

MEDIA RELEASE
Sunday 19 October 2008



CARLTON, GENTLE CLAIM OPENING ROUND

Two of Australia's leading juniors opened their season with convincing wins, claiming the opening round of the Gatorade Queensland Tri Series at Raby Bay this morning.

Carlton finished second last year and was stoked to go one better this year getting his season off to a positive start.

"It was a stacked field today so to win against these guys is a real confidence boost for me," said Carlton.

Exiting the 400m swim was a group of ten containing all the favourites, Carlton, Nathan Fitzakerley, Josh Maeder, Reece Heald and Dane Robinson.

Fitzakerley was the workhorse on the 15km bike leg while Heald copped a drafting penalty, failing to stop he was later disqualified after finishing fourth. Heald is a product of the National Talent Identification Program switching from swimming; the talented youngster took out the 16-19 category at Noosa last year.

The work on the bike took its toll on Fitzakerley, storming out of T2 for the 4km run it was Carlton, Maeder and Robinson, who is back after an extended break from the sport.

Carlton had the jump in the early stages and held off Maeder and Robinson who didn't quite have the legs today.

"I couldn't be happier with that result two weeks out from Noosa Tri, I know where I'm at in terms of my fitness and am looking forward racing there," said Carlton.

QAS athlete Maeder continued his rise in the junior ranks with a solid performance and is hoping for a top ten finish at Noosa after finishing 12th last year.

In the women's category it was dual World Junior silver medallist Ashleigh Gentle who led from start to finish in a commanding victory from Courtney Gilfillan and Kim Jaenke.

Jaenke and Gilfillan both won their division at the Triathlon World Championships in Vancouver this year so were worthy opponents, but 16 year old school girl Gentle is a superstar in the making. For the first time Gentle will contest the elite category in the Noosa Triathlon which will slowly expose her to this type of racing.

Gilfillan is also a recent recruit to triathlon, originally trained as a middle distance runner.

18 year old Gilfillan only started serious training with a swim and bike coach six months ago and will now start preparing for the Australian Under-23 elite team qualifications which start at the end of the year.

"Next year's world's (championships) are on Gold Coast in September which I'm excited about but it's a big journey. It's going to be a big ask, said Gilfillan."

Once again Raby Bay proved to be a popular venue with just over a 1300 competitors turning out to take part in one of three events offered.

The day also included The NAB Enticer Triathlon which 'enticed' a record field of novice competitors who completed a 200m swim, 5km cycle and 2km run. The ideal distance for the novice to compete individually, or one of the many teams that had a go.

The day also included the Kool Kids Triathlon, again recording the largest numbers ever covering short distances that any child could manage making it a fun experience – 100m swim, 2km cycle and 400m run.

If you missed the first event don't worry there are still 5 enormous events to come at your favourite locations and venues.

The second race in the series will now head to Robina Parkway on the Gold Coast, November 16. The Gold Coast events proved to be the best attended of the series last year and organisers, USM Events are confident that numbers will again be strong.

Overall Results – Male

1.	Adam Carlton	Brisbane	45.12
2.	Josh Maeder	Cannon Hill	45:18
3.	Dane Robinson	Brisbane	45.31

Overall Results – Female

1.	Ashleigh Gentle	Gold Coast	50.09
2.	Courtney Gilfillan	The Channon	51.09
3.	Kym Jaenke	Sinnamon Park	52.14

The Program

Race 2	Robina	16 November 2008
Race 3	Raby Bay	14 December 2008
Race 4	Robina	18 January 2009
Race 5	Caloundra	8 February 2009
Race 6	Raby Bay	19 April 2009

Get into the fun of it this summer. Entries and detailed information available at www.usmevents.com.au or for other enquiries phone (07) 3868 2444.

For further information or to arrange interviews or photographs contact Lisa Pringle on 0417 005 743
lisa@usmevents.com.au www.usmevents.com.au

