

## MARATHON ENTRIES OFF AND RUNNING

Media release -12 November 2018

Entries for Cairns' newest one day sporting event are officially off and running.

The inaugural 7 Cairns Marathon Festival will take place on Sunday April 28 and participants are getting in early to secure their space and take advantage of early bird entry fees.

Atlas Multisports managing director Jason Crowther is pleased with number of entries taken in the first two weeks and the support from the community, however, there is much work to be done with an inaugural event.

"Work has commenced not only to ensure it's an event the Cairns community can be proud of but one that appeals to runners of all abilities and those who travel from outside the region, interstate and overseas to take part."

This year the aim is for the event to generate funds for organisations such as major beneficiary Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) and runners can use the event as a vehicle to fundraise for the charity of their choice.

"Aside from promoting health, fitness and community participation our goal has always been to use the event as a vehicle to raise as much money and awareness for local community groups and charities," Mr Crowther said.

"Other charities have raised significant dollars through crowdfunding means through our events. It is an excellent opportunity for people to get together, have a run and fundraise for the charity of their choice".

Ronald McDonald House Community Engagement Executive Megan Palmer see's the event as an opportunity to truly help those in need.

"This is such an incredible opportunity to raise much needed funds to help our local sick kids and their families when they need it most. We are so excited and truly grateful to be a part of this event."

Local Cairns runner John Baxter has entered the marathon in the inaugural event and says taking advantage of early bird entries can help embed your yearly running goals.

"I had set myself a goal of competing in my first full marathon in 2019 and when the opportunity of participating in a marquee event in my own backyard became an option, I just had to jump onboard." Mr Baxter said.

"The early bird special allows me to not only save a few dollars but will go a long way in helping maintain my running focus over the summer and launch into my race training and preparations in January".

**ENDS** 

For more information please call:

Atlas Multisports general manager Lisa Crowther - 0413 347 412

RMHC Community Engagement Executive Megan Palmer - 0439 376 467







