

ATKINSON POSTