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Page 2 of 3

Double races to take off

Highway runs set to ignite Klang Valley after successful debut last year

KUALA LUMPUR

AFTER the success of last year's IJM Allianz Duo Highway Challenge, IJM Corporation Bhd (IJM) and Allianz Malaysia Bhd (Allianz) have once again joined forces this year for another round of cruising through Kuala Lumpur.

This year's Besraya Highway Challenge will feature a 13km run and 6km fun run on April 29 while the NPE Highway Challenge offers a much more challenging distance of a half marathon and 10km leisure run on July 29.

The 21km route for this year's NPE Highway Challenge will be different from last year, giving participants an opportunity to run along the new Pantai Sentral Park Interchange, which is expected to be ready just before the Challenge.

Since its debut last year, the run organised by Besraya (M) Sdn Bhd (Besraya), New Pantai Expressway Sdn Bhd (NPE) and EC Pixels, is the only highway challenge in Malaysia.

As venue sponsors, Besraya and NPE are responsible for getting the necessary approvals from the relevant authorities to organise the event.

Bukit Aman Traffic Division have approved the traffic management plan for total road closure on April 29 from 2am to noon for the Besraya Highway Challenge and on July 29 from 2am to noon for the NPE Highway Challenge.

Road users are advised to use alternative roads as announcements will be made on the impending closures.

"We are proud to announce the return of the IJM Allianz Duo Highway Challenge 2018 as it gives us the assurance for continuity and aligns with our long-term plans to continue contributing positively to sports and the community.



Participants running past the Loke Yew Toll Plaza during the Highway Challenge last year.

"Last year's run was a success, as participants enjoyed the total closure of both highways without a single vehicle obstructing the run routes," said IJM chief executive officer and managing director Datuk Soam Heng Choon.

"The safety of the participants is our main priority, so that runners can experience the freedom of running on the highways while enjoying the view," he added.

At the launch, three beneficiaries were selected to receive a special contribution from the surplus funds of last year's IJM Allianz Duo Highway Challenge.

The Lysosomal Malaysia Society will receive a RM10,000 contribu-

tion, Sekolah Rendah Agama Medan Harun teacher's room will be equipped with air conditioners and the Project Perumahan Rakyat Seri Malaysia will receive facilities and equipment for their meeting rooms.

Last year, the IJM Allianz Duo Highway Challenge attracted close to 15,100 runners, with about 5,700 runners turning up for the Besraya Highway Challenge and 9,400 runners at the NPE Highway Challenge.

The organisers plan to hold three running clinics for new runners and those who want to improve their skills.

The clinic is open to the public

for free but slots are limited and on a first come first serve basis.

Allianz chief executive officer Zakri Khir said, "Two runs, two competitive distances, two highways. It's the kind of event that should be your New Year's resolution or even on your bucket list. And that is why Allianz is very proud to partner IJM Corporation Berhad once again for the IJM Allianz Duo Highway Challenge 2018." For details, registration, race and race kits, visit: ijmhighwayrun.com or justonlineregistration.com.

Registration closes on March 31 (Besraya Highway Challenge) and June 30 (NPE Highway Challenge).