

THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

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MAYER in CHARGE ON DAY ONE Hardee in Medal Contention at IAAF Worlds

Hello Again: Rio's silver medalist Kevin Mayer/FRA, 25, in his first dec since last summer's Olympics, took total control of decathlon's day one at the 16th IAAF World Championships in London. His eye-popping 100m PR in the second section of the initial event set the tone for a sunny 5 event performance. At the end of the day he held a significant lead over Kai Kazmirek with his teammate Rico Freimuth standing 3rd.

The American highlight of day one was the solid performance of 33 year old Trey Hardee whose 4313 points was good for 5th place and an outside shot at a medal at a meet he won both in 2009 and 2011. Americans Devon Williams and Zach Ziemek were well back at the break.

Mayer's 10.70 century found him 4th place after the first event but he was the only athlete to record a lifetime best. He took over during the shot put, leveled solid marks at the field and never looked back.

The first two events faced solid headwinds which dampened scores. 34 toed the 100 meters starting line and 28 completed day one.



**16h IAAF World
Championships
London, GBR
August 11-12, 2018**



France's Kevin pushed the remainder of the 16th IAAF World championship decathlon into the rearview mirror.

100 Meters: [10:00 am]

Conditions appeared ideal with an 80% full stadium for day one. Mihael Dudas/SRB caught African record holder Larbi Bouraada/Algeria into a slight headwind (-0.2mps), 10.75-10.80. Ex NCAA champ Kurt felix closed well for 3rd in 11.08/

In the 2nd race all local eyes were on Britain's Ashley Bryant but the real focus was on meet favorite Kevin Mayer/FRA. If



Predictably Damian Warner /CAN (left) won the initial event, here besting ex NCAA champs Lindon Victor /GRN (center) and Zach Ziemek/USA (right).

anyone ever appeared ready it was Mayer (in lane 3) who simply ran away from the field (Maicel Uiibo on his left) in a PR (which was 10.81!) 10.70. He dominated! Interestingly, his was the lone career best mark.

Germany's medal contender Kai Kazmirek was 2nd but in a disappointing 10.91 and 2x NCAA champ Uiibo was 8th in 11.35.

Section 3 featured a very long haired Russian Ilya Skhurenov (who was allowed to compete as an "Authorized Neutral Athlete"). Not surprisingly Germany's Mathias Brugger was caught with a false start and the athletes lined up again. Norway's Martin Roe was fastest outleaning Austria's Dominik Distelberger (10.90 to 11.03). Headwind - 1.3mps).

The 4th and seeded section found many of the contenders and three Americans: Devon Williams in lane 2, Zach Ziemek in 4 and 2x winner Trey Hardee in 9. They would have to contend with Damian Warner/CAN in lane 6. Current NCAA king Lindon Victor was in 5 and he was clearly nervous, resulting in a false start. ZZ was not ready for the fastest gun ever at a world champs (I timed set to gun at 0.4 seconds!). Karl Robert Saluri led at 50 meters before Warner took over winning comfortably in a (for him) very slow 10.50.

Germany's Rico Freimuth ran the best final 30 meters closing to 10.53. (headwind - 0.7 mps). Hardee was 4th in 10.75. Victor was back in 10.83, Williams 10.93, and ZZ 10.99 seconds. All seasonal worsts. Yikes!

Overall the times were slowish except for Mayer whose 2nd race PR was eye-opening and he was clearly in the driver's seat.

After One: Warn 975, Frei 968, Salu 963, Maye 929.....Hard 917, Will 876, ZZ 863.

Long Jump: [11:05 am]

Jumping into headwinds, the marks were not what were expected. In Group B Trey Hardee started with a nice 7.48m/24-6½ in round one Kzamirek took the lead in the 2nd round with a 7.64m/25-¾ which turned out to be a group

winner. The lone long jump personal best went to Norway's Martin Roe at 7.50m/24-7¼. Many of the early leaps were disappointing or fouls.nc

In Group A Freimuth led thru two rounds with an mark identical to that of Hardee. He moved to the overall lead. Mayer got 7.37m/24-2¼ and Williams managed 7.39m/24-3 with *nooooo* toe board margin in the 2nd round. Warner improved to 7.44m/24-5 after a 5.72m/18-9¼. Mayer improved to 7.52m/24-8¼. Sutthisak Singkhon/Thailand, the field's youngest competitor at 20, won the event in round #3 at 7.65m/25-1¼

Below expectations were: Victor (6.98m/22-10¾); Ziemek (7.08m/23-2¾); Uiibo (6.97m/22-10½).

