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1. CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

2017 will be the 25th running of this popular Meiringspoort event. An idea borne by a group of local ladies out on their early morning jog has grown to what we have to-day. Only possible due to the support of, you, our participants and our generous sponsors.

The first Meiringspoort21 was held on 23 October 1993 and attracted 310 entrants. In 2006 the 10km distance was added to the event. The 10km changed to a 12.5km in 2016 in order to meet logistical and safety requirements around increased numbers.

Meiringspoort21 will again offer all a unique soul enriching experience:-

- Registration at a proper “boere” bazaar
- Full on beer garden
- Transport to start in ostrich trucks
- Free coffee and rusks at the start
- Run/Walk in a pristine environment with nature at its best
- Flat route under towering cliffs of the majestic Swartberg Mountain Range
- Genuine rural hospitality

The De Rust community looks forward to welcoming you to our special 25th edition of the event on the weekend 13 to 14 October. Come out and support the “tannies met al hul heerlike gebak, die ooms met al hul vleis, wors en braais. Moet ook nie vergeet van die yskoue lemonades nie!!” So do not forget your wallets and bring your friends as well. We look forward to being of service to you all.

2. ENTRY PROCESS 2017

The event has grown from humble beginnings and in recent years we have had demand exceeding available entries. The 2017 entry process was no different and once the loyalty entry period had passed (50.2% take up) the balance of entries was again sold within a day of opening to all. By and large the on line process went smoothly and thankfully no major glitches were experienced in peak demand periods.

3. CHARITY ENTRIES

There will be a further opportunity for those folk who unfortunately were not able to gain an entry in the first round. **A limited number of Charity Entries will be on sale from 1 June.** These entries will cost R450,

inclusive of all on line fees. Proceeds of these entries are in aid of The Herberg Children's Home in Robertson. Make use of this opportunity if still keen on an entry. You will be supporting a worthy cause as well.

4. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions, as a last resort, **will be handled from 13 August to 13 September**. More info on this process will be provided in a subsequent newsletter. At this stage we are also cautioning all to note that there **MOST DEFINITELY WILL NOT BE ANY LATE SUBSTITUTIONS ENTERTAINED AT REGISTRATION ON THE FRIDAY EVENING** as has been the custom in recent years. This was clearly stated in the event rules upon entering. Due to chip timing, colour coded and personalised race number bibs this can no longer be entertained.

Shenanigans of some entrants in this process also put the organizers at undue risk in this regard. This has also necessitated the requirement for all to collect their own race number bibs. A requirement stipulated in the entry process and race number bibs will only be handed up against positive ID. No 3rd party collections will be permitted.

5. SUPPLEMENTARY T-SHIRT ORDERS

There has been a number of requests from entrants wanting to order T-shirts after not doing so on entering. Some even want to order additional T-shirts!! **An on line facility will open on 1 June until 31 August to accommodate these additional orders**. 2017 entrants will get access to the process with the system recognising your ID number. These shirts, unfortunately, will be more costly at R280 each, in order to defray bank/merchant and allied costs.

Please visit the website of meiringspoort21.co.za for Charity Entries and T-shirt orders as well as other news updates.

6. OUR SPONSORS FOR 2017

Please support our generous sponsors. Without these we would not be able to present this Meiringspoort event.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE:-

- 1. Klein Karoo Internasionaal**
- 2. Klein Karoo Agri**
- 3. Klein Karoo Toyota**
- 4. JW Seeds**
- 5. De Zeekoe Guest Farm / Reserve**
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