

BEGOlympics – Stiftung MittagsKinder



Saturday, 5th September 2009

This year's BerenbergKids Challenge, was in the form of the BEGOlympics, which took place in the Hamburg sports park. Despite a very rainy start, 24 teams of 4 people gathered together to compete in a decathlon. As well as the

standard track and field sports (100m sprint, Long Jump, Shot Put etc) and various team events, (volleyball, football and the 400m relay), there were also some more 'fun' games such as a sack race and a penalty shoot-out. To enter, each team had to raise at least €500 for the Stiftung Mittagskinder.



Despite the first event, the 2km race, taking place in the rain, Petrus was soon on our side and provided us with perfect weather for sport, which encouraged the athletes to give their best performances. A competitive spirit gripped every team, especially during the team events where the medal positions were fought hard for! The surprise discipline (the sack race), which was only announced on the day of the Olympics, was a real challenge for the teams, as the rain had made the floor so wet!



The 4 x 400 meter relay was the highlight of the event. The teams of interns were first off the blocks on two occasions, the "Three Heroes for Milford" team had to send a team member round the 400-meter track twice, the "Tartan Devils" had the youngest runner and the "BeGos Projektos Capitalos" ran with their own specially made spear as their baton!

Even though everyone enjoyed the day, they were pleased once they had completed their challenge. After another short rainfall, all participants waited impatiently to hear who had won. Andreas Brodtmann hosted award ceremony and the first special award went to the only ladies team, "Ladies Gaga" who provided much amusement with their costumes. As with last year, there was a prize for the best fancy dress costume. Many teams dressed up; bearing legs, midriiffs and wearing crazy headwear! The clear winners were the "BeGos Projektos Capitalos", who were not only dressed in a fantastic costume but successfully completed the whole decathlon in their outfits! The "Tighten Ho's" also won a prize for their fantastic fancy dress efforts.

Our sporting champions were the mixed men/women team, the "Credit Default Flop" (Sonja Barth, Vanesa Gonzales Morales, Tobias Bittrich, Sven-Erik Hintz), who beat the Azubi Team, "4 Wins!" by three points. The three-man team, "Three Heroes for Milford" came in third place.



The aim of the challenge, apart from being a sporting achievement, was to raise money for Stiftung Mittagskinder. Thanks to our collective fundraising efforts, we are pleased to announce that Mr. Brodtmann presented Mrs. Grünwald-Aschenbrenner (founder of Stiftung Mittagskinder) with a cheque for over €30,000. During the barbecue following the ceremony, the participants talked of their individual challenge experiences and their aching muscles!

Our particular thanks goes to all the volunteers for their support and hard work to ensure the day was a success.

Mandy Popp

