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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Mark Your Calendars: Annual SPI Triathlon Returns to South Padre Island

**SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas, September 18, 2023** – Visit South Padre Island is excited to announce the highly anticipated return of the annual SPI Triathlon on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at Jim's Pier.

"We're thrilled to welcome triathletes back to South Padre Island for another exciting edition of the SPI Triathlon," said Blake Henry, South Padre Island CVB Executive Director. "The courses offer a unique blend of challenge and beauty, making it a great one to enjoy the scenic route. We invite everyone to come out and join us, even as a spectator, to cheer the athletes on from the sidelines."

Ideal for seasoned veterans as well as first-timers, the sprint distance includes a 750-meter swim, 20K bike ride, and 5K run, while the Olympic distance includes a 1500-meter swim, 40K bike ride, and 10K run. The swim portion is up first and will kick off at 7 a.m. with the Olympic wave followed by the Sprint. After a terrific open water swim, the athletes will head into the transition, hosted by Jim's Pier, and make their way north for the bike course up the South Padre Island strip. Once the bike course is complete, participants will start the run course loop before ending back at Jim's Pier. Readily accessible for friends and family, spectators can set up in the transition area at Jim's Pier to cheer on their favorite triathletes and loved ones.

Packet pickup will be available on Friday, September 22, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Bicycle World RGV, as well as at Jim's Pier from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, and from 5:45 a.m. - 6:15 a.m. on Sunday, September 24. The Triathlon is open to anyone age 17+, and there will be awards for the top three male and female participants in each age group. The entry fee is \$110 for the Sprint Individual, \$125 for the Olympic, and \$160 for the Sprint Relay.

To learn more or register, <u>click here</u> to visit the event website or contact the organizer, Dr. Karen Watt, at <u>docwatt@powerwattcoaching.com</u>.

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## About South Padre Island

With miles of pristine shoreline and clear emerald water, South Padre Island is Texas' only tropical island paradise. Calm weather and more than 300 days of sunshine make South Padre Island a year-round destination offering a variety of nature tourism attractions, water sports, and activities for the entire family. For more information, visit <a href="www.sopadre.com">www.sopadre.com</a>.