



Douglass Wins 200m IM Gold at FINA World Swimming Championships (25m)

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MELBOURNE, Australia – **Kate Douglass (Pelham, N.Y./University of Virginia)** captured gold in the 200m individual medley in an American record-setting time (2:02.12) on day one of competition at the FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC).

The U.S. women's 4x100m relay took the silver medal – clocking an American record (3:26.29) – with the men's quartet earning bronze in the same event. Both Douglass and **Carson Foster (Cincinnati, Ohio/University of Texas/Mason Manta Rays)** earned two medals on Tuesday.

Semifinals in the women's and men's 50m butterfly and 100m backstroke were also contested on Tuesday night. **Torri Huske (Arlington, Va./Stanford University)** and **Claire Curzan (Cary, N.C./Stanford University/TAC Titans)** advanced to the final in the butterfly. Curzan, **Isabelle Stadden (Blaine, Minn./California Aquatics)** and **Ryan Murphy (Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla./California Aquatics)** also advanced to the finals of the backstroke, both scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Prelims continue Wednesday at 11:05 a.m. AEDT (6:05 p.m. ET, December 12) with finals at 7:35 p.m. AEDT (3:35 a.m. ET, December 13).

A look at the federation medal table:

<i>Federation</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Total</i>
United States	1	3	2	6
Australia	2	1	1	4
Italy	2	-	-	2
Canada	-	-	2	2
France	-	1	-	1
Norway	-	-	1	1

A look at the U.S. individual medal table:

<i>Athlete</i>	<i>Gold</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Total</i>
Kate Douglass	1	1	-	2

Carson Foster	-	1	1	2
Erika Brown	-	1	-	1
Claire Curzan	-	1	-	1
Erin Gemmell*	-	1	-	1
Natalie Hinds*	-	1	-	1
Torri Huske	-	1	-	1
Alex Walsh	-	1	-	1
Shaine Casas	-	-	1	1
David Curtiss*	-	-	1	1
Trenton Julian*	-	-	1	1
Drew Kibler	-	-	1	1
Kieran Smith	-	-	1	1
Leah Smith	-	-	1	1

* - includes medal from prelim swim on a relay

Women's 400m Freestyle – FINAL

Bronze – Leah Smith (Pittsburgh, Pa./Longhorn Aquatics), 3:59.78

Sixth – Erin Gemmell (Potomac, Md./Nation's Capital Swim Club), 4:01.82

Smith on her race: "It's super fun to be in Australia again, swimming outdoors. It's always a good time. Happy to get a medal for Team USA and get us started."

Race Notes:

- *Smith wins the fifth FINA World Championships (25m) medal of her career and her first at the competition since 2018.*
- *Smith's bronze is the first U.S. medal in the event at this competition since 2016.*
- *Gemmell's swim marks her senior-level individual debut on international soil.*

Women's 200m Individual Medley – FINAL

Gold – Kate Douglass (Pelham, N.Y./University of Virginia), 2:02.12*

Silver – Alex Walsh (Nashville, Tenn./University of Virginia/Nashville Aquatic Club), 2:03.37

**American record*

Douglass on her race: "This morning's swim felt really smooth, so I was really excited for the race tonight. I wanted to be relaxed and get after it at the end."

Walsh on her race: "I felt really good. I put together a really good race. I wanted to go a 2:03 – that was my goal – so honestly, I couldn't be happier. I swim with (Douglass) every single day so I know she knows how to race. I'm pretty proud of us for swimming short course meters which we don't do very often. It's great to know it was a well-executed race for the both of us."

Race Notes:

- *Douglass bested the previous American record of 2:04.06, set by Melanie Margalis in 2020, with her 2:02.12 performance. The time was just 0.26 off the world record, set by Hungary's Katinka Hosszu in 2014.*
- *Douglass set a championship record with her 2:04.39 in prelims and set a new championship record just hours later with her final swim.*

- *Douglass and Walsh are now the only Americans in history under the 2:04 mark.*
- *Douglass and Walsh now rank No. 2 and 3, respectively, on the all-time list of 200m IM performers.*

Men's 200m Individual Medley – FINAL

Silver – Carson Foster (Cincinnati, Ohio/University of Texas/Mason Manta Rays), 1:50.96

Fourth – Shaine Casas (McAllen, Texas/Longhorn Aquatics), 1:51.31

Foster on his race: "I am happy with it. It was definitely a bit sloppy and I think it shows a little bit of inexperience swimming short course meters, because that's something kind of new for the Americans. It's a couple more strokes per length and that threw me off a bit. I'll learn, and I'll be better next time. Overall, I can't complain – a personal best and second place."

Race Notes:

- *Foster repeats as silver medalist following his second-place finish in the event at last year's FINA World Championships (25m).*
- *Foster set a new personal best and becomes the second-fastest American ever in the event, only behind Ryan Lochte (1:49.63).*

Men's 1500m Freestyle – FINAL

Seventh – Charlie Clark (Sandusky, Ohio/Ohio State University), 14:33.93

Eighth – David Johnston (Dallas, Texas/University of Texas), 14:35.27

Women's 4x100m Freestyle Relay – FINAL

Silver – USA, 3:26.29*

Torri Huske (Arlington, Va./Stanford University), 51.73

Kate Douglass (Pelham, N.Y./University of Virginia), 51.17

Claire Curzan (Cary, N.C./Stanford University/TAC Titans), 51.59

Erika Brown (Modesto, Calif./Tennessee Aquatics), 51.80

**American record*

Head coach Braden Holloway on the race: "This was a thrilling race to watch. We felt great about our plan and the order to give it a run. These ladies stepped up huge and we are proud of their performance. They had many swims tonight but didn't let it show in this race. They swam tough."

Race Notes:

- *With the U.S. silver, prelim swimmers Erin Gemmell and Natalie Hinds also receive medals.*
- *Curzan's performance on the relay was her third swim of the session following performances in the 100m backstroke and 50m butterfly semifinals.*

Men's 4x100m Freestyle Relay – FINAL

Bronze – USA, 3:05.09

Drew Kibler (Carmel, Ind./University of Texas)

Shaine Casas (McAllen, Texas/Longhorn Aquatics)

Carson Foster (Cincinnati, Ohio/University of Texas/Mason Manta Rays)

Kieran Smith (Ridgefield, Conn./Ridgefield Aquatic Club/University of Florida)

Head coach Braden Holloway on the race: “We wanted to use our lineup to make a move. This was a very deep field, and they battled. We had a few new additions to this relay who were coming off 200 IM races. I’m proud of our men for fighting for the podium.”

Race Notes:

- *With the U.S. bronze, prelim swimmers David Curtiss and Trenton Julian also receive medals.*
- *Casas and Foster completed doubles on the session following their swims in the 200m IM.*

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