



American Collin Chartier wins the first-ever PTO US Open in Las Colinas



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Dallas, Texas: American Collin Chartier led the home charge in the Irving heat by winning the first-ever PTO US Open.

With US Olympic legend and Dallas native Michael Johnson watching on – and temperatures touching 95°F and 51% humidity – Chartier powered past compatriot Sam Long on the penultimate run lap to claim his first major race win and a prize cheque of \$100,000.

“I believed I had a chance of winning today. Like I knew if the fatigue kind of settled down...if it was all good, I knew I could win today,” said an ecstatic Chartier.

Asked how he felt during the race, the 28-year-old born in Monterrey, California, responded:

“Yeah, it felt really relaxed. I was really focussed. You know, you could see here I typically have a watch, it fell off in the swim, so I was blind for pacing. I really honed in on how I felt. I was like, patience, patience. Just relax. And then that last lap, like, boom, had to go. And I had the energy because I just had patience all day.”

In the post-race TV interview, Chartier quipped to Johnson: “I’m still not as fast as you.” To which Johnson replied: “I know, but you look good doing it. That’s what’s important. Whatever it takes to win.”

The win and the prize money will be significant to Chartier, who was struggling to pay to

get his bike fixed in 2021 before he made the US Collins Cup team that year as an alternate. His total career earnings before today were just under \$85,000.

Second place went to Denmark's Magnus Ditlev. Asked whether he enjoyed it, the PTO World #3, who was seeded #1 for this race, said:

"Yeah. At moments but sometimes it was really getting to me with the heat, but otherwise I think it was a really fun race. It was fun, dynamic racing; especially on the bike with Sam and I attacking the course and then on the run course I felt in control and was able to take Sam in the last 200 metres. So it was a really fun dynamic for me today actually feeling that I'm racing and not just trying to survive."

Third place went to another American, Sam Long, who for a long time looked as though he was going to claim his first PTO race win. After taking the lead on the bike, the 26-year old PTO World #11 from Boulder, was leading until lap 4 of 5 in the run.

"It's a little bittersweet getting third in the end. But yeah, I did the best I could. I mean, I took a lot of risks on the bike. I had to bridge way up. I used that to my strength. And then on the run I was warm, but I wasn't too hot. It was kind of more muscular. And at the end of the day, I did the best I could and we got two Americans on the podium. And in Dallas, that's incredible. And yo, yo, yo, thanks for all the fans."

-ends-

Professional Triathletes Organisation

About the PTO

The PTO is a new body co-owned by the professional athletes, seeking to professionalize and grow the sport. The inaugural PTO Tour race schedule for 2022 includes: the first-ever PTO Canadian Open (July 23-24); the second edition of \$1.5M Ryder Cup-style Collins Cup (August 20-21), which sees Team Europe take on Team USA and Team International; and the first PTO US Open (September 17-18). Each Open carries a minimum prize money of \$1M and will be raced over 100km (2km swim, 80km bike and 18km run). In 2023 and 2024, the PTO Tour plans to expand with the PTO European Open and the PTO Asian Open, alongside their US and Canadian equivalents and the Collins Cup.

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