Felix avoided disaster with a 7.46m/24-5¾ effort after a pair of fouls. 24 of the 96 jumping efforts were toe-board fouls.

Of the mornings 100 recorded wind readings: 86 negative ! Yikes!

After Two: Frei 1898, Warn 1895, Salu 1895, Maye 1869.....6th Hard 1847, Will 1796, ZZ 1696.

Shot Put: [12:55 pm]

The event went much as expected. Victor Lindon nailed a winner in Group B at 15.86m/52½ and Mayer remained hot getting a seasonal best 15.72m/51-7. At this point he looked unbeatable and there was talk of a 8900+ score. Trey Hardee moved to 3rd place



Trey Hardee moved to 3rd overall with a 49-9 shot.

over-all with a nice 15.16m/49-9 1st round toss. Damian Warner continued a sub-par path managing just 13.45m/44-1½ for 16th in the group.

Group A was won by Devon Williams at 14.43m/47-4¼ while Zach Ziemek was 4th at 14.01m/45-11¾. Singkhon and Sweden's Frederik Samuelsson withdrew.

After Three: Maye 2703, Frei 2678, Hard 2647, Salu 2622.....10th 2551,....Will....21st 2475..

High Jump: [5:00 pm]

Crucial heights were reached one hour into the event. In Group A (higher seeded jumpers), the bar was a 2.05m/6-8¾ with 7 over including Mayer, former Arizona Wildcat Pau Tonneson and Kazmirek. Damian Warner missed three times here and



Damian Warner's 2.02m/6-7 ½ did little to improve his over standing.

one could only wonder now if even his medal chances were slipping away. Victor and Ziemek only managed 1.99m/6-6¼.

Seven including Mayer were over at 2.08m/6-9¾. Kazmirek put himself into medal contention with a 2.11m/6-11 1st try clearance. For Mayer, already with a significant 109 point overall lead, this bar represented a PR in a season where he already has achieved four other lifetime bests. Felix and Tonneson could not get over 2.11m nor could Mayer so Kazmirek, who had moved from 8th to 2nd overall, alone went to 2.14m/7-¼, a tick under his PR. This is where the



Mayer's 2.08m/6-9¾ high jump clearance pushed his lead to over 100 points.

group finished, with but a single PR, Janek Oiglane/EST at 2.05m/6-8¾.

In Group B, at 1.96m/6-5, eleven were active including Hardee who opened at 1.90m/6-2¾ and then passed the next bar. It took two tries to put 1.96m behind him. In all ten cleared this bar including Freimuth. Both Hardee and Freimuth (now tied for 2nd) took two efforts to get over 1.99m/6-6¼. For Trey this was his best jump in 3 seasons. He was unable to manage 2.02m/6-7 ½ and only vet Oleksiy Kasyanov /UKR and youngster Dudas cleared that height. Bouraada and Dutchman Pieter Braun retired.

After Four: Maye 3581, Frei 3472, Kamz 3472, Hard 3441.....14th Will 3318,19th ZZ 3219.

400 Meters: [8:45 pm]

IAAF organizers made the same misake in seeding that has prevaield for the last 3 world chmapionships. That is, they used only seasonal best marks and not nmarks made in the qualifying period. The misake Kevin Mayer (or his coaches) made was not having a 400m time for the "season". Thus he was shuttled into the first, slowest section of 4 races. No matter. He was so hot that he recoreded a marginal PR (48.26 seconds) anyway. Mihail Dudas/SRB won in 48.08. But this inadequacy must be corrected! Hint: use marks from the qualifying period, not the season!!!!

In the same race Maicel Uibo (50.61) and paul Tonneson (50.85) , a pair of NCAA

performers, were 5th and 6th. Belgium's Thomas vad der Plaetsen withdrew.

Mayer's 1st day score was a PR 4478, 43 up on his Rio score.

