

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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CURIOUS EUROS

Duckworth 5th, dnfs dominate in Berlin

Hello Again.....The year's final championship decathlon, the European Champs in Berlin, was an oddity of the first rank. The top two ranked athletes never made it to the finish line and barely half of the starters (15 of 28) could mark in all ten events.

Hometown favorite Arthur Abele, 32, was literally the last man standing. He did not take the lead until the final event but won at 8431. Runner-up Ilya Shkureniov, 27, competing without a nation (a native of banned Russia Federation) was 110 back for the silver. and talented Vitali Zhuk/BLR, 21, was a surprise 3rd with a PR 8290 effort.

Yet they were only a small part of the story in Berlin where it seemed every event claimed victims.

After a frantic opening sprint where world champion Kevin Mayer/France, 26, outleaned NCAA champ Tim Duckworth, 22, 10.64 to 10.65. The mark was a significant PR for Mayer who was an overwhelming favorite. But he came a cropper in the long jump with three fouls at the toe-board. Oddly, not only did he no mark but so did his French teammates, Rueben Gado and Romain Martin. It may have been the only time in major deca history that an entire 3-man team no marked in the jump. Whew! Mayer immediately headed for the exit but Gado and Martin, ex U of Texas-Arlington, stuck around.

Three others withdrew before the break where Duckworth, using an eye-opening and career equalling 2.17m/7-1½ led with a 4380 score.



Olympic silver medalist Kevin Mayer/FRA (left) and NCAA king Tim Duckworth/Kentucky-GBR(right) waged a classic sprint in Berlin.

Day two saw more withdrawals including the three-man Estonian team of Maicel Uibo, Karel Tilga and Karl-Robert Saluri. Uibo appeared to be a lock for the silver before his exit. Six withdrew on day two.

Shkureniov moved into contention with a winning 5.30m/17-4½ and Duckworth, with a 5.10m/16-8¾ remained in the



Mayer just did edge Duckworth, 10.64 to 10.65

overall lead. Abele's 68.10m/223-5 javelin then guaranteed his win. The 1500m was anti-climatic. Unnoticed was Duckworth's 4:58.28 1500 PR. He finished 5th (8160 points), 130 out of the medals.

The season's final major will be the DecaStar affair in Talence in mid-September.

RESULTS:



8/7-8 European Champs, Berlin, GER

8431	Abele, Arthur/GER	10.86+0.3	742+0.1	1564	193	48.01	13.94+0.3	4542	460	6810	4:30.84			
8321	Shkureniov, Ilya/ANA	11.12-0.2	755+1.7	1343		202	48.95	14.44+0.1	4553	530	5913	4:31.38		
8290	Zhuk, Vitali/BLR	11.12-0.2	705+1.5	1565	199	48.41	14.66+0.1	4546	490	6619	4:30.81			
8220	Kaul, Niklas/GER	11.36+0.3	720+0.2	1385	208	49.28	14.78+0.1	4630	470	6772	4:23.67			
8160	Duckworth, Tim/Kentucky-GBR	10.65+0.3	757			+2.5	1361	217	49.87	14.55+0.3	4194	510	5478	4:58.28
8131	Roe, Martin/NOR	10.86+0.3	761+0.8	1548	196	49.42	15.31+0.1	4222	480	5838	4:41.40			
8105	Braun, Pieter/NED	11.33-0.2	752-0.1	1422	202	48.52	14.56+0.3	4375	460	5953	4:27.20			
8067	Dolžal, Jan/CZE	11.06+0.1	712+0.1	1403	202	49.42	14.58+0.3	4581	480	6267	4:41.27			
8005	Samuelsson, Fredrick/SWE	11.04+0.3	752+0.2			1399	208	49.60	14.70+0.3	4394	450	5691	4:38.10	
7949	Cairolì, Simone/ITA	10.94+0.3	749+1.3	1325	295	48.77	14.66+0.1	3530	460	5962	4:28.30			
7875	Yaremich, Yuri/BLR	10.96+0.3	755+1.2	1289		202	50.03	14.74+0.3	3997	490	5912	4:51.10		
7819	Nilsson, Markus/SWE	11.37-0.2	713+0.3	1390		199	51.07	14.73+0.1	4473	460	5967	4:29.86		
7696	Wiesiolek, Pawel/POL	10.95+0.3	693-0.1	1279		193	49.75	15.10+0.1	4568	470	5557	4:37.03		
7683	Lukáš, Marek/CZE	11.12+0.3	699-1.5	1404	187	50.60	14.67+0.1	3941	460	6419	4:37.03			
7655	Savola, Elmo/FIN	11.05+0.1	693+1.0	1341	199	49.54	14.87+0.1	4292	480	5712	5:01.22			
7208	Ureña, Jorge/ESP	10.87+0.1	724+0.6	1358	202	48.50	14.39+0.3	3702	nh	6139	4:29.26			
7137	Gado, Ruben/FRA	10.86+0.3	nm	1340	196	47.65	15.18+0.1	3574	520	5617	4:21.49			
7022	Martin, Romain/FRA	11.16+0.1	nm	1376	202	49.60	14.72+0.1	3957	510	6049	4:52.79			
dnf	Distelberger, Dominik/AUT	11.00+0.3	716-0.5			1260	190	48.89	14.61+0.1	4366	460	5443	dns	
dnf	Uibo, Maical/EST	11.31+0.1	727-0.4	1461	202	50.18	14.57+0.1	4533	510	withdrew				
dnf	Saluri, Karl-Robt/EST	10.68+0.3	750+0.5	1454		187	48.26	15.20+0.1	nm	withdrew				
dnf	Tilga, Karel/EST	11.26+0.1	725+0.6	1420	202	50.12	15.27+0.1	4342	withdrew					
dnf	Andraloits, Maksim/BLR	11.00+0.3	697+0.1			1533	202	48.56	dnf	4102	withdrew			
dnf	Brugger, Mathias/GER	11.05+0.3	nm	1592	196	47.86	14.63+0.3	withdrew						

dnf	Van Der Plaetsen/Thomas/BEL	11.48-0.2				741	+1.0	1335	205	withdrew			
dnf	Sintnicolaas, Eelco/NED	11.04-0.2	713+1.2			1406	181	withdrew					
dnf	Pešić, Darko/MNE	11.68-0.2	658-0.6			1497	190	withdrew					
dnf	Mayer, Kevin/FRA	10.64+0.3	nm	withdrew									



Hurdle technique was nothing to write home about for either Duckworth (left) and Sweden's Fredrick Samuelsson (right)