

Dextro Energy Triathlon - ITU World Championship Series



Media Release

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KIWI HEWITT WINS THRILLER AS BRAVE LUXFORD WILTS

New Zealand's Andrea Hewitt won a thrilling photo finish over Sweden's Lisa Norden to claim the second race of the Dextro Energy Triathlon ITU World Championship Series in Madrid.

The only Australian representative in the elite women's field, Queensland's Annabel Luxford, had earlier led throughout the swim and the initial stages of the bike before wilting badly and eventually pulling out of the race early in the run. She was far from the only casualty as hot conditions and a hilly, challenging course took their toll in the Spanish capital.

Luxford emerged from the water after the 1500-metre swim at the front of a lead group of six with a 20-second gap over the main pack. She and Sarah Haskins, from the USA, then attacked early on the bike and were initially able to extend that gap slightly, but were gradually swallowed by a strong chase pack of more than a dozen riders.

The lead group of 14 consolidated for the remainder of the 40km bike leg to have the race among themselves, and while Luxford remained part of that pace-setting pack going into transition, she struggled from the moment she started out on the 10km.

"I'm very disappointed," said Luxford. "I was on the pace in the swim, but once I got on the bike I just didn't seem to have any energy and I knew I was in trouble early on. There's nothing wrong with me – it's a pretty tough course and I just didn't have it today."

It was left to a group of five runners among an open field to battle for the spoils in a blanket finish over the last kilometre, with a late surge by Hewitt proving just enough to edge out Norden right on the line. Jessica Harrison, of France, won the bronze medal.

Emma Snowsill and Emma Moffatt, who came first and second respectively in the series opener in Tongyeong, South Korea, bypassed this race to remain in training on the Gold Coast, but the high profile pair is slated to return for the third race of the series in Washington.

Dextro Energy Triathlon - ITU World Championship Rankings After Race One of Eight

1. Magali Di Marco Messmer (SUI) 1043pts
2. Jessica Harrison (FRA) 1024pts
3. Emma Moffatt (AUS) 1018pts
4. Juri Ide (JPN) 985ts
5. Samantha Warriner (NZL) 965pts

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

Elite Women - Official Results

Gold – Andrea Hewitt (NZL) 2:05:58

Silver – Lisa Norden (SWE) 2:05:58 +0:01

Bronze – Jessica Harrison (FRA) 2:05:59 +0:02

4th – Christiane Pilz (GER) 2:06:02 +0:05

5th – Sarah Haskins (USA) 2:06:04 +0:07

6th – Magali D Marco Messmer (SUI) 2:06:18 +0:21

7th – Samantha Warriner (NZL) 2:06:45 +0:48

8th – Daniela Ryf (SUI) 2:06:52 +0:55

9th – Sarah Groff (USA) 2:07:25 +1:28

10th – Ai Ueda (JPN) 2:07:31 +1:34

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