Trey Hardee found himself in lane 3 and reacted quickest to the gun (0.121 seconds). His fine 48.78 SB clocking for 4th behind Cedric Dubler/AUS (48.31) gave him 4313 points at the break. Zach Ziemek trying to learn how to run from the outside lane, was 8th in 50.32,

In the third race Freimuth outlegged Kasyanov, 48.41 to 48.64.

The fourth race found Damian Warner in lane 3 and Kai Kazmirek in 8, just outside Devon Williams. Mathais Brugger/GER withdrew. Kazmirek won by 3 steps in 47.19, to Warner's 47.47, both seasonal bests. Kaz cut mayer's margin to 57 points. Williams was 4th in 48.11 and Victor 6th at 49.30.

After Five: Maye 4478, Kazm 4421, Frei 4361, Warn 4347, hard 431311th Will 422222nd ZZ 4019.

Results:

8/11-12 IAAF World Champs, London, GBR

4478	Mayer, Kevin/FRA	10.70-0.8	752	0.0	1572	208	48.26
4421	Kazmirek, Kai/GER	10.91-0.8	764	0.4	1378	211	47.19
4361	Freimuth, Rico/GER	10.53-0.7	748	0.4	1485	199	48.41
4347	Warner, Damian/CAN	10.50-0.7	744	0.6	1345	202	47.47
4313	Hardee, Trey/USA	10.75-0.7	748	0.4	1516	199	48.78
4293	Felix, Kurt/GRN	11.08-0.2	746	+0.7	1501	208	49.09
4282	Kasyanov, Oleksiy/UKR	10.77-0.7	728	1.1	1499	202	48.64
4237	Dudas, Mihail/SRB	10.75-0.2	746	+0.2	1302	202	48.08
4223	Shkurenev, Ilya/ANA(RUS)	11.17-1.3	762	+0.2	1348	208	49.02
4223	Urena, Jorge/ESP	11.00-0.8	730	0.4	1391	208	48.72
4222	Williams, Devon/USA	10.93-0.7	744	0.5	1443	196	48.11
4218	Oiglane, Janek/EST	11.08-0.2	733	0.1	1513	205	49.58
4218	Roe, Martin/NOR	10.90-1.3	750	+0.9	1522	193	49.09
4204	Saluri, Karl Robt/EST	10.55-0.7	749	1.0	1398	184	47.76
4192	Victor, Lindon/GRN	10.83-0.7	698	1.2	1586	199	49.30

4101	Bryant, Ashely/GBR	11.14-0.8	744	1.0	1409	196	49.24
4094	Sintincolaas, Eelco/NED	10.96-0.7	731	0.4	1432	190	48.73
4070	Dubler, Cedric/AUS	11.06-0.8	729	+0.1	1136	208	48.31
4047	Braun, Pieter/NED	11.22-0.8	717	1.5	1448	193	48.54
4042	Helcelet, Adam Sebastian/CZE	11.28-1.3	703	0.7	1457	202	49.51
4036	Tonneson, Pau/ESP	11.26-0.2	721	+0.6	1376	208	50.85
4019	Ziemek, Zach/USA	10.99-0.7	708	0.5	1401	199	50.32
3947	Distelberger, Dominic/AUT	11.03-1.3	711	0.7	1293	187	48.13
3936	Auzeit, Bastien/FRA	11.35-0.2	687	+0.2	1523	196	50.36
3933	Uibo, Maicel/EST	11.35-0.8	697	1.0	1408	202	50.61
3925	Nakamura, Akihiko/JPN	11.06-1.3	728	0.6	1137	196	48.98
3685	Ushiro, Keisuke/JPN	11.53-0.2	664	0.2	1343	196	51.43
dnf:	Brugger, Mathias/GER	11.15-1.3	718	+0.6	1480	190	withdrew
dnf	Van der Plaetsen,Thomas/BEL	11.35-0.2	709	+0.11303	196	withdrew	
dnf:	Bouraada, Larbi/ALG	10.80-0.2	722	1.1	1341	190	withdrew
dnf:	Singkhon, Sutthisak/THA	11.16-1.3	765	0.7	1334	withdrew	
dnf:	Samuelsson, Frederik/SWE	11.24-1.3	711	1.6	1382	withdrew	
dnf:	DeAraujo, Luiz Alberto/BRA	11.07-1.3	nm	0.4	withdrew		
dnf:	Suarez, Leonel/CUB	15.93-0.8	withdrew				

34s,27f.

