



## KAUL WORLD CHAMP

### Uibo, Warner Medal



**Hello Again.....**this world championship had more angles than a billiards tournament. After dramatic snafus by defending champ Kevin Mayer, Commonwealth champ Lindon Victor and the '17 bronze medalist Kai Kazmirek, a new set of contenders emerged. The only constant was first day leader Damian Warner who was still in the hunt after nine events. Only separated by just 42 points (7 1.5k seconds), Warner, German Niklas Kaul, Estonian Maicel Uibo, and Russian Ilya Shkureniov all went to the 1500m start with podium potential. After nine events a simple footrace would decide the medal places.

Young legs prevailed. The 21-year old Kaul ran conservatively for a lap, got into the hunt, jumped the field with 900 meters left and was in total control over the final two laps as the older contenders faded. His PR 8691 score was the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest winning total since the IAAF initiated a world meet back in 1983 in Helsinki. But what a meet! Americans Solomon Simmons and Harrison Williams placed 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Here's the tale.

### IAAF World Champs Doha, Qatar October 2-3, 2019



#### Day 2, Thursday

#### 110 m Hurdles: [4:35 pm]

The initial race was won by Ilya Shkureniov/ANA who out-legged Maicel Uibo/s/EST PR, 14.28 to 14.43. Lindon



**Niklas Kaul, 21,** became the first former IAAF world junior decathlete to win the senior title.

Victor/GRN posted a seasonal best of 14.82 seconds. Aiding wind (+0.2mps).

Stanford's Harrison Williams dashed past bulky Vitaly Zhuk/BLR to capture the 2<sup>nd</sup> race, in a seasonal best 14.43 seconds. The story here were the Germans. Young Niklas Kaul was a solid third (14.64) but vet Kai Kazmirek, a 2017 medalist who stood 7<sup>th</sup> overnight, and running in lane 2, ran *around* the fourth barrier. There were no hurdles placed in lane 1 on his left!!!!!!

The third race was even more telling. Damian Warner, in lane 5, had no problem pulling away from Kevin Mayer and won comfortably with a 13.56 clocking. Mayer, in lane 2, grabbed his right knee and left hamstring after crossing the finish line in



German Kai Kazmirek was d'qd for skipping a hurdle.

13.87, well off his 13.55 clocking one month ago. Rumors flew about his fitness/health. Americans Devon Williams (13.91) and Solomon Simmons (14.10) were 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively. Warner added 41 points to the lead.

*After Six: Warn 5545, Maye 5474, LePa 5436, Vict 5345, Shku 5279.....7<sup>th</sup> Simm 5218,....9<sup>th</sup> WilD 5128....12<sup>th</sup> WilH 5050.*

**Discus:** [5:30pmA/6:35pmB am]

The better vaulters were grouped into section A of the discus, Mayer among them. He soldiered on after some attention to his left hamstring.



Defending champ Kevin Mayer was clearly in trouble by the 7<sup>th</sup> event.

Throwing 4<sup>th</sup> in the order, Mayer fouled on his 1<sup>st</sup> attempt. Minutes later Harrison Williams spun a career best 44.23m/145-1.

Mayer got on the board in round #2 with a nice 48.34m/158-7 and then passed his final try. LePage's opener of 41.19m/135-1 was followed by a pair of fouls and he tumbled to 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Devon Williams' 3<sup>rd</sup> round toss of 47.32m/155-3 moved him to 3<sup>rd</sup> in the group which was won by Shkurneyov's 48.75m/159-11, a 9-foot PR for the Russian!

As exciting as Group A was, Group B was downright dramatic. Kaul won the group with a 49.20m/161-5 toss, 2 ½ feet further than Japan's Keisuke Ushiro.

Damian Warner flirted with disaster once too often, managing a 39.94 42.19m before fouling on his last attempt, It dropped him to 56 points behind the limping Mayer. And, with an opportunity to take over the lead, Lindon Victor, one of the sports' best ever at this event, posted a trio of fouls.

