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San Diego News

City Chase Hits San Diego Full Speed The world's largest urban adventure series launches June 7

San Diego—Think reality TV is the only way to prove your stamina, test your digestive system and conquer your fears? Think again. City Chase, the World's Largest Urban Adventure Series, is launching its building-rappelling, snake-slithering, Sudoku-solving, endurance-testing experience in San Diego on June 7.

City Chase invites everyone from couch potatoes to athletes to reality TV fanatics to compete in physical, mental and adventurous challenges that will take them out of their comfort zones, if not around the globe. Entering its fifth year, the international phenomenon has been making stops in Philadelphia, Atlanta, San Francisco, San Diego, New York, Boston, Seattle and Chicago since May.

"City Chase has provided thousands of everyday people around the world the chance to experience 'reality' first-hand," said Nick Jelinek, founder, City Chase Inc. "This event will test personal limits and make people active thrill-seeking participants."

This part obstacle course-part scavenger hunt adventure starts with teams of two receiving a clue sheet detailing ChasePoints, a variety of physical, intellectual and humorous challenges in unknown locations throughout the city, and a San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (SDMTS) transit pass.

Teams can call family and friends for help, access the internet with Palm Centro Smartphones and even get the help of complete strangers. To succeed in this, participants must complete 10 ChasePoints and cross the finish line first. The winning team from each regional event will compete in an epic National Championship adventure to be held in a secret location. The victors will represent "Team USA" at the 2008 World Championships in November in Marrakesh, Morocco.

"City Chase is an event that you don't have to audition or train for", said Jason Erkes, managing partner, City Chase USA. "You just need to register, show up and be ready to have an adrenaline-filled day."

Team composition is entirely up to the participants. Fathers and sons, husbands and wives, best friends, neighbors—all are welcome. "The winning team does not have to be the most athletic, but will win because they have an unbeatable combination of camaraderie and inventiveness," noted Erkes.

"San Diego participants can expect a full day of laughter, adventure and discovering very unique things about [the city] in an event that challenges them physically, mentally and will put a smile on their face throughout the day," Erkes continued. "All of the events are confidential until the day of the race. In terms of events we've done in the past, some of them have gotten people wet, some of them have got them off the ground with height, some have been gross, some have been dirty, some might even involve some nudity. But at the end of the day, every participant says this is by far the coolest thing they've ever done."

City Chase is the only event of its kind and it helps local participants rediscover the beauty of their city, from city architecture to city culture. While on a one-day tour to self-discovery, individuals will have the opportunity to complete ChasePoints that will benefit Stay Classy, a San Diego based charity that utilizes funds to help people and the environment through their campaigns.

"This is about the whole human experience—mind, body and soul," said Jelinek. "City Chase USA is probably the one event that will leave the city cleaner than when the race began." Past events included City Chasers cleaning up local parks, painting classrooms and dancing in public for charitable donations.

City Chase launched in Canada in 2003. Its popularity caused it to outgrow the provinces' borders, expanding into other countries such as Australia and the UK. Last year, City Chase made its U.S. debut in Chicago with 1,000 residents participating in a thrilling day of events. Over the past four years, more than 20,000 people from around the world have competed in City Chase events. Between 700 and 800 teams are expected to participate in the June 7 event.

For more information check out citychaseusa.com