

Kimball wins fourth UltraTri Sweden

Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th the fourth consecutive edition of <u>UltraTri Sweden</u> was held. The ultra-long endurance race is a three stage competition from coast to coast in a picturesque Swedish countryside. Overall winner was Dan Kimball (USA) with a four hour advance on Jerzy Pastuszak (POL) followed by Dennis Nilsson (SWE) on third place.

The first stage started in perfect conditions on the tiny reef of Lilleland, Nidingen on the southwest outside of the Göteborg archipelago, with the first four kilometers entirely without land contact. Waters were calm and clear and Dan Kimball, USA was first out of the water after 2 hours and 18 minutes. Dan kept his lead during the bike to the stage finish in Huskvarna, but the hill climb award was claimed by Morten Poulsen, Denmark who climbed the last 1100 meters up legendary Norra Klevaliden at 5 minutes and 58 seconds.

The 317 km long second stage, from Huskvarna to Trosa was won by local Dennis Nilsson in 10:11:13. Nilsson made a strong second day performance making up for navigational issues which lost him valuable time day one. Fastest total on the bike day two was still Dan Kimball, just seconds faster than Jerzy Pastuszak, Poland who suffered mechanical problems after his crash shortly after transition day one but regardless of this moved strongly on the bike.

Day three consisting of a 22 km run followed by a 3 km swim and a 71 km run taking the competitors from Trosa to downtown Stockholm on gravel, park paths and really technical forest hiking trails also featured a hill sprint of 500 meters up the Hammarby skislope with only 8.6 km left to finish. The hill sprint was claimed by Swedish Martin Kraenzmer but Dan Kimball showed mastery of the day with consistent hard running and almost a three hours gap to a chasing pack of four runners.

Looking unperturbed at the finish area in Rålambshovsparken, Dan described the UltraTri Sweden race experience as "extremely hard but very very beautiful... the run even harder than the ÖtillÖ run".

The fifth edition of UltraTri Sweden will be held July 21-23, 2017. Pre-registration opens this Friday, 29th of July

Overall results of the UltraTri Sweden 2016:

- 1. Dan Kimball, USA, 30:24:24
- 2. Jerzy Pastuszak, Poland, 34:14:14
- 3. Dennis Nilsson, Sweden, 34:46:29
- 4. Martin Kraenzmer, Sweden, 36:09:40
- 5. Morten Poulsen, Denmark, 37:41:56
- 6. Glenn Kjellgren, Sweden, 42:41:07
- 7. Richard Robinson, UK, 43:36:48

UltraTri in short

- Day 1: 9 km Swim / 195 km Bike
- Day 2: 315 km Bike
- Day 3: 23 km Run / 3 km Swim / 70 km Run.
- <u>www.ultratri.se</u>
- <u>UltraTri Sweden</u> is an event by <u>Nedevska Coaching & Events</u>

Photo: ChallengePhotos