



Media Release

23 August 2009

ATKINSON'S GAMBLE GOES UNREWARDED AS FRODENO POUNCES

Australian veteran Courtney Atkinson rolled the dice with a brave breakaway in the triathlon world championship series race in Yokohama, Japan, but his gamble went unrewarded as Olympic champion Jan Frodeno made a spectacular return to form.

Atkinson performed a daring solo attack off the front of a large pack on lap five of eight during the 40km bike leg. Two German's, Frodeno and Maik Petzold eventually responded, catching the Queenslander on the following lap and the three worked together to open up a lead of more than 40 seconds going into the 10km run.

But it was Frodeno, winning his first world championship series race almost a year to the day after his surprise victory in Beijing, who was least affected by the tough ride, throwing down the challenge early in the run and eventually cruising to the line. Fast-finishing Kris Gemmell took silver, just ahead of world champion, Spain's Javier Gomez.

Atkinson held on as best he could, finishing eighth, one place ahead of state team-mate Dan Wilson in what was a pleasing return to form.

"I race to win so when the opportunity presented itself, I didn't want to die wondering," Atkinson said. "At the same time, while the idea was there, it took a little too long for the other couple of guys to bridge up to me and that probably took its toll in these conditions – it was pretty warm out there.

"I'm not overly disappointed. I put myself in with a shot to win the race and I came up short. I can feel my body improving all the time and I'm looking forward to getting home to the Gold Coast and putting in a big performance in the grand final."

Earlier, two young Australians Josh Amberger and Shane Barrie led the field out of the water. They were among half a dozen up-and-comers who found the pace and conditions hot, although all managed to finish the race.

Dextro Energy Triathlon - ITU World Championship Series Official Rankings - Round 7 of 8

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|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1st - Alistair Brownlee (GBR) | 3,200 pts |
| 2nd - Javier Gomez (ESP) | 2,849 |
| 3rd - Kris Gemmell (NZL) | 2,559 |
| 4th - Maik Petzold (GER) | 2,493 |
| 5th - Laurent Vidal (FRA) | 2,404 |

Yokohama Dextro Energy Triathlon - ITU World Championship Series
1.5km swim, 40km bike, 10km run

Elite Men - Unofficial Results

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|-------------------------------|----------|-------|
| Gold - Jan Frodeno (GER) | 01:44:31 | |
| Silver - Kris Gemmell (NZL) | 01:44:49 | +1:18 |
| Bronze - Javier Gomez (ESP) | 01:44:52 | +2:21 |
| 4th - Laurent Vidal (FRA) | 01:45:05 | +3:34 |
| 5th - Bevan Docherty (NZL) | 01:45:39 | +1:08 |
| 6th - Jarrod Shoemaker (USA) | 01:45:49 | +1:18 |
| 7th - Yulian Malyshev (RUS) | 01:45:51 | +1:20 |
| 8th - Courtney Atkinson (AUS) | 01:46:07 | +1:36 |
| 9th - Dan Wilson (AUS) | 01:46:18 | +1:47 |
| 10th - Maik Petzold (GER) | 01:46:35 | +2:04 |

For more information, please contact:

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