

# Kuba takes narrow victory in weather plagued Novartis event

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RIYADH: Minutes before the start of the Novartis Consumer Health-Riyadh Wheelers 2 stage event, a sudden downpour made the circuit too dangerous for racing prompting the organizers to quickly come up with a new venue and a new race.

With limited options an 8.5km time trial course was chosen on the only dry roads available. The turnout was lower than usual, providing a points-fest for those who did brave the elements.

Some who were expecting a road race were disappointed at having to face a short time trial on a difficult course, and the results proved that with the older riders coming out on top.

Unable to split the top two, the timekeepers went to fractions of seconds before announcing Jiri Kuba had scored a narrow victory over his Masters category rival, Rob Patrick.

Two veterans filled the next spots, Ian Davies and Scott Waight, with Master Jeff Forrester just edging out another veteran, John Hymns.

For the first time in RW history, the winner of Category B, Carola Skwarczinsky, also took the age category for Open riders, a truly amazing feat and a great ride. New member Frederick Nevola rode well to take 10th and plucky Feras Al Hamoud was not daunted, riding his weighty mountain bike against the others on time trial lightweights.

## Results:

1st J.Kuba 13:17:00, 2nd R.Patrick 13:17:40, 3rd I.Davies 13:27, 4th S.Waight 13:34, 5th J.Forrester 14:04, 6th J.Hymns 14:39, 7th C.Skwarczinsky 14:42, 8th P.Foster 14:53, 9th A.Williams 14:53, 10th E.Nevola 15:13, 11th R.Foster 15:15, 12th E.Seneres 15:25, 13th P.Green 15:29, 14th P.Soycon 15:36, 15th D.Nichols 15:36, 16th J.Sunga 15:42, 17th C.Cogan 15:59, 18th J.Buchanan 16:14, 19th M.Hesketh 16:28, 20th T.Kiernan 16:33, 21st C.Lombard 16:42, 22nd M. Alswaylim 16:42, 23rd O.Tuazon 16:57, 24th R.Bitong 17:03, 25th A.Garcia 17:12, 26th R.Pedrosa 18:36, 27th F.Alhamoud 19:49

**Categories:** Open/Cat B Carola Skwarczinsky, Veteran Ian Davies, Master Jiri Kuba



Managing to stay upright in the difficult conditions are (L-R): Rob Patrick, Carola Skwarczinsky, Jiri Kuba and Ian Davies. (AN photo)