The Beacon

Produced by NSA Souda Bay Public Affairs

ECO-CHALLENGE Special 2016

ECO-CHALLENGE 2016

Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready

CNIC

★ FLEET ★ FIGHTER ★ FAMILY

The Beacon

Warfighting First, Operate Forward, Be Ready

Special Edition 2016

Commanding Officer, NSA Souda Bay
Capt. Brad J. Collins

Executive Officer
Cmdr. James R. Bird

Command Master Chief
CMDCM(SW/AW) Kurtis J. Szyszka

Beacon Staff

Jacky Fisher
Jacky.Fisher@eu.navy.mil
Public Affairs Officer
266-1244

Heather Judkins
Heather.Judkins@eu.navy.mil
Deputy Public Affairs
266-1642

Kostas Fantaousakis
Konstantinos.Fant.gr@eu.navy.mil
Community Relations/Public Affairs Specialist
266-1348

MC2 Chase Martin
Chase.Martin@eu.navy.mil
Mass Communication Specialist
266-1348

Photos by Heather Judkins (Public Affairs) and Fotis Angelidis (NSA Souda Bay MWR)

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Story submissions must be routed through tenant command or departmental senior leadership. Security and policy review must be completed before submissions can be considered for publication.

Photo by Heather Judkins

2016 ECO CHALENGE SPECIAL EDITION!!!

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Tweet us! We may feature your tweet in an upcoming edition!

Nsa_soudabay

U.S. Naval Support Activity Souda Bay, Crete

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Souda PAO (The Beacon)

Triad Corner

- From the Desk of the CO

Team Souda,

When I took command, I said it was my first opportunity to work side-by-side with local nationals from another country, as well as contractors and DON employees. While the United States Navy is strong and built on the bravery of only those willing to serve their Nation, we find a natural force multiplier when joining efforts to work with our allies and host nation counterparts. Ultimately, this mix allows ample opportunities to learn from one another and collaborate across the board to find a better way to meet mission goals.

What I didn't realize at the time I made that statement is that one month later this synergy would also make for some fierce but friendly competition. The annual Eco-Challenge event organized by MWR, served as the backdrop to pit department against department, NMIOTC versus U.S. Navy … all vying for the honor of being crowned with a laurel wreath as the Greek Olympian victors were centuries ago... and of course bragging rights for a year.

Many life lessons can be learned on the sports field. We're privileged to have Souda's great outdoors, both land and sea, to serve as our sports field. While my leg of this five-event test of stamina and grit was the Gouvernento Monastery hike, each of the five events, hike, swim, run, bike and kayak were filled with tremendous competitors in additional to the difficulties of the natural terrain. It was a beautiful day, and it was an honor and reward in itself to compete alongside all of those that accepted the day's trials. No matter whether one hiked, swam, biked, ran or

Triad Corner

kayaked, it tested ones skills and resolve individually that led to a collaborative greater good and a sense of unified accomplishment.

Given these two truths, that the Eco-Challenge is a fun sporting event and that the world remains in a precarious state, it is reassuring to know that when navigating real obstacles, we can do so with a confident knowledge that while individually strong, we are two teams who can join forces to become even better by presenting a stronger, unified front.

My personal thanks go out to Byron Gale, the MWR staff, and to the Hellenic Police and Fire Departments who supported this event, for affording all of us a unique team-building venue. Both on and off the field, the camaraderie between our host nation friends and the U.S. is evident and essential. Only when we work together will we insure our mission goals are decisively attained.

Now that I have one under my belt, I look forward to next year's Eco-Challenge. Between now and then there will be opportunities to strengthen our ties between Team Souda and our host nation colleagues. Maybe I'll try an event that doesn't involve a mandatory backpack … like kayaking or coaching.

~ CO sends

2016 Eco-Challenge

The Souda Bay Eco-Challenge is an annual event held off-base, involving teams of five who compete in five different timed activities (16K run, 10K hike to include 15 percent of the hiker's body weight, 40K bike, 6K kayak and 2,000 meter swim). Each team strives to achieve the best overall team time in order to be crowned as the event champion for that year. It is a grueling event, intended for "highly fit" individuals, that tests both the mind and the body. This year eight teams entered the event (six teams from NSA Souda Bay and two teams from our Host Nation Military in Greece).

