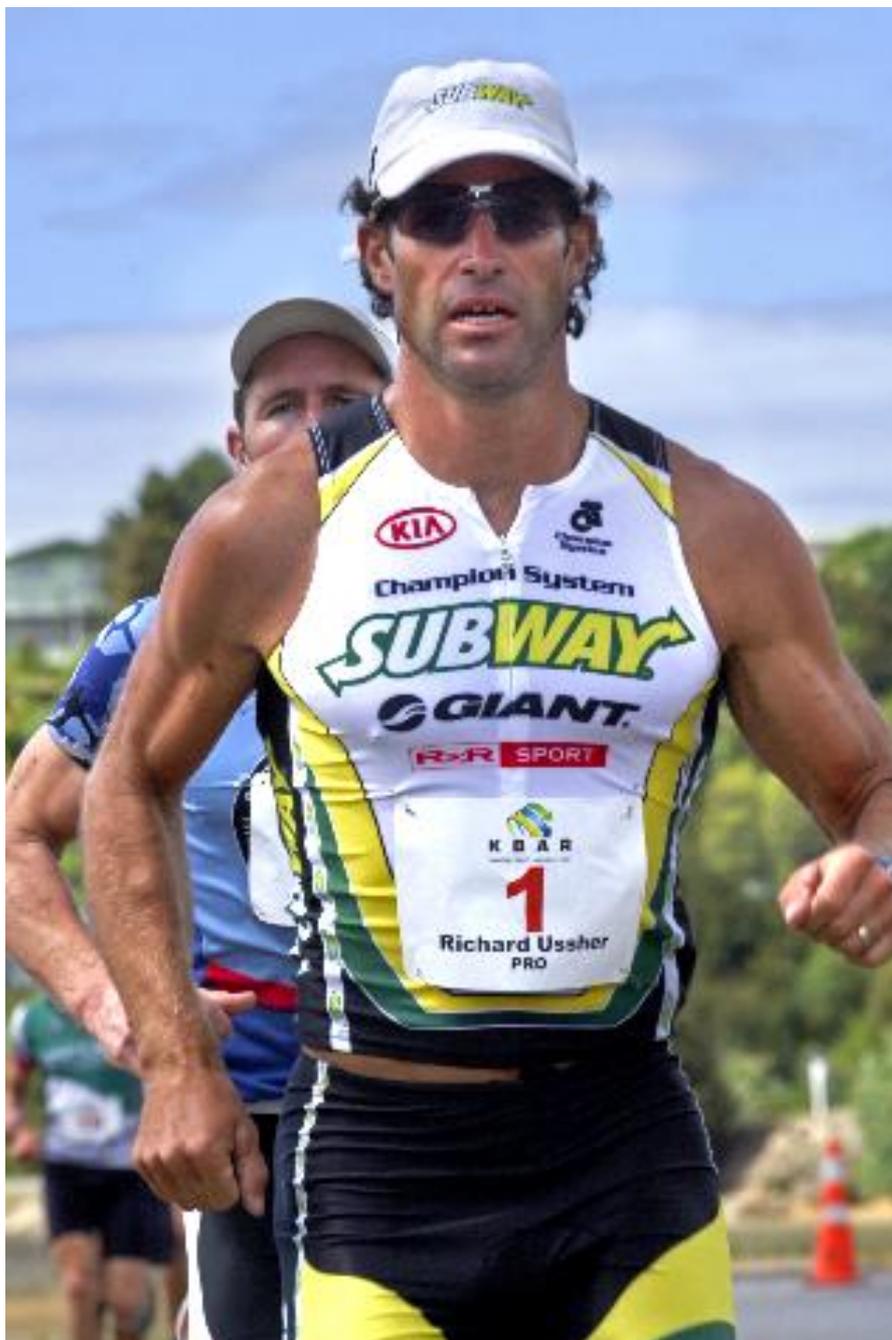


2013 NZ MULTISPORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

text by TEN EVENTS LTD

When Richard Ussher arrived to the perfect racing conditions and entered on the day of the title race he took over from pre race favourite, another Nelson athlete Dan Busch. However, Busch was determined to make a race of it and ensure New Zealand's highest achieving multisport athlete Ussher was never able to cruise to victory.



48-people lined up for the race that began with a 2.5km trail run around the Kaiteriteri Lagoon.

Ussher was the pace setter with 3rd placegetter Danial Bremner of Motueka on his shoulder. Other local athletes Jake Stow and Kim Hogarth settled into a rhythm with Busch trailing in fifth place. Greymouth's Seamus Miekle and Sweden's Scott Cole were next followed by Nathan Fa'avae, who was also the Race Director, taking some time out from organising to compete.

Ussher led into the 8km surfski paddle with Bremner and Hogarth next. The powerhouse paddler Busch hit the water next and quickly set about catching Ussher. At the 4km mark Busch had caught Ussher but the effort had taken a lot from him and Busch dropped off the pace before the end of the stage. The big mover on the paddle was Fa'avae who moved clearly into third place.

