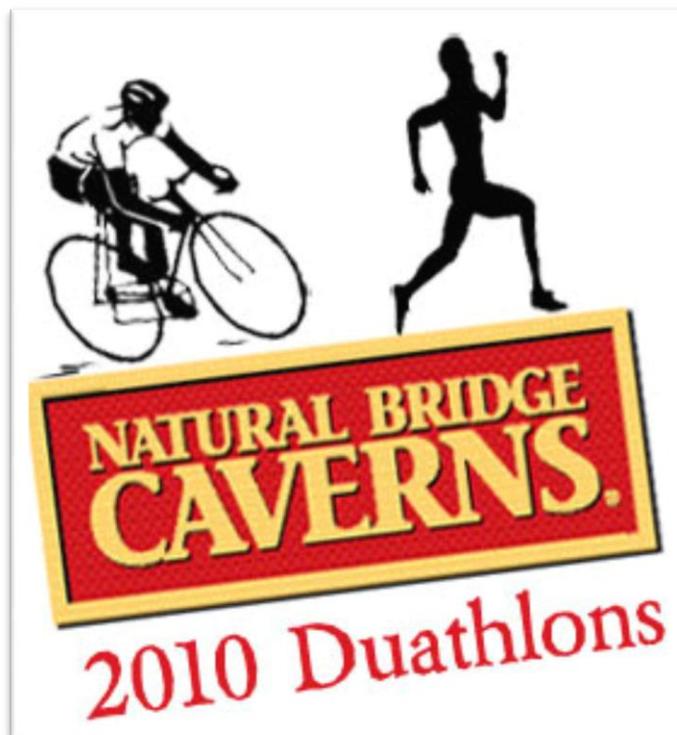


USA TRIATHLON
CONSULTANCY
MY RACE HAS
EXCESS OF \$4
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
MY RACE
IS UNIQUE:
IT STARTS
WITH A
BIKE RIDE
AND HAS
MULTIPLE
SWIMS
MY RACE
CROSSES
FOUR
BRIDGES
IN FOUR
DIFFERENT
CITIES
MY RACE HOSTED THE SENIOR GAMES
TRI, ATTRACTING 300 TRIATHLETES
FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY
MY RACE
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ON THE
VERSUS
NETWORK
IN 2009



USA Triathlon Consultancy Report

Event Services Consultant: Faye Stech

December 02. 2010

USA TRIATHLON
CONSULTANCY
MY RACE HAS
EXCESS OF \$400,000 IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS
MY RACE IS UNIQUE: IT STARTS WITH A BIKE RIDE AND HAS MULTIPLE SWIMS MY RACE CROSSES FOUR BRIDGES IN FOUR DIFFERENT CITIES
MY RACE HOSTED THE SENIOR GAMES TRI, ATTRACTING 300 TRIATHLETES FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY
MY RACE HAD ITS TELEVISION DEBUT ON THE VERSUS NETWORK

OVERVIEW

It's 6:00am. Dawn is fast approaching as hundreds of athletes file in to the blue snow fencing of the home-made transition area. The smell of sausage fills the air and a thin layer of smoke from the grill hovers above the crowd. Athletes make their way to hear the race director speak just before the race. He informs them that it is not too late to back out of this one-of-a-kind challenge that will make their lungs burn, their muscles ache, and test their will power every step and peddle stroke of the way. This Duathlon is not only one of the most challenging in the area; it is also hosted in a cave.

Duathletes make their slow descent down numerous switchbacks into the black hole that will serve as the race's start. One by one the athletes are fired off. They take off into the dark cave and disappear into complete dark. Mission one: chase the leader out of the cave. And then, the race begins.

The runners change into bikers and make their way over the four different on and off road courses that each has their own personalities and challenging inclines and declines. The course is clearly marked and has dozens of policemen present to guide racers and traffic.

Athletes finish the course running through the beautiful venue of 1400 lush wooded acres. The finish line is teeming with happy finishers, volunteers, staff, and spectators. Everyone present gets to enjoy the fresh grilled sausage, fruit, pastries, and Frito pies. The winners receive beautiful geode slices of their choice for their awards.

This race is one that you do not want to miss. The unique venue, challenging hills, and food galore are just some of the many reasons to enjoy this Redemption Race Productions event.

