



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

### **18<sup>th</sup> Antarctica Marathon & Half-Marathon Top Winners**

Mother Nature cooperated with perfect weather for the 18<sup>th</sup> Antarctica Marathon & Half-Marathon held on King George’s Island in the South Shetland Islands of Antarctica on March 10 and 11. The events were run in two waves on consecutive days with a total of 185 runners from 17 countries. Included in this count were five half-marathon participants from the Chinese staff of the Great Wall Base and the Chilean staff from Frei Base.

The first wave of runners hosted on board the Akademik Sergei Vavilov Ship started at 8:45 AM on Friday, March 10. Winds were mild with temperatures at 35F under mostly cloudy skies. The second day, runners hosted on the Akademik Ioffe Ship ran under similar conditions. Both days produced ideal conditions for running on this challenging course.

Luan Huynh of Aalborg Ost, Denmark led from the start on day two to claim victory in a time of 3:24:22. The women’s title was claimed by Lesley Mettler Auld, age 45, from Seattle, WA with a time of 4:06:14 finishing in tenth place overall. David Sundstrom, age 39, from Karlstad, Sweden was the second blind runner to complete in the events by finishing the half-marathon over rough and hilly terrain in a time of 2:26:50. Following are the top winners in each category.

#### **Overall Marathon Winners**

##### **MEN**

Luan Huynh (34)	Denmark	3:24:22
John Robida (36)	USA	3:27:12
Christopher Brooks (45)	Ireland	3:33:13

##### **WOMEN**

Lesley Mettler Auld (45)	USA	4:06:14
Crystal Tolman (31)	USA	4:18:06
Amanda Klein (33)	USA	4:23:03

## **Overall Half-Marathon Winners**

### **MEN**

Joan Valtierra (42)	Chile	1:47:49
Francisco Kuuschol (38)	Chile	1:53:10
Luis Codo (40)	Chile	2:07:33

### **WOMEN**

Cynthia Lyons (50)	USA	2:08:36
Maya Thomas (13)	USA	2:10:34
Kim Tucker (43)	USA	2:11:54

### **About Marathon Tours & Travel**

Founded in 1979, Marathon Tours & Travel (MTT) was the first global company to specialize in travel services specifically for runners. Located in Boston, the home of the world's oldest marathon, MTT is the official North American travel agency for many of the world's most popular running events including the BAA Boston Marathon, Virgin London Marathon and many others.

A full service travel agency, MTT has many long-standing professional relationships with airlines, hotels and travel wholesalers.

In 1995 MTT created the Antarctica Marathon & Half-Marathon, which generated a new genre of adventure runs. The Antarctica events enabled runners to set and reach the once unthinkable goal of finishing a marathon or half-marathon on all seven continents. Pursuantly, the Seven Continents Club was formed to recognize these runners and to offer special VIP services to international globetrotting distance runners.

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