

# THE DECATHLON ASSOCIATION

## DECA Newsletter

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## XXXII OLYMPIC GAMES TOKYO

### Warner Leads at Break



**Hello Again...** What to expect from the Tokyo decathlon? It was 57 years ago when

German Willi Holdorf ran himself onto the top podium at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games decathlon. Holding held a tenuous 17 second lead over Estonia's (then part of USSR) Rein Aun after nine events. Aun's middle distance skills were legendary with a 1500m PR 30 seconds better than Holdorf's. German coach Freidel Schrimmer purposely misled Holdorf telling him he had only a 12 second margin. Holdorf pushing himself hard to stay within 12 seconds of Aun, nearly collapsed 40 meters from the finish, having run himself off his feet. He staggered in to finish exactly 12 seconds behind Aun (4:22.3 to 4:34.3) to collect the gold. The German was unconscious for nearly 30 minutes after the race and the awards ceremony had to be delayed.

German Hans Joachim Walde held off American Paul Herman (4:25.4) for the bronze. Only 100 points separated the first four in the closest 4 man finish in meet history. The world record holder, Taiwan's C.K. Yang, was 5<sup>th</sup>.

It remains to be seen whether the 2021 Tokyo Olympic decathlon version can supply us with the sane kind of drama.

The 13-hour difference between Tokyo and the USA east coast will make it difficult to follow. My reports will rely upon digital results, streaming and TV productions.



31 year old Canadian Damian Warner had day on pretty much to himself establishin a 100m decWR, long jump OR and

So, on day one (August 4-Wednes-day) 23 started including 3 Americans and 5 former NCAA champions. Here's the story from Tokyo.

**2020 Olympic Games of Tokyo**  
**Tokyo, Japan**  
**Aug 4-5, 2021**



**100 meters:** [9:00 am]

The first (lowest seeded) race Lindon Victor led throughout and was almost caught by WR holder Mayer, 10.67 to 10.68. The remainder of the field was well back (a whopping 3 tenths) and the differential was explained by Victor and Mayer not having a seasonal 100m time, so they were thrown in the lowest seeded section in spite of their PRs being among the fastest of the field.

Unnoticed and unmentioned in coverage was the near PR for world champ

Niklas Kaul even though he was buried back in 6<sup>th</sup> place.

Section #	1	wind	0.1	lane	PR	time	rect	pts
1...	Victor	GRN	4		10.56	10.67	0.154	935
2...	Mayer	FRA	8		10.50	10.68	0.135	933
3	Erm	EST	7		10.73	11.04	0.182	852
4	Van der Paletsen	BEL	6		11.04	11.05	0.168	850
5	Helcelet	CZE	3		10.81	11.06	0.143	847
6	Kaul	GER	2		11.17	11.22	0.148	812
7	Uibo	EST	5		10.99	11.32	0.184	791



Warner (center) was flanked by Ziemek (left) and Bastien (right) who were drafting on his 10.12 WR.

Spain's indoor specialist Jorge Urena won section two in a big PR 10.66. Norway's Martin Roe and Australia's Cedric Dubler were tight for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. NCAA champ Karel Tilga (with newly shaved head) was well back in 8<sup>th</sup>, more than 3 tenths off his career best.

Section #	2	wind	+0.8	lane	PR	time	rect	pts
1...	Urena	ESP	8		10.76	10.66	0.130	938
2	Roe	NOR	4		10.79	10.86	0.136	892
3	Dubler	AUS	3		10.63	10.89	0.142	885
4	Shkurenkov	ROC	7		10.88	10.93	0.171	876
5	Zhuk	BLR	9		10.94	11.04	0.141	852
6	Kazmirek	GER	6		10.62	11.09	0.145	841
7	Sykora	CZE	2		10.86	11.18	0.142	821
8	Tilga	EST	5		10.94	11.31	0.170	798

The 3<sup>rd</sup> race was Warner's to lose (PR 10.12 says it all)...he did not disappoint matching his lifetime best...10.12 WOW! A deca WR! What a statement. Moloney out-leaned LePage for 3<sup>rd</sup> with Double Z (running on the outside next to Warner) was a solid 4<sup>th</sup> in 10.55, a career best. Americans Scantling and Bastien were solid at 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Section #	3	wind	0.2	lane	PR	time	rect	pts
1...	Warner	CAN	8	=pr	10.12	10.12	0.110	1066
2	Moloney	AUS	4	pr	10.36	10.34	0.138	1013
3	LePage	CAN	6		10.30	10.43	0.140	992
4	Ziemek	USA	9	pr	10.57	10.55	0.145	963

5	dos Santos	BRA	3		10.37	10.58	0.154	956
6	Scantling	USA	5		10.53	10.67	0.153	935
7	Bastien	USA	7		10.52	10.69	0.143	931
8	Wiesolek	POL	2		10.74	10.83	0.154	899

After One: Warn 1066, Molo 1013, LePa 992, ZZ 963....

**Long Jump:** [9:55 am]

It was hot with little shade.

Group A

Mayer fouled on his initial attempt as did Bastien. Mayer posted a solid 7.50m/24-7½ to open round #2 but Bastien fouled again. LePage improve to 7.65m/25-1 ¼ to lead the group. Still unnoticed Kaul got a nice 7.38m/24-2½, a PR. Mayer did not improve in round #3 but had moved to 4<sup>th</sup> overall. Bastien found the toe-board on his final try and managed 7.39m/24-3 over-rotating into the pit. Dubler went

Group B

An injured van der Plaetsen withdrew. Warner's first effort was a stunner...8.24m/27-½ and he was looking like a winner early. ZZ missed the board by 37cm. He still leaped 7.19m/23-7¼ and appeared to jump out of order confusing scorers and results.

In round #2 Warner took his 2<sup>nd</sup> try (I was surprised) and asked what little there was for some rhythmic clapping. Then he fouled at the toe-board. ZZ improved marginally (7.20m/23-7½) even though he still was on the board. Scantling improved to 7.30m/23-11½. But in round #3 ZZ could do no better and this event was a setback. The event died a quiet death with Warner who passed his final try) in firm control.

After Two: Warn 2189, Molo 1983, LePa 1964, 1868.....6<sup>th</sup> Bast 1839....8<sup>th</sup> ZZ 1825,....10<sup>th</sup> Scan 1821.

**Shot Put:** [11:40 am -

Commonwealth champ Victor and record holder Mayer were expected to make a major move here. In group A (distance lines placed at 14m and 16m)

disappointing 14.63m/48-0, 2½ meters below his best. Warner managed a seasonal best 14.33m/47-¼ line drive.



**Lindon Victor was 2<sup>nd</sup> in the shot put at 15.39m/50-6.**

In round #2 he unleashed a 15.07m/49-5½ to move to a podium position. Lepage improved to 15.31m/50-2¾, a PR while a wrist wrap came off during the throw but luckily fell within the circle...so no foul called. Bastien's 14.40m/47-3 was solid, but his lone fair effort. Warner then raised eyebrows with another seasonal best 14.80m/48-7 to extend his lead.

In Group B Scantling first toss was an inexplicable 12 but he came out of a coma in round #2 with a 15.59m/51-1¾. In the final round Victor heaved 15.39m/50-6, as expected and then Ziemek followed with a lifetime best 14.99m/49-2¼ to offset the points lost in the long jump.

Group B was won by Vitaly Zhuk/BLR 1<sup>st</sup> round toss of 16.23m/53-3. The event finished just before the awards ceremony for women's 400m Hurdles—USA 1-2). The athletes then had a 5½ hour break.

In the first three disciplines Warner had a WRm OR and SB, His overall lead was a whopping 233 points over teammate Lepage. The young Aussie, Moloney, 21, stood 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*After Three: Warn 2966, LePa 2733, Molo 2741, Maye 2662.....5<sup>th</sup> Scan 2642,...8<sup>th</sup> Vict 2620....10<sup>th</sup> ZZ 2614.*

**High Jump:** [6:30 pm]

A trio of contenders (Kaul PR 2.11m/6-11 in Group A and Moloney (same height) and Mayer (2.08m/6-9¾) in Group B

made podium noise but this turned out to be a non-event with little movement in the standings.

Only two of a field of 22 got career bests and it was the first time since 2012 (London) when no one managed seven feet (2.14m).

Two of the three Americans jumped well (ZZ and Bastien), both managing 2.05m/6-8¾.