The participating teams for this year's Eco-Challenge were: Delusions Of Adequacy (Command Admin), Getting' Done (NSA Souda Bay mixture), NCTAMS, Smokateers and PitBulls (both from the Fire Department), Security, NMIOTC (NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Center) and the Hellenic Navy.

The event was a blast, a huge morale booster and it brought the entire NSA Souda Bay Community together and most important it built camaraderie and enriched our relations with our Host Nation. The awards given were as follows:

OVERALL (To include Host Nations Teams)

1. NMIOTC: 5.03:26
2. Hellenic Navy: 5.12:12
3. Gettin' It Done: 5.12:18
4. Smokateers: 5.14:48
5. Pitbulls: 5.36:42
6. Security: 5.44:20
7. Delusion Of Adequacy: 6.09:19
8. NCTAMS: Did not finish

CAPTAIN'S CUP (Only NSA Souda Bay Teams)

1. Gettin' It Done: 5.12:18
2. Smokateers 5.14:48
3. Pitbulls: 5.36:42
4. Security: 5.44:20
5. Delusion Of Adequacy: 6.09:19
6. NCTAMS: Did not finish

OVERALL FASTEST INDIVIDUAL TIMES (To include Host Nation Teams)

1. Overall Fastest Hike Time:
   Roa Ovalles from Gettin' Done with 1.07.04
2. Overall Fastest Run Time:
   Benjamin Dyer from Gettin' It Done with 1.08.08
3. Overall Fastest Bike Time:
   Dimitrios Bofilios from the Pitbulls with 1.24:22
4. Overall Fastest Kayak Time:
   Alex Tsaltas from NMIOTC with 26:24
5. Overall Fastest Swim Time:
   Kostas Tsopanakis from the Smokateers with 29:16

CAPTAIN'S CUP FASTEST INDIVIDUAL TIMES (Only NSA Souda Bay Teams)

1. Captain's Cup Fastest Hike Time:
   Roa Ovalles from Gettin' Done with 1.07.04
2. Captain's Cup Fastest Run Time:
   Benjamin Dyer from Gettin' It Done with 1.08.08
3. Captain's Cup Fastest Bike Time:
   Dimitrios Bofilios from the Pitbulls with 1.24:22
4. Captain's Cup Fastest Kayak Time:
   Logan Timson from Security with 29:08
5. Overall Fastest Swim Time:
   Kostas Tsopanakis from the Smokateers with 29:16

The MWR Fitness Center also awarded its volunteers who were the most important key people in ensuring the safety of all the Eco-Challenge Participants. The awardees were:

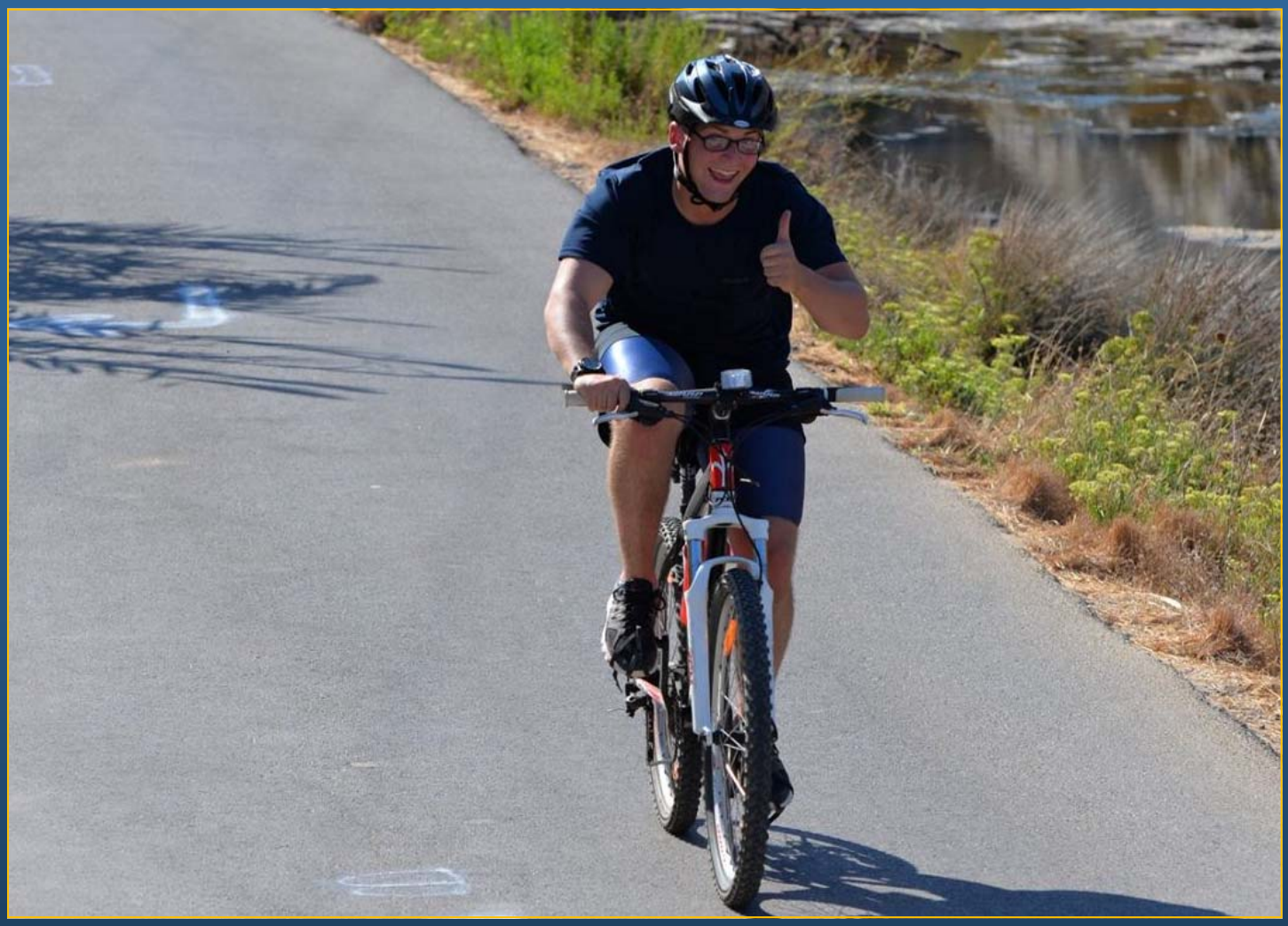
1. BMCS Tidwell: Port OPS
2. MM2 Hall: Port OPS
3. MMFN Simpson: Port OPS
4. MM2 Flag: Port OPS
5. MC3 Rodriguez: AFN
6. MC2 Minto
7. Open Sea Lifeguards: Nikolaso Tsimbidis
8. Open Sea Lifeguards: Maria Tirtiraki
9. Open Sea Lifeguards: Nikolaos Tiriakidi
10. Open Sea Lifeguards: Achileas Aggelakis
11. NAMFI Marathi Restaurant Owner: Giorgos Britzakis

As mentioned, the Eco-Challenge is about testing your mind and body and going beyond your capabilities. The MWR Fitness Center in cooperation with the Military Auto Source handed out a $25 gift certificate to the person that gave his best effort and went beyond his capabilities in the event they participated in. This award went to NCTAMS' Greg Emmons.