Ussher slowly increased his lead on the 20km mountain bike stage over Busch with the gap back to Fa'avae holding the same. Onto the final 5km run Ussher put picked up the tempo once again to win his 2nd National Championship Title. Busch raced extremely well to take second with Fa'avae comfortably finishing in third.

The women's race was set to be a close race between the second and third placegetters from the recent Coast to Coast. Elina Ussher was second with Wanaka's Ailsa Rollinson taking third. Noticeably absent was Coast to Coast winner, Sophie Hart, who was resting a minor running injury in preparation for the Godzone World Adventure Racing Series race she has with Team Seagate starting on March 10th in Queenstown.

The Elina Ussher and Rollinson ran together to the water with Freya Sonneland and Lisa Morrison close behind. On the water Ussher pried out a small gap and transitioned on the bike first. A strong cyclist Ussher was expected to extend her lead but was brought to a stop with mechanical issues that eventually forced her to withdraw from the race. Rollinson went on for a comfortable victory but it was by no means a hollow victory, the talented emerging athlete was expected to have a fair battle with the seasoned Ussher for the title. A well-paced Sonneland claimed third place.

The Age Group National Championship races were hotly contested with the following emerging with the respective title for 2013.

Men

Andrew Read	16-17
Jordon Pearson	18-19
Seamus Miekle	25-29
Dan Busch	30-34
Richard Ussher	35-39
Nathan Fa'avae	40-44
Nigel Muir	45-49
Graham Dyce	55-59
John Wood	70+

Women

Lisa Morrison	20-24
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Ailsa Rollinson	25-29
Sally Powell	45-49
Sandra Watts	50-54

There was also the K-IDS race as part of the weekend events held under the banner of the Kaiteriteri Beach Adventure Race (KBAR). The following youth completed a course that included a 2.5km trail run, 1.5km paddle and an 8km mountain bike. The winners also earned age group national titles.

1	ZAC MUIR	00:50:39	15 Male
2	CAMERON JONES	00:54:16	12 Male
3	CULLEN PAURINI	00:56:13	14 Male
4	CAMBRIA DOYLE	00:56:29	14 Female
5	SCOTT MORRIS	00:57:01	12 Male
6	MORGAN PAURINI	01:00:27	11 Male
7	RYAN DOYLE	01:00:54	12 Male
8	FLORENCE MACINTYRE	01:04:27	12 Female
9	IRELAND STEENBERGEN	01:07:05	14 Female
10	CEDAR STEENBERGEN	01:16:46	12 Female
11	MILLIE KNIGHT	01:23:24	12 Female

In the 3-person K-Tag relay team racing there was some close competition, three teams swapped the lead a number of times with Team JMJ ousting Team Knight Turned Fire, Team Morris Madness in third.

Also taking place was the Summer Challenge, two women teams completing the entries course together. Winning was Team Overland, Down in the Woods second, Soul Sisters in third.

The 2014 New Zealand Multisport Championships will be held in Rotorua at Queens Birthday Weekend.

The second day of racing at the KBAR hosted a 20km and 40km mountain bike race, an offroad duathlon and an ocean surfski paddle race.

In the 40km women's race Ingrid Richter and Sophie lined up as likely winners, with the Men's 40km event likely to be contested between Henry Jaine, Scott Cole, Scott Barr and Chris Sharland.

As predicted Richter and Hart stayed close for nearly 2-hours but it was the mountain biking specialist who gained a minute gap over Hart by the end. Jacqui Keay accepting third place.

The men's race was a fight between Jaine and Scotts', with Sharland finding himself with dead legs after a demanding road race the previous day and having to settle for 6th, it was Jaine to surge ahead when Barr suffered a small bike problem close to the end forcing him into third, with Cole in second. Sharland finished strongly recording the fastest lap time of the weekend of 47-minutes for the 20km circuit.

The 20km Women's Mountain Bike race was won by Sharon Renwick, Jess Siggins second, Sue Daniel in third. The men's 20km race was won by Dan Busch, one second ahead of Danial Bremner and Baily Ford in third.



The K-DUO consisted of a 2.5 trail run, 20km mountain bike and ended with a 5km coastal run. Twenty-four starters lined up and the speed was high from the start. First out onto the bike course was Ed Rimmer, followed by Nathan Fa'avae and Seamus Mickle. Towards the top of the climb in Kaiteriteri Forest Fa'avae caught and passed Rimmer, who later had a bike mechanical and has to complete the bike stage on foot. Fa'avae won the race with Mickle in second and Rimmer taking a hard worked third position.

Susie Wood comfortable won the women's duathlon ahead of Rachel Voyce and Annelise Van Zoelen in third.

The final even was the K-SKI, a 13km ocean paddle from Kaiteriteri Beach, around Ngaio Island, then Fisherman's Island before returning to the start. By the afternoon superb conditions had settled in with a steady 20-knot northerly churning up the sea. Nathan Fa'avae won the race ahead of Neil Taylor, with Sophie Hart in third and also first female.



Full results: www.kbar.co.nz

Event Sponsors:

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