Americans (Group A)	193	196	199	202	205	208	best	ft-in	pts
Ziemek				o	o	xxx	2.05	6-8¾	850
Bastien	190	o	p	o	o	o	xxo	xxx	2.05 6-8¾ 850
Scantling			o	xo	o	xxx	1.99	6-6¼	794

*After Four: Warn 3788, LePa 3567, Molo 3647, Maye 3540, ZZ 3464, Bast 3442,.....8<sup>th</sup> Scan 3441.....13<sup>th</sup> Kaul but a threat...3380*

**400 meters:** [9:30 pm]

This event was revealing and a pair of contenders faltered. In Section #1 Estonian Johannes Erm out-legged Ziemek to the finish, 48.25 to 49.06. For ZZ it was a significant improvement over his 50.89 at the Trials as he moved to 1<sup>st</sup> place. More important, Mayer's 4<sup>th</sup> place 50.31 revealed a major shortage of training.

In the second race Scantling chased Urena to the finish as both PR's, 48.00 to 48.25. Another four ran seasonal bests but NCAA winner Tilga was up the track at 50.48.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> (seeded race) revealed the mettle of the top 4: Moloney (46.29), Lepage (46.92) Warner (47.48) and Bastien (47.64). A PR for LePage and seasonal bests for the others. A terrific race. Even more consequential was the 'dnf' by Kaul which opened a podium spot. Bastien moved to 4<sup>th</sup> overall, with Scantling 6<sup>th</sup> and Ziemek 7<sup>th</sup>. A good show by the Yanks.....interesting...six of top seven from English speaking nations.

*After Four: Warn 4722, Molo 4641, LePa 4529, Bast 4369, Maye 4340, Scan 4338, ZZ 4322*

**Results:**

8/4-5 XXXII Olympic Games, Tokyo, JPN	
4722	Warner, Damian/CAN 10.12+0.2 824+0.2 1480 202 47.48
4641	Moloney, Ashley/AUS 10.34+0.2 764+0.4 1449 211 46.29
4529	LePage, Pierce/CAN

10.43+0.2 765+0.9 1531 199 46.92  
 4369 Bastien/Steven/USA  
 10.69+0.2 739+0.2 1440 205 47.64  
 4338 Scantling, Garrett/USA  
 10.67+0.2 730-0.1 1559 199 48.25  
 4340 Mayer, Kevin/FRA  
 10.68+0.1 750+0.9 1507 208 50.31  
 4322 Ziemek, Zach/USA  
 10.55+0.2 720+0.2 1499 205 49.06  
 4310 Urena, Jorge/ESP  
 10.66+0.8 730+0.1 1397 205 48.00  
 4282 Victor, Lindon/GRN  
 10.67+0.1 724+0.4 1539 202 49.21  
 4281 Wiesiolek, Pawel/POL  
 10.83+0.2 727+0.2 1490 202 48.24  
 4276 Shkureniov, Ilya/ROC  
 10.93+0.8 759+0.2 1495 199 48.98  
 4266 dos Santos, Felipe/BRA  
 10.58+0.2 738+0.5 1413 202 49.31  
 4251 Kazmirek, Kai/GER  
 11.09+0.8 748+0.8 1446 202 48.17  
 4208 Erm, Johannes/EST  
 11.04+0.1 736+0.4 1460 199 48.25  
 4184 Dubler, Cedric/AUS  
 10.89+0.8 736 0.0 1335 205 49.02  
 4132 Zhuk, Vitaliy/BLR 1  
 1.04+0.8 693+0.4 1623 196 49.24  
 4097 Helcelet, Adam Seb/CZE  
 11.06+0.1 718+0.4 1499 196 49.41  
 4018 Uibo, Maicel/EST  
 11.32+0.1 737+0.4 1395 202 50.82  
 3989 Sykora, Jiri/CZE  
 11.18+0.8 703+0.6 1463 190 48.89  
 3979 Roe, Martin/NOR  
 10.86+0.8 703+0.3 1398 196 50.93  
 3973 Tilga, Karel/EST  
 11.31+0.8 677+0.2 1507 202 50.38  
 dnf: Kaul, Niklas/GER  
 11.22+0.1 736+0.4 1455 211 dnf  
 dnf: Van der Plaetsen, Thomas/BEL  
 11.05+0.1 nm  
 23s.