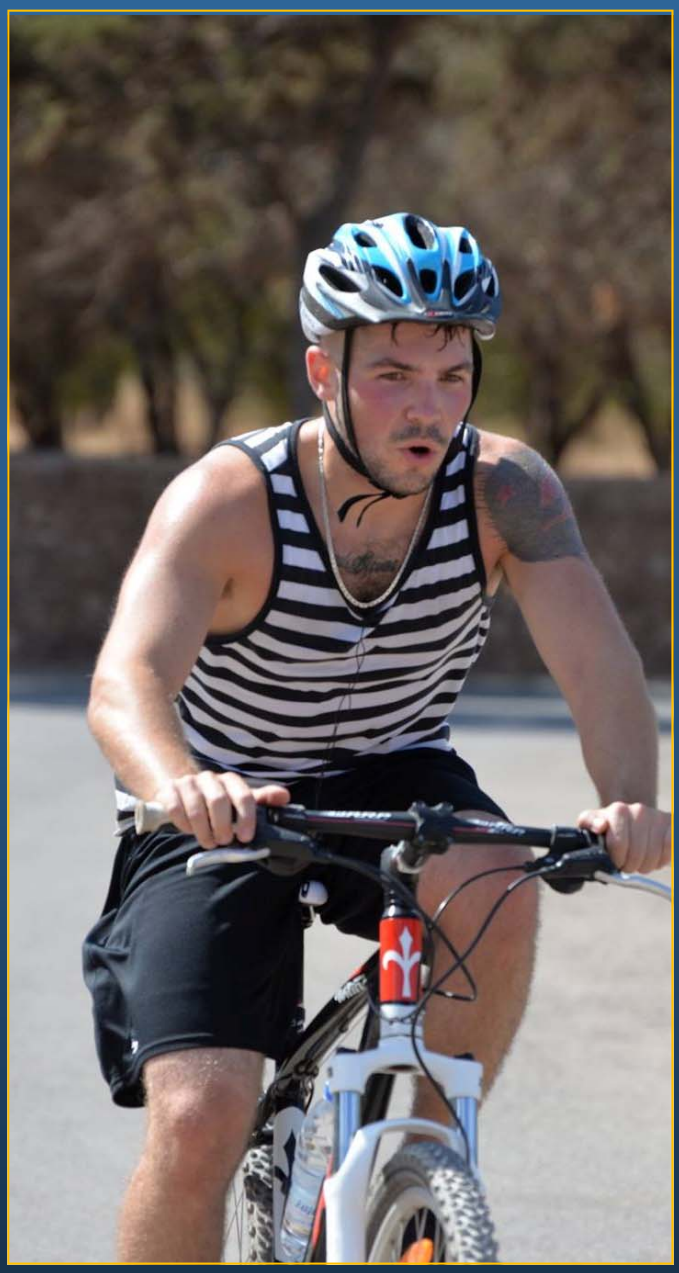
The event started at 0730 and concluded with the Award Ceremony at 1430. The 2016 Eco-Challenge came to a close and it is events like this that bring an entire installation together working hand-in-hand to ensure the safety and success of such a challenging event. Congratulations to all the teams; the MWR Fitness Center is looking forward to hosting the event again next year and keep raising the bar to keep the Eco-Challenge as one of the best - if not THE best-Fitness Events in the entire U.S. Navy!

