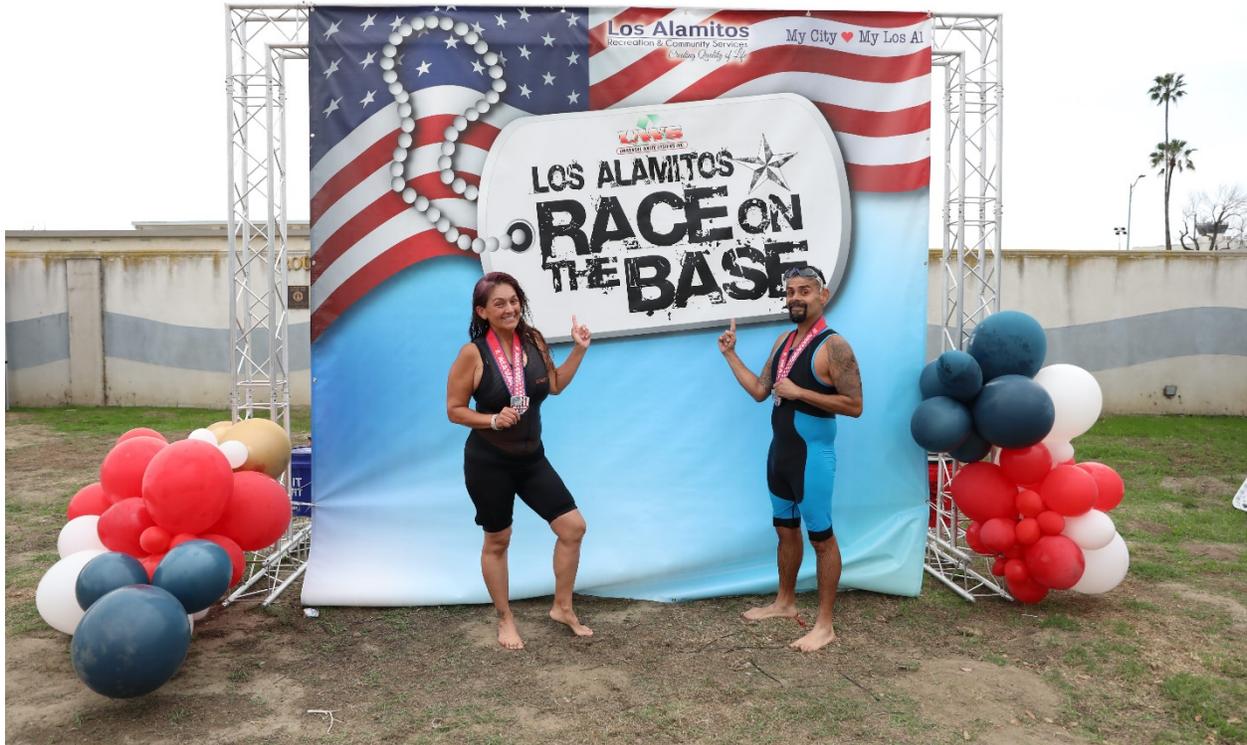
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