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Ironman Asia Pacific Championship coming to Cairns

JIM CAMPBELL • THE CAIRNS POST • NOVEMBER 20, 2015 9:12AM

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WINNING: Luke McKenzie crosses the finish line to be crowned the 2015 Ironman Cairns winner. PICTURE: BRENDAN RADKE

CAIRNS' world-famous Ironman event will step up another level next year with the city luring Australia's biggest triathlon event from Melbourne.

Minister for Tourism and Major Events Kate Jones confirmed the Ironman Asia Pacific Championship would move north to Cairns for the next three years.

The deal means Cairns is one of only five cities in the world to host a round of the competition's elite level, which will attract the world's top athletes to the Far North.

Ms Jones locked in the deal while meeting the global chief of Ironman in Wuhan yesterday as part of a tourism mission in China.

"I am delighted the Ironman Asia Pacific Championship will become an extension to the highly successful Cairns Airport Adventure Festival for the next three years," she said.

"Queensland and Cairns have the perfect all-year climate for major triathlon and sporting events."

Cairns Regional Council estimated the economic benefit to the city from last year's Ironman event was more than \$22 million.

Mayor Bob Manning said the announcement would "make 150,000 people out there in Cairns happy"



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Whip rules stir Cairns racing industry



CAIRNS trainer Scott Cooper says some of racing's greatest moments would be rewritten if proposed new whip rules had previously been in affect.

Cairns nabs elite Ironman triathlon



CAIRNS' world-famous Ironman event will step up another level next year with the city luring Australia's biggest triathlon event from Melbourne.

Romelda Aiken set to defend Firebirds' title in double bid



Don't think for a second key goalscorer Romelda Aiken isn't hungry for further success next season.

'Sorry Steve, you're boring,

people out there in Cairns happy .

“It’s an enormous credit to the city,” he said.

“We’re reaping some great rewards now for work done over the last few years.”

Cr Manning said the decision came at a time when, in a broader sense, “the tropics are on the rise”.

“People now have confidence in Cairns – in the destination, in the product and in the infrastructure we have to put this event on.”

The council last week voted to increase its funding for the event by \$50,000 to \$390,000 per year for the 2016-18 period.

Member for Cairns Rob Pyne said the Ironman Asia Pacific Championship would strengthen Cairns’ reputation as an event city.

He said it would attract up to 3000 participants, with about half of them from interstate or overseas.

“We expect to welcome participants from more than 50 countries,” he said.

The deal was part of a broader Tourism Events Queensland strategy to make Queensland the home of triathlon.

The huge Ironman event will take place on June 12 as part of the Cairns Airport Adventure Festival from June 5-12.



ON TO A WINNER: Minister for Tourism and Major Events Kate Jones confirmed the Ironman Asia Pacific Championship would move north to Cairns for the next three years. PICTURE: PAUL GUY

mate’



STEVE Smith is starting to get a reputation as Australia’s new captain grumpy, but he should be more worried about a different nickname.

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DIVING IN: Lead competitors race to enter the water for the start of the full Cairns Ironman competition at Palm Cove earlier this year. PICTURE: JUSTIN BRIERTY

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POSTED AT 5:29 PM
NOVEMBER 20, 2015

So a road get closed for a few hours out of over 8700 it is open and a beach busy for a few hours extremely early in the

morning, for one morning. And you're moaning. Geez!! No wonder Cairns is known as the whinging capital.

Cameron of Cairns

POSTED AT 3:59 PM
NOVEMBER 20, 2015

There is only one thing in your comment 'psyfly' that makes any sense whatsoever and that is Cairns is indeed a Tourist City that will welcome all to the region to enjoy and spend their money. Triathletes would be one sector that spends more than most on Hotel Accommodation, meals and services for which we should be over the moon about, not grizzling and moaning as you suggest. The small inconvenience of a few roads closed here and there (if any) should be a small price to pay for the overall benefit and the cash injection of events such as these. Funds that filter through the entire town, countless advertising opportunities and marketing of this fine region is not something we should be negative about. I for one can't wait and would eagerly welcome more events of this nature to the area. A Great Result!!

turtle

POSTED AT 1:53 PM
NOVEMBER 20, 2015

Having explored the effect on the city (traffic, residents, disruption) of having too such events on the same weekend. Melbourne gave it up a few weeks ago because it clashed with revised dates for the F1 Grand Prix and the powers that be preferred the noisy cars. Although I am sure Cairns will do a good job, saying it was nabbed or lured from Melbourne is inaccurate and just feeding FNQ parochialism.

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