Event Profile

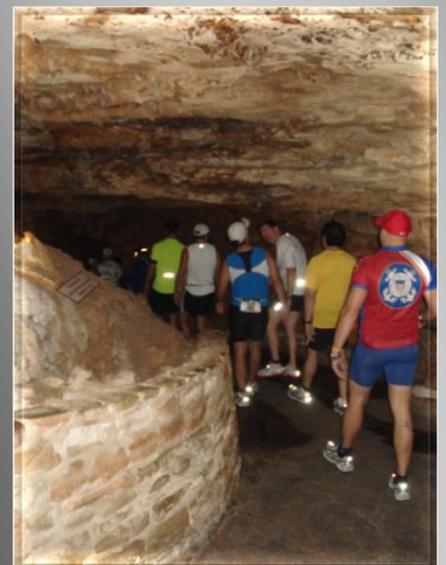
Race Director: Brian Schmidt

Location: San Antonio, TX

Date: 11/21/10

Years Sanctioned: 1

Discipline(s): Duathlon & Off-Road Duathlon



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COURSE LAYOUT

Featured Course: Bike

The bike portions of the four races are challenging and hilly. The on road portion is nicely accompanied by the Harley Davidson crew. They are quick to help fallen riders, great for keeping vehicle traffic aware of the riders, and smiling spectators that cheer riders up the steep inclines of this course. The mountain bike is very technical and features a ride through the woods, along a lake shore, and over a lime stone bed. Medical staff is on high alert at the base of several tricky areas in case assistance is needed. All four of the courses received rave reviews from participants. Seventy-seven year old Luke Oliver said, "I've been doing triathlons since the early 90s. This is my 136th and this was the hardest course I've ever done."

Run:

This Duathlon has two things to offer that other races do not: stalagmites and stalactites. That's right, a full blown, two mile long, dark cave with signs of a 5000 year old bat colony, 108 feet below the earth's surface. This cave serves as the start to the race where runners line up one at a time for the time trial start. One racer said this of the start: "This start was unlike any other. Each runner gets let off while the other runners watch them disappear into the blackness. It's an eerie start and makes you want to get out quick." The run continued out of the cave and along gravel roads, through lush woods, and into the transition area. There are four races going on at once, but the well marked course is easily navigated and fun for all. The courses serve as the first and third leg of this Duathlon. Runners end under a huge blue and yellow clad blow-up finish line. Finishers are greeted with dozens of spectators, race support staff, water, and any kind of food you could want.

Transition:

Transition done the Redemption Racing way is unique. Why? This is a 100% home-made transition. The bikes are lined up seven on each rack. The transition is open racking with the bike/run ins and outs on either side, making it fair for all. This transition is different as well because next to a Time Trail Bike is a mountain bike, and next to that is a hybrid bike. This is a great demonstration of the "something for everything" type of race that Brian and his Redemption Race Production team is known for putting on.

Top 10 Reasons to do Natural Bridge Caverns Duathlon:

10. Who doesn't like Kielbasa sausage and onions at 6am?
9. Enthusiastic race support staff that is knowledgeable and eager to help
8. They allow race day sign-ups, for those who forgot to register
7. There is something for everyone in this event which boasts FOUR races, on and off road
6. There is food GALORE at this event, ranging from fruit to pastries and home-made sweet tea, plus...
5. The food is for everyone not just race participants
4. This race is the only race ever to be held at the venue which gives participants and family members discounted tours
3. The timing was done instantaneously at the finish for people who want to keep track of their standings.
2. The awards are geode slices that participants get to choose for themselves
1. The start is in a cave, 108ft. below the earth's surface...

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Featured Aspect Of The Event: The Cave

This is the first event ever to have taken place at the Natural Bridge Caverns site. This 1400 acre, privately owned land had never had anyone approach them with an event like this. Why were they so eager to comply? "Brian was great to work with. He was well organized, had the logistics ready before he even approached us, and was happy and quick at responding with requests of the owners", said Erin Vauter of Natural Bridges Caverns. She says that the amount of traffic that came in due to the race was great and they couldn't have been happier with the 250 person turnout.

Conclusion

This race is one that will go down in history for the venue, the participants, and for Duathlon. The race was put on by a great, well organized, and experienced staff that not only cares for all of the participants, but also for the spectators. The staff knows how to put on a quality event that sticks to the mission statement of Redemption Race Productions: "Committed to providing unique quality events and serving our community in Jesus name." Those who did the race will remember it, those who watched the race will talk about it, and those who were inspired to do the race better start training for this incredibly challenging and unique race.

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"This start was unlike any other. Each runner gets let off while the other runners watch them disappear into the blackness. It's an eerie start and makes you want to get out quick."

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Worth A Thousand Words