2016 Eco-Challenge

40K Bike Ride



40K Bike Ride

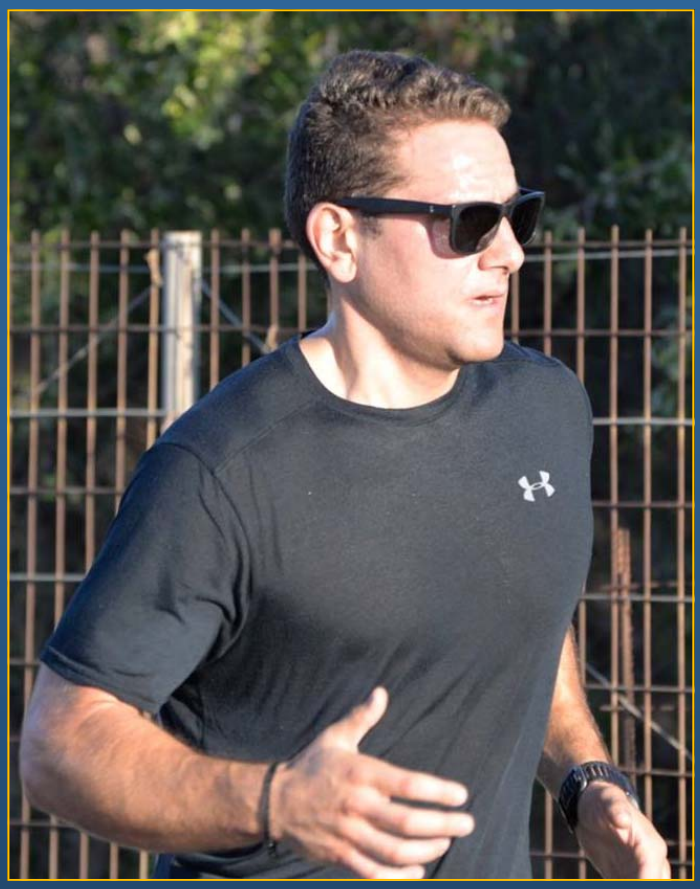


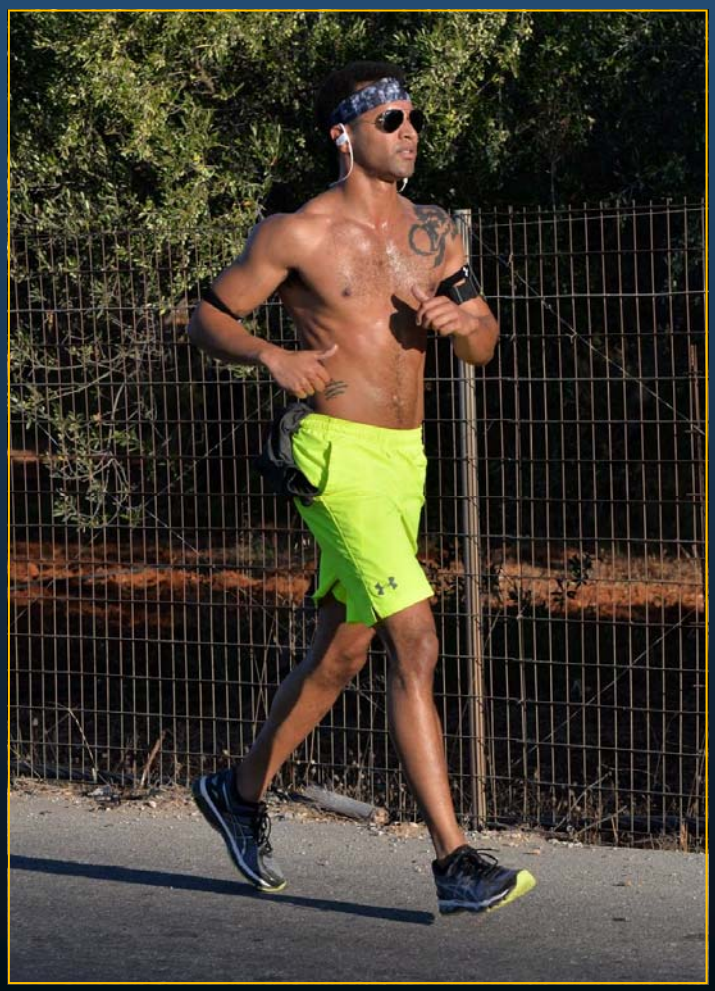
40K Bike Ride

40K Bike Ride

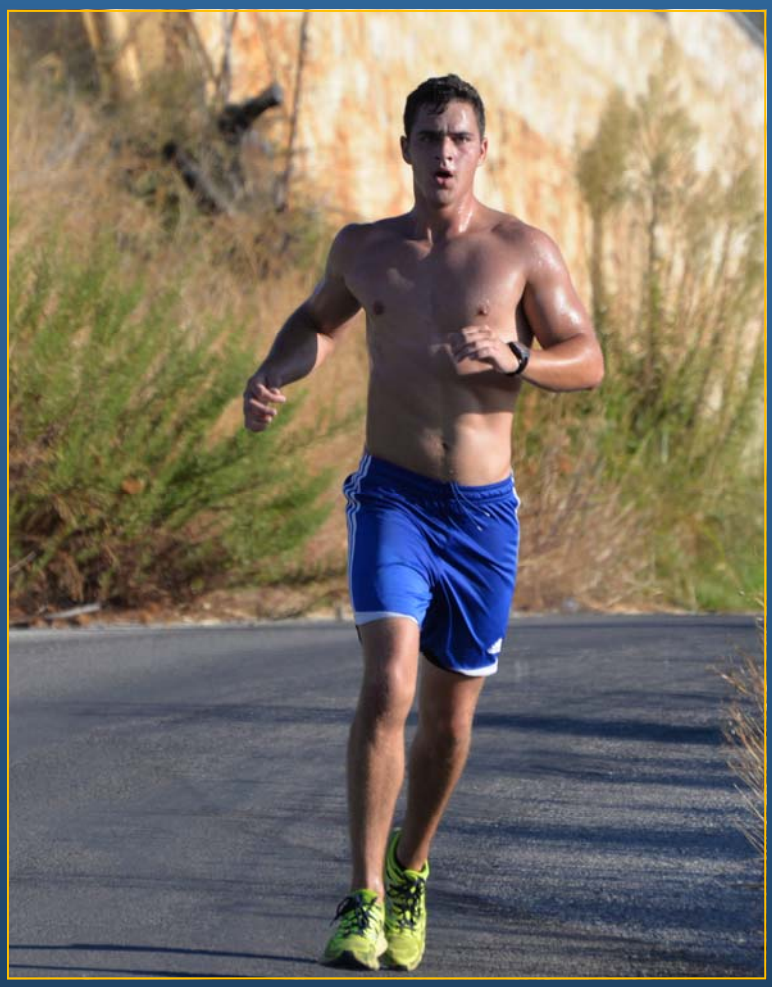
16K Run

16K Run





16K Run



16K Run

6K Kayak

6K Kayak

6K Kayak

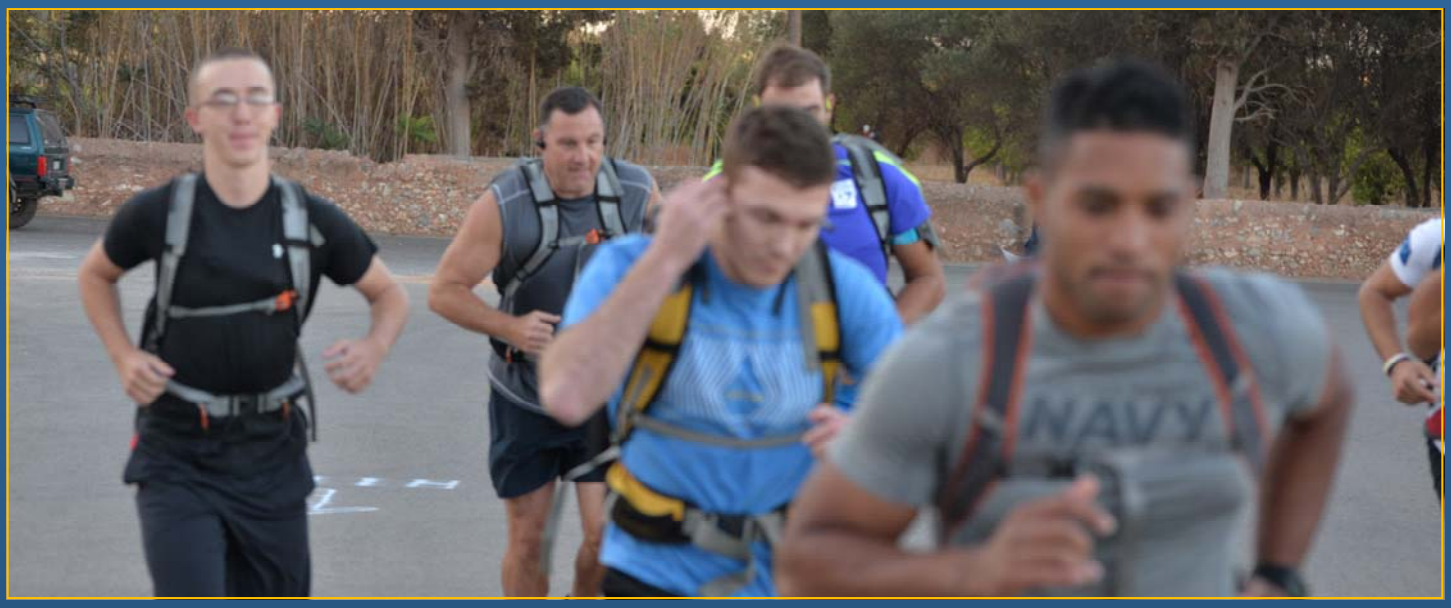
6K Kayak

2,000 Meter swim

2,000 Meter swim

10K Hike

10K Hike



★ IN THE SPOTLIGHT ★

Awards Quarters - 13 October 2016

CAPT Brad J. Collins, Commanding Officer NSA Souda Bay presented a command coin to Byron P. Gale, MWR Athletics and Fitness Director for his outstanding efforts in coordinating the 2016 Souda Bay Eco-Challenge. MWR Athletics and Fitness personnel, under Mr. Gale's supervision, exhibited once more how teamwork and professionalism can make the difference and deliver great results.