

World Short Course Swimming Championships Doha Qatar

DAY 1 Semi-finals Dec 3

Women 50 metre breaststroke semi finals

Heat 2 saw the battle that the championships had been waiting for as Jamaica's Alia Atkinson faced off against Lithuania's Ruta Meilutytė. From the gun it was going to be a two-woman race as they had the fastest reaction times, Ruta **0.61** and Alia **0.65**. As they battled for supremacy of the heat and the overall field it would be Ruta as the victor in **28.81**. That time would crush her meet mark of **29.44** and be tantalizing **.01** of a second off Jessica Hardy of the US's World Standard and be the new world leading time. Atkinson was also well under the championship mark and under **29.00** for the first time this season with her mark of **28.99**. Atkinson seems well on pace to break her personal and Jamaica best time for all genders of **28.94**. The question now remains if she will be able to touch the wall first and create history for Jamaica and the Caribbean and be the first person to win a Gold medal at a World Short Course Swimming Championships. The final battle for breaststroke sprint supremacy will take place tomorrow.

