



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ULTRARUNNERS

To: IAU Federations/Team Managers/Athletes at the IAU 24H World Championships, Belfast, 1st/2nd July 2017.

Final Results for the IAU 24H World Championships, WMA 24H Championships and Open 24H Race. Belfast 1st/2nd July 2017.

First. The IAU, WMA and LOC reiterate their profuse apologies for the errors in the timing system during the race. This was inexcusable and there has been considerable work and analysis done since the event to rectify the situation.

Most importantly the results for each individual athlete has been scrutinized and corrected if necessary whether an appeal was made or not. The final results are shown in the attached comprehensive spreadsheet together with all the reasons why any corrections have been made.

These results have been scrutinized by both the Chief Race Referee, (Ray O'Connor) and the Jury of Appeal (Liesbeth Jansen (IAU), Brian Keaveney (WMA) and John Allen (LOC)) and all have agreed that they are content to sign off the results as attached.

Under normal circumstances, there can be no further appeals, however in this unique situation, the Jury of Appeal will consider further queries but only if presented with new information which can demonstrate that a current result is still incorrect. **Federations will have until noon GMT 31st July to make any new appeal.**

Key Changes in the Updated Results:

These Championships produced keen and fierce competition with some very close results, thus there have been some changes in the medal positions after the re-analysis.

In the **IAU Men's Championships** the silver and bronze medals are reversed with Sebastian Bialobrzewski (POL) moving up to second.

In the Men's Team Result France now takes the bronze medal with USA moving down to 4th place.

In the **IAU Womens Championships**, the order is unchanged. However, Patrycja Bereznowska (POL) has an added lap which has the potential to extend her claim for a new world record.

In the Women's Team Result gold and silver are reversed with Bereznowska's extra lap giving Poland gold and the USA silver.



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In the **WMA Masters Championship:**

M50+ No. 68 Steve Holyoak moves up to gold.

M60+ No. 14 Luc de Jaegar-Braet moves up to gold.

F50+ No. 330 Laurie Dymond takes bronze (already corrected from Provisional results)

F55+ No. 532 Claire Harrington takes bronze(wrongly placed in the 50+ age group).

In the **Irish National Championships.**

There is a new national record for No. 92 Eoin Keith of 248.436kms beating the old record by 44 metres.

No. 575 Alex O'Shea moves up to silver ahead of Tim Brownlie.

The attached document explains the criteria used for the checking, the checked Provisional results for every athlete, the updated Final Results for: IAU Championships -Men, Women,Team, WMA Masters Championships and the Open Race and the chip numbers from Finish Box 7 and Finish Box 11 for cross-referencing.

The chronology for the timing errors is given in an annex following this note together with a summary of the subsequent analysis.

We are happy to give further clarification if required and can we also congratulate the athletes again for some fantastic performances in these championships.

Best wishes.

Hilary

Hilary Walker

IAU General Secretary

And on behalf of the LOC and WMA and the Jury of Appeal.

26th July 2017



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Annex 1. Sequence of issues arising in Chip timing for IAU World 24H Championships

1st July 2017.

23:20 Belfast Wifi internet connection lost. Consequence: no data coming into main computer or onto the trackside screen. Solution: computer hardwired and screen restored.

23:30 Screen lost on main computer. Switched to back-up computer. Consequence: no data to trackside screen.

2nd July 2017

00:00 As a result of the switching of computers, the computer operator had in error switched the timing from 24-hour to a 12-hour setting. Consequence: The timings after midnight started from zero. This did not affect the integrity of the matts that were feeding the boxes and there was no issue with batteries in the boxes so the laps were intact but not the timing.

02:00 Data to screen restored briefly but wildly inaccurate so taken down amid fears that the faulty main computer was corrupting the data. The screen was not restored.

05:45 Error light on one of the boxes. Consequence: Faulty cable or separated matts. Solution: Cable changed and matts checked. Duration of this approx 1 minute.

Subsequent Analysis

The IAU, WMA and LOC are indebted to Andy Jordan for the forensic independent statistical analysis carried out over the last 2 weeks in which he has checked some 40,000 lines comparing the Provisional Results with the raw data coming out of the boxes plus the video evidence where available. With additional cross-checking carried out by Ed Smith and Martin Curran for the LOC and further final checking by the Race Referee and Jury of Appeal.

Particular attention for missing laps was paid to the time periods at 0455 approx and 0555 approx.

It was found that in that 04:55 period, 9.4 per cent of the elite men and 4.6 per cent of the elite women were affected. And, in the 05:55 period 27.7 per cent of the men and 17.6 per cent of the women were affected with 53 men and 23 women given added laps, 4 men and 2 women losing laps and 25 men and 38 men seeing no change.