

FONTERRA FLYERS WINS CURE KID GREAT ADVENTURE RACE FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Fonterra Flyers has won the 2008 North Island Cure Kid Great Adventure Race title for the second consecutive year in an event which raised over \$593,000 for research into children's life threatening illnesses.

Fonterra, which entered six teams in this year's corporate multisport race on Friday April 4, also won the fundraising trophy raising \$71,000. Microsoft was runner-up with \$41,000 and Cisco raised \$34,000.

The race was again held in the Waitakere Ranges and based for the first time at Muriwai Beach attracting 41 teams mainly from the Auckland region.

The fifth time the event has been held it started at Te Henga track with a run/trek taking in Raetahinga Point, Mokoroa Stream, the Goldie Bush pa site and the Mokoroa Falls lookout. The mountain bike stage followed a course to Toroanui Falls and Pulpit Rock while the final stage, also a run/trek, went via Lake Okaihau to the finish line at Murawai Beach Reserve.

Race Director Alan Nelson says competitors loved the course because of the diverse terrain.

"There was a huge variety, much more than we have had in previous years and that's what the teams seemed to really enjoy. There was some spectacular scenery and the fact that much of the race was held on private land meant we could go to places we had never been to before. It certainly offered some fresh opportunities and good navigation skills were definitely the key."

The first two teams across the line, Price Waterhouse Cooper's Lost in Transition and Cisco's Get Routed were later among those teams who became unranked, because they did not complete the entire course, missing a small section of mandatory mountain biking.

Onesource was the fastest team, completing the 38km course in 6 hours 22mins, winning the informal category designed for teams whose members are not all from the same company.

Team member Steve Spain, who is a veteran of the Cure Kids Great Adventure Race, gave the course rave reviews. "It was a wicked course and we loved the technical aspects. It is definitely the best yet."

Fonterra Flyers won the overall title for the fastest corporate team crossing the finish line 18 minutes behind Onesource in 6 hours 40 mins. Team members were

delighted to win the title again and were particularly pleased with their company's combined fundraising efforts.

The second corporate team was NZI, a new team to the adventure race this year, finishing in 6 hours 44 mins.

Managing director Nicholas Hawkins who was part of the team was pleased to have finished so well up the field. "This is a first time adventure race for all of us and it has been a fantastic team exercise for a very good cause."

Agility Logistics Ltd took out third place in the corporate section after completing the course in 6 hours 59 mins.

Cure Kids North Island Funding Manager Angela Bishop says the race was once again a significant success.

"The funds raised are outstanding and we are again indebted to the many companies who go the extra mile to support the charity through this event. All the competitors say that while it's tough out on the course for a few hours, it's nothing like the challenges facing our young Cure Kids ambassadors, who live with their illnesses every day."

She paid tribute to the ambassadors who were at the finish to welcome the teams home and made special mention of the work of Search and Rescue and St John ambulance volunteers.

"Without their support we could not run this event and we are grateful for their combined input every year."

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COMPLETE LIST OF RESULTS AVAILABLE – www.curekids.org.nz