

# Potcakeman raises over \$32,000 for BAARK!



● **SHE'S A WINNER:** Olympic distance defending champ Anna Zywiolak



● **FIRST TO FINISH:** Olympic distance champion Jorge Marcos Aballi



● **SUPER SALAS:** Julie Salas wins Sprint distance for the second time (Photos: TIM AYLEN)



● **ON THE PODIUM (L-R):** Men's Sprint winners 3rd Mark Dietrich; 1st Cameron Roach & 2nd Simon Lowe

★ **DESPITE** the less than ideal build-up with hurricanes Irma and looming Maria, the weather was wonderful for all those competing in the fifth Powerade Potcakeman Triathlon at Jaws Beach.

Athletes competed in the swim, bike then run event covering either an Olympic or Sprint distance. **Anna Zywiolak**, representing **Julius Bar**, defended her title to be-

come Olympic winner for the second year running in the women's event.

A new champion was crowned in the men's event as **Jorge Marcos Aballi** led from start to finish and broke the finish tape over six minutes ahead of his closest rival.

**Julie Salas** crushed her competition, winning the Sprint distance race for the second time with a margin of almost nine minutes. The men's race was a closely fought contest with **Cam-**

**eron Roach** emerging victorious, just pipping fast runners **Simon Lowe** and **Mark Dietrich** to the post.

In addition to the adult events, organizers introduced a **Junior Tri** for teenagers in addition to the usual **Puppy Tri** and a **Splash n Dash** race for really young kids.

Post race celebrations continued with adult racers receiving a **Heineken** and kids tucking into **Dunkin Donuts**. The **Rotary Club of East Nassau** was on hand

with their famous burger van and donated one to all participants in support of the cause. A raffle concluded proceedings with the top prize a Hudson femme bike donated by **Cycles Unlimited**.

On behalf of presenting sponsors **Powerade**, **Cara Douglas**, marketing manager said: "BAARK! is doing tremendous work across The Bahamas with their spray/neuter and education programs. The Potcakeman Triathlon is an excellent op-

portunity for us to help their efforts, while supporting our local athletic community."

In addition to presenting partners Powerade, the event was sponsored by **Subway**, **Purina Dog Chow**, **Albany**, **Think Simple**, **Higgs & Johnson**, **KPMG**, **Odyssey Aviation**, **JS Johnson**, **The Pet Food Institute**, **Daminos**, **Sothebys International Realty**, **Happy Pets Animal Hospital**, **Heineken**, and **Golden Wings Charter**.

Race director **Lori Roach**

was pleased to announce that the event **raised over \$32,000 for Baark!** (Bahamas Alliance for Animal Rights and Kindness). "This is an incredible amount and we are proud of how the event has grown over the years," she said. "It's a wonderful feeling when everyone's hard work pays off. Our volunteers also deserve a mention. They went above and beyond and were essential to the event's success."