

Foustok, Roghi kick off RRR season in style

BY RICHARD SLATER

RIYADH — The Riyadh Road Runners (RRR) kicked off their new season in style Friday, with 201 finishers ensuring that the race will go down in history as the largest event to be arranged by the club.

However, despite the increase in numbers and many new faces, it was the female club champion, Claudine Roghi, and the ever-green M. Foustok who ran away with the honors once again.

Over a 5-km course it is of paramount importance to get a good start. In the men's race, Matthew Mickelson went off very quickly, holding the lead over the first kilometer. However, Bengt Lofgren, the reigning male club champion, and Foustok, reigning marathon champion, kept him in their sights and worked their way through the field and onto the heel of Mickelson by the 1.5km mark.

From there on, Foustok ran away with the race in his inimitable style, with Lofgren cementing second place a mere 40 seconds behind. AbdulMajeed Al-Muayquil came home in third place — an encouraging display which bodes well for the rest of the season, and a full 3 minutes quicker



Participants running the course

than his time last year.

Further down the field saw good performances from veteran

Russ McArthur and newcomer Alexander Beazley.

Roghi went into the ladies'

race the strong favorite for victory, particularly given her performance in the off season at the Two Oceans race in Cape Town. She ran a consistent pace throughout, picking off Nikki Layne who led through the early stages.

Finishing in 22:24, Roghi demonstrated the improvement she has made in the last year, as her time was almost 3 minutes quicker than she clocked here last year. Nikki Layne held on for the second spot, with Clare Scott making her way through the field in the latter stages of the race to pip Candace Adachi for third.

Riyadh Road Runners would like to thank Carrefour Tala Mall for sponsoring the club and providing refreshments, and also Ishbiliyah Compound for providing the venue.

The next men's race over 5 miles is set to be wide open since Foustok will be away at a race in Chile.

Results:

Men: 1. M. Foustok (KSA) 18:16, 2. B Lofgren (Swe) 18:56, 3. A Al-Muayquil (KSA) 19:16.

Ladies: 1. C Roghi (NZ/Fra) 22:24, 2. N Layne (GB) 22:48, 3. C Scott (GB) 23:11.



M. Foustok of Saudi Arabia in action during the race.



Gilas Pilipinas revelation Terrence Romeo defies a tough South Korean defender to score on an acrobatic layup in the team's game against South Korea in the 2015 Jones Cup on Aug. 31. Romeo scored a game-high 23 points but Gilas lost the game, 70-82, one of its two losses in the tournament, the other being to Iran, 65-74, on Sept. 2, 2015.

es Cup where it a 4-4 win-loss e teams in the rankings are: (6) Jordan, (7) Japan, (8) Kazakhstan, (9) Qatar, (10) Lebanon, (11) Palestine, (12) Kuwait, (13) India, (14) Hong Kong, (15) Malaysia, and (16) Singapore.

n career



It's an exciting time, I think we can cover all the retirements, we've got a great leader in Steve Smith.

Brad Haddin

one embraced that campaign and the way we were playing," he said.

"But the highlight for me is the support you get in the good and the bad. The support me and my family have had over the years."

Saudi Star Drift Championship begins in Ahsa tomorrow

BY SALEH FAREED

JEDDAH — Saudi Star Drift Championship returns for its second spell with renewed challenge and invigorating excitement similar to last year's event when it launches in Al-Ahsa tomorrow.

The championship is organized by Abdullah Bakhshab, Saudi motorsport developer, and sponsored by Mountain Dew, Nissan, Saudi Total Lubricants and Alif Alif Radio under the supervision of the Saudi Arabian Motor Federation.



help them improve their driving skills."

He pointed out that motorsport in the Kingdom will take its rightful place through the organization of more motorsport events and by ensuring participation of the largest possible number of young talent. "We organize this championship to help raise the public driving skills and shift their love for it from public roads to organized events in a secured setting," he said.

Abdullah Wazni, general manager for marketing and communications at Nissan Saudi Arabia said, "Nissan is