

MEDIA RELEASE**For Immediate Release****OCBC Cycle 2016 draws in local and regional cycling communities**

- Corporate teams rode shoulder-to-shoulder to bond and raise funds for charities
- Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and regional national cycling teams, joined cycling enthusiasts on scenic route



Chief Executive Officer of Sport Singapore Lim Teck Yin (left), Dr Hing Siong Chen, Honorary Secretary of Singapore Cycling Federation (centre), and Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (right), at the flag-off of The Straits Times Ride at the Singapore Sports Hub. (Photo Credit: OCBC Cycle)

Singapore, 2 October 2016 – THE second edition of OCBC Cycle saw nearly 7,000 cycling fans participate in both competitive and non-competitive events over two exciting days at the Singapore Sports Hub.

OCBC Cycle 2016 attracted both professional riders and cycling enthusiasts, with regional cycling teams and Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth riding alongside other participants in Singapore's largest cycling event.

Day two of OCBC Cycle 2016 saw 6,400 cyclists of all ages take part in the event's non-competitive mass participation categories — The Sportive Ride (42km) and The Straits Times Ride (23km). Joining 4,300 participants in The Sportive Ride were champions of this year's OCBC Cycle Speedway Southeast Asia (SEA) Championship – Team Malaysia – which took place yesterday at the Singapore Sports Hub. The regional cycling power house successfully defended their championship title and were invited to be part of the community ride. They were joined by Cambodia, Myanmar and the Philippines.

“It's my first time participating in OCBC Cycle. It's great to be cycling with so many cyclists on this cool and breezy morning. Being able to be on the roads, enjoying the Singapore skyline, is a wonderful experience. The route was smooth with some challenging parts near the Sheares Bridge. I hope more Singaporeans will join us and take on cycling as part of leisure and a form of transportation. Safe cycling and cycling together is a great way to get Singaporeans more active,” said Grace Fu, Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, who enjoyed an active Sunday morning.

Participants rode along a scenic route that began at Nicoll Highway and ended at the iconic National Stadium. The route, which stretched along the southern part of Singapore from East Coast Parkway to Keppel Viaduct in the West, offered cyclists a mesmerising view of Singapore's landmarks such as Marina Bay Sands, Gardens by the Bay, the Central Business District and Mount Faber.

“It's my first time riding in The Sportive Ride. I thought it was very fun and well-coordinated. There were a lot of bridges, but I managed to finish it within one hour and 30 minutes. We even took selfies while riding. The finishing point at the National Stadium was a great way to end the ride,” said Mohan Jaiganesh.

Echoing his sentiments was 44-year-old Nicole Quek, a participant in The Straits Times Ride: “The slopes were challenging but the entire ride was very scenic. It feels really good to be on the Singapore roads when there are no cars. I think overall it was a good mix of scenery, admiring the high rises warming us up, before moving on to the slopes.”

A total of 12 organisations participated in The Business Times Cycle of Hope Corporate Bike Ride - a corporate charity ride that is part of OCBC Cycle's charity partnership programme. These organisations had half of their registration fees donated equally to four charities – The Business Times Budding Artists Fund, SportCares, the Dyslexia Association of Singapore and the NUHS Fund Limited, raising an amount of \$23,195. The largest donor award went to Yinson Productions, who raised a total of \$4,550.

The Longest Distance Award, which is given to the team that cycled the furthest collectively, was presented to Team emPower from Singapore Armed Forces, with a total of 7,728 kilometres covered by 184 of its participating employees.

One of OCBC Cycle's lead-up initiatives included Project Training Wheels – where individuals were taught how to ride a bicycle over seven weeks, in time for the two-day mass cycling event.

“We're delighted to see that cyclists enjoyed the scenic highlights of the route, and many enjoyed the experience of being able to finish their rides in the National Stadium. It's heartening to see participants having fun with friends and family at OCBC Cycle, and that it's an event everyone looks forward to each year. Part of what heartens me is that four of our Project Training Wheels participants managed to complete the route. From not being able to cycle, to completing a distance of 23km within a span of seven weeks is really commendable,” said Koh Ching Ching, Head of Group Corporate Communications at OCBC Bank.

The community rides of OCBC Cycle 2016 were preceded by Saturday's OCBC Cycle Speedway Championships in the morning and the OCBC Mighty Savers® Family and Kids Rides in the afternoon.

More details on OCBC Cycle 2016 can be found on www.ocbccycle.com .

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OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has over 630 branches and representative offices in 18 countries and territories. These include the more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and 95 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank's private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which has received increasing industry recognition as Asia's Global Private Bank, and was voted "Outstanding Private Bank in Southeast Asia in 2014" by Private Banker International.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.

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