



### Media Release

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### SWEDISH SURGE ENSURES GRAND FINAL SHOWDOWN WITH MOFFATT

Rising Swedish star Lisa Norden has issued a strong challenge to Australian pace-setter Emma Moffatt following her win in the penultimate race, with the pair now locked in a head-to-head dual at the grand final on the Gold Coast to decide the triathlon world championship.

Norden's win in race seven of the Dextro Energy Triathlon ITU World Championship Series race in Yokohama, Japan, has seen her further bridge the gap in the overall standings following Moffatt's absence from the last two races.

Norden prevailed in hot and humid conditions, taking the initiative at the start of a sprint finish to beat home New Zealand's Andrea Hewitt and local hope Juri Ide. After three silver medals this season, it was a breakthrough win for the Swede, propelling her to 3020 points, just behind Moffatt on 3140. Whoever prevails on the Gold Coast is almost assured of the world crown, although Hewitt, currently third on 2766 points, also remains in contention.

"At the start of the season I didn't think I would be in contention for a world championship – this was more about learning and gaining experience on the international circuit," Norden said. "I'm delighted to be in with a chance at the Gold Coast, but Moffatt is a high class athlete, so she will be hard to beat at home."

Aussie Annabel Luxford had her strongest race of the series in finishing fifth. She exited the 1500-metre swim in second place and was part of a four woman breakaway over the initial stages of the 40km bike leg. But they were reeled in by the main pack before the halfway mark, leaving her to battle out the 10km run in stifling conditions among the leading 20 athletes.

Australia's other entrants, Maxine Seear and Sarah Crowley both failed to finish due to mechanical problems during the bike leg.

Moffatt has been at home on the Gold Coast nursing a foot complaint and completing light training, having won three consecutive races in Washington, Kitzbuhel and Hamburg during the middle stages of the series, before opting out of London and Yokohama.

Olympic champion Emma Snowsill, out of overall world championship contention in 11<sup>th</sup> spot having had minor hip surgery a month ago, is hoping to be fit for the grand final on the Gold Coast on September 12-13.

1st - Emma Moffatt (AUS)	3,140 pts
2nd - Lisa Norden (SWE)	3,020
3rd - Andrea Hewitt (NZL)	2,766
4th - Daniela Ryf (SUI)	2,374
5th - Sarah Haskins (USA)	2,189

**Yokohama Dextro Energy Triathlon - ITU World Championship Series**

**1.5km swim, 40km bike, 10km run**

**Elite Women - Results**

Gold - Lisa Norden (SWE)	01:55:56	
Silver - Andrea Hewitt (NZL)	01:56:00	+:04
Bronze - Juri Ide (JPN)	01:56:03	+:07
4th - Liz Blatchford (GBR)	01:56:23	+:27
5th - Annabel Luxford (AUS)	01:56:30	+:34
6th - Kiyomi Niwata (JPN)	01:56:31	+:35
7th - Elizabeth May (LUX)	01:56:45	+:49
8th - Kirsten Sweetland (CAN)	01:56:51	+:55
9th - Sarah Haskins (USA)	01:56:57	+1:01
10th - Nicola Spirig (SUI)	01:57:03	+1:07

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