

In The Picture

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Bastiaan Winkelaar

Co-organisier 3 bruggen ultra

Co-founder Bee Sports



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Bastiaan Winkelaar lives in Kampen and works as an outpatient youth aid worker. He's already an ultrarunner but he still want to finish a marathon in 2 hours, 50 minutes and 59 seconds. He's married to the loveliest wife, who gives him plenty of freedom to run those crazy long distances. He'll also become a father in April.

The 3 bruggen ultra was a success again this year. Do you want to do things different in the coming editions?

The 3 bruggen ultra was definitely a success again. We were a bit scared because the fog could shake things up a bit, but we got many positive reactions from the runners. It was a mysterious and magical surrounding. These are environmental factors you can't change and that's what makes it so cool. There are always some little things that go wrong during a race, but the runners didn't notice anything. Next year we'll add the double distance. Then you can run 130 kilometer. Additional information will follow.

Can you combine ultrarunning well together with organising?

I believe that the combination between organising and training yourself is very good. I get inspiration by organising a run. En when I run I do get a thousand new ideas. That makes it a perfect combination. And I can share that combination with my buddy Erik Kuijer. Sometimes ideas go from one end of the table towards the other end.

In the meantime we see more and more organisations of Bee Sports. Is it becoming a full time job?

BEE Sports, which stands for Bastiaan and Erik Sports, brings the right balance in my life. We don't need to become rich. We founded Bee Sports because we enjoyed organising. Additionally we want to make sure that people enjoyed a nice day. That's what's important for us! It's not a full-time job, just because we aren't

doing it for the money in the first place. We do it because we love it and if we did make a bit of profit, it's a nice bonus. BEE Sports also provides time registration solutions. We offer a time registration solution for a competitive price. It's true that this is targeted a bit more commercially.

You both focus on the ultra organisations. Are there any plans to organise a 24-hour race or a stage race?

It's true that we do have plans to organise a stage race in the future. We didn't speak about organising a 24-hour race however. But this year Marathon Plus will organise this type of race.

You'll become a father soon. Will Erik Kuijer take over some of your tasks or does it all remain the same?

At the moment Erik Kuijer and I will perform the same tasks. So there aren't any changes in the division of the responsibilities.

Thank you for the interview Bastiaan. We wish you good luck with BEE Sports and your personal running career. We also hope your wife gives birth without complications.

Kevin Simons