Yikes!! The leaderboard shake-up resembled a gild tournament. Now Uibo, Shkureniov and Kaul were medal contenders. Even Solomon Simmons was in the hunt. Whew!  
*After Seven: Warn 6254, Maye 6310, LePa 6125. Shku 6123, Uibo 6038, Simm 6011, WilD 5943...12<sup>th</sup> WilH 5801*

**Pole Vault:** [7:05pmA/8:05pmB am]

The early vault group included many of the medal contenders. The event started with a pair of no-heights...Devon Williams at 4.50m/14-9 and Mayer, liming, never got off the ground on two attempts. He limped off. Who wants to win this? Already gone as potential medalists are Mayer, Victor and Kazmirek.

Five cleared 5.00m/16-4¾, including medal contenders Uibo and Shkureniov. One who did not was Harrison Williams who missed three times at 5.00m after managing just 4.80m/15-9.



Maicel Uibo went to the overall lead with a PR 5.40m vault clearance.

In Group B Warner got over 4.70m/15-5 on his 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt and he may need additional bars to hold off Uibo, Kaul and Shkureniov, all of who vault well. Lurking in

the back of everyone's mind is the javelin credentials of Kaul.

Warner's trio of misses at 4.80m/15-9 could be crucial. Uibo's clearance at 5.40m/17-8½ earned him 1035 points and vaulted him into contention. A scramble of places left 5 medals contenders: Uibo, Warner, Shkureniov, LePage and Kaul, the latter well back but with his two best events ahead of him. Only 24 points separated the top 4 with LePage back into the lead but his two weakest events remaining. Steady Solomon Simmons was 5<sup>th</sup>. Hold into your hat and scoring tables.

*After Eight: Lepa 7097, Shku 7095, Warn & Uibo 7073, Simm 6860.....12<sup>th</sup> WilH 6650.*

**Javelin:** [10:05pmA/11:10pmB am]

The first group got underway with a winning 72.46m/237-9 by Estonian Janek Oiglane. Uibo followed with a 63.83m/209-5, enough to give him a 15-point overall lead after nine.

In Group B little happened of consequence until the 21-year old Kaul speared 75.42m/247-5 to move among the leaders. Warner, competing furiously, managed a 62.67m/205-7 (2 meters shy of his '13 PR from Moscow) putting him within 15 points of Uibo. In round #2 Kaul's jav covered a meet record (and just missed Peter Blank's world mark)....are you ready.... 79.05m/259-4 and he was now just 4 points behind Warner. What a competition!

Given that Kaul's PR is 9 seconds faster than the other three contenders, he was now the prohibitive favorite to become the youngest world decathlon champ (previously East German Torsten Voss who won in Rome in 1987.)

*After Nine: Uibo 7869, Warn 7854, Kaul 7850, Shku 7826, LePa 7796.....8<sup>th</sup> Simm 7497.*

**1500 Meters:** [00:25 am, Friday, Oct 3]

19 athletes remained. The oddity of this world champs was that the final event started 25 minutes after midnight, local time, making it a 3 (calendar) day decathlon.

After razz-a-ma-tazz introductions Warner was quickest off the mark and he went to the lead forcing Uibo to cover, (Warner led at 400m at 70.7). Kaul moved to second on the next lap and the 3 leaders dueled from there. Kaul led at 800m at 2:20+. Shkureniov never contested with the other three. Kaul only needed a 3 second margin over Uibo for the win and he jumped him with 500m left and began a long, controlled sprint at the bell. Warner dropped off and the medals and their order were essentially determined. Kaul ran powerfully down the back straight and gunned it with 150 remaining. His final lap was covered in just under 65 seconds. When he crossed the finish in a near PR 4:15.70 he was 85 meters up on Uibo and the new world champion.



One well known coach quipped before the 1500m that Niklas Kaul (left), "he'll run the snot out of that race if he has to." He had to and did.

*After Ten: Kaul 8691PR, Uibo 8604, Warn 8529, Shku 8494, LePag 8445.....8<sup>th</sup> Simm 8151.....14<sup>th</sup> 7892 WilH.*

**Results:**



**10/2-3-4 IAAF World Champs, Doha, QAT**

8691	Kaul, Niklas/GER	11.27+0.3	719+0.6
1510 202	48.48 14.64+0.7	4920 500 7905	4:15.70
8604	Uibo, Maicel/EST	11.10+0.3	746+0.2
1512 217	50.44 14.43+0.2	4664 540 6383	4:31.51
8529	Warner, Damian/CAN	10.35+0.8	767+0.1
1497 202	48.12 13.56+0.8	4219 470 6287	4:40.77
8494	Shkureniov, Iilya/ANA	11.02+0.3	761+0.5
1471 211	49.36 14.28+0.2	4875 520 5956	4:41.95
8445	LePage, Pierce/CAN	10.36+0.8	779+0.2
1321 205	47.35 14.19+0.8	4119 520 5742	4:45.09
8297	Oiglane, Janek/EST	10.94+0.3	732+0.5
1520 196	49.14 15.13+0.7	4337 500 7246	4:36.24
8222	Braun, Pieter/NED	11.16+0.3	747+0.5
1526 202	48.79 14.59+0.8	4559 480 5984	4:35.62

8151	Simmons, Solomon/USA	10.70+0.8	737+0.3				
	1533	196	49.31	14.10+0.8	4626	480	5325 4:44.17
8125	Van Der Plaetsen, T/BEL	11.38+0.3	724+0.4				
	1378	208	50.89	14.80+0.2	4617	530	6367 4:43.95
8122	Nowak, Tim/GER	11.12+0.3	707+0.3				
	1469	202	49.60	14.60+0.2	4502	490	5676 4:22.18
8101	Dubler, Cedric/AUS	10.74+0.8	725-0.2				
	1243	202	48.41	14.13+0.8	4430	470	5904 4:34.75
8064	Wiesiolek, Pawel/POL	10.76+0.4	702 0.0				
	1526	196	49.37	14.65+0.7	4720	490	5815 4:42.06
8050	Zhuk, Vitaliy/BLR	10.95+0.4	663+0.1				
	1513	196	48.08	14.49+0.7	4664	480	5866 4:35.45
7892	Williams, Harrison/USA	10.76+0.8	714+0.6				
	1378	193	47.93	14.43+0.7	4423	480	4859 4:40.96
7860	Samuelsson, Frederik/SWE	11.13+0.4	711+0.8				
	1397	202	50.08	14.78+0.7	4271	480	5739 4:39.48
7545	Ushiro, Keisuke/JPN	11.44+0.3	690+0.4				
	1431	190	51.42	15.26+0.2	4841	450	6136 4:52.12
7414	Kazmirek, Kai/GER	10.82+0.4	726+0.5				
	1430	205	47.35	dnf	4485	520	6008 4:49.16
6845	Roe, Martin/NOR	10.94+0.4	728+0.1				
	1508	187	dsq	15.86+0.2	4718	460	6061 5:08.91
6645	Jaramillo, Georni/VEN	10.88+0.4	747+0.7				
	1542	nh	48.66	14.19+0.8	4400	440	5500 dnf
dnf	Mayer, Kevin/FRA	10.50+0.8	756-0.1	1			
	1682	199	48.99	13.87+0.8	4834	nh	
dnf	Williams, Devon/USA	10.84+0.4	736 0.0				
	1376	193	48.37	13.91+0.8	4732	nh	
dnf	Victor, Lindon/GRN	10.66+0.8	751+0.2				
	1624	205	48.55	14.82+0.2	nm	nh	
dnf	Rolnin, Basile/FRA	11.42+0.4	withdrew				
dns	Duckworth, Tim/GBR	dns					

23s,19f.