

May 2009



2009 ITU Gold Coast Triathlon World Championships - Overview

The eyes of the world will be fixed on the Gold Coast this September when the 21st Triathlon World Championships take place at the Southport Broadwater Parklands over five action-packed days. There are events for everyone, from novice to elite, corporate to lifestyle enthusiasts.

The 2009 Gold Coast ITU World Triathlon Championships will also coincide with celebrations of Queensland's 150th anniversary of Statehood.

Managing Director of USM Events, Garth Prowd, says hosting the 2009 World Championships is a fantastic opportunity for Queensland to cement its position as a triathlon hub, while also showing off this beautiful region to a massive potential tourism market.

"In 1991, the Gold Coast played host to Australia's first ITU Triathlon World Championships. At that time, a young 20-year old local athlete, Miles Stewart, claimed victory over some of the worlds' finest in the sport.

"With so many international triathletes and elite squads spending each summer on the Gold Coast as they prepare for the Queensland triathlon series, including the hugely successful Mooloolaba Tri and Noosa Tri, it is fantastic to be bringing the World Championships back to Queensland," said Prowd.

Gold Coast Mayor, Ron Clarke couldn't be happier that the ITU has chosen to stage its premier event on the Gold Coast in 2009.

"Major events are critical to the economy of the Gold Coast. As Australia's premier tourism destination we are always looking at ways to encourage new and repeat visitation," said Cr Ron Clarke, Mayor of the Gold Coast.

The Event will see the inclusion of the newly developed Dextro Energy Triathlon – ITU World Championship Grand Final. An exclusive eight race series (May – September) featuring the world's best triathletes competing in iconic cities around the globe for World Championship points. The World Champion will be crowned at the Grand Final on the Gold Coast as part of the Gold Coast ITU Triathlon World Championships.

Athletes from around the globe will gather on the Gold Coast after gaining selection into their respective countries teams to compete in either the Olympic Distance or Sprint Distance championships in the hope of securing a prized gold, silver or bronze medal.

The event will feature 3,000 athletes from 42 countries including: elite athletes, junior athletes (16-19), U23 athletes, paratriathlon and age group athletes, along



with some 50,000 spectators. Also included on the program, the ITU Corporate Teams and Teams Relay Triathlon World Championships, which are accessible to everyone.

Australia will field its biggest ever team of 1000 to contest both the Olympic and Sprint distance championships. While our Elite squad is yet to be finalised by Triathlon Australia it is expected to be spearheaded by Olympic champion Emma Snowsill and Olympic bronze medallist Emma Moffatt, joining them should be our Olympic male representatives Brad Kahlefeldt and Courtney Atkinson.

The Championships, which are Olympic Distance for the elite, U23 and age group athletes while the juniors compete over the Sprint Distance, will utilise one of the best event-specific locations in Australia – the Southport Broadwater Parkland, a designated events precinct promoted and marketed by Gold Coast City Council and home to the Gold Coast Airport Marathon and Pan Pacific Masters Games.

Olympic Distance Triathlon
Sprint Distance Triathlon

1.5km Swim, 40km Cycle, 10km Run
0.75km Swim, 20km Cycle, 5km Run

The Location

The 2009 ITU Triathlon World Championships is staged on the 32 million dollar redeveloped Gold Coast's Southport Broadwater Parklands. The purpose built Olympic standard course will include a 165,000sqm precinct including grandstand seating, corporate marquees, festival village and one of the largest sport and lifestyle expos in the southern hemisphere.

The Festival

Additional to the ITU Triathlon World Championships races, there are mass participation Olympic and Sprint distance triathlons attracting a further 2,000 general public competitors nationally (7,000 competitors in total), competing on the same World Championship course. Participants will arrive from all over the world for a minimum of 7 days. The festival includes community activities, concerts, networking events and entertainment programs accommodating the athletes and spectators alike.

About the **Dextro Energy Triathlon – ITU World Championship Series**

This series represents an innovative change by creating seven first-class World Championship events and a Grand Final where the world's best triathletes are competing head-to-head from May to September, featuring live television. A record \$2-million (all funds USD) will be at stake in the battle to become ITU's 2009 world champion.

Dextro Energy Triathlon – ITU World Championship Series Grand Final

Elite | Under23 | Junior

The Dextro Energy Triathlon – ITU World Championship Series is a new, innovative series that allows the world's elite triathletes to compete head-to-head on an



ongoing basis. Expanding upon the previous single-day World Championship, this new format features seven world-class events and an exciting Grand Final which in 2009 will take place on the Gold Coast. Each Elite World Championship event offers a \$150,000 prize purse with the Grand Final winnings set at \$250,000. Further to this there is a year-end bonus pool of \$500,000; high stakes are on the line in the battle to become ITU's 2009 World Champion.

ITU Triathlon World Championships

Age Group | Paratriathlon

The feature event of the festival with over 42 countries represented, this event alone is expected to attract more than 2,000 athletes from around the world.

ITU Sprint Triathlon World Championships

Age Group

Half the distance of the Olympic race, sprint triathlon is one of the fastest growing events in triathlon. Along with their Olympic Distance teams, national federations will bring a sprint distance team which will attract close to 1000 athletes from across the globe.

ITU Aquathlon World Championships

Elite | Under 23 | Junior | Age Groups | Paratriathlon

Combining only the swim and run legs of a triathlon, the Aquathlon is accessible to all members of a National Triathlon Federation. Kicking off the event program and a championship in itself, athletes will also use this as a warm up event for their triathlon events later in the festival program

ITU Corporate Teams Triathlon & Teams Relay World Championships

The ITU Corporate Teams & Teams Relay Triathlon World Championships are accessible to everyone. There are two Team options available – the Corporate Teams Triathlon where every team member completes an enticer distance triathlon concurrently adding their times together for final results, and the Teams Relay where each member does only one leg of an Olympic distance triathlon and passes the timing chip onto the next member to complete the race. Expecting over 1500 corporate competitors this event provides the ULTIMATE teams experience.

SprintMan Triathlon

Enticer | Sprint

Two distances -Sprint & Enticer, providing something for everyone! No qualification criteria, anyone can enter and be part of Australia's largest Triathlon Festival.

FFI on the Gold Coast ITU World Triathlon Championships check the website – www.worldtriathlongoldcoast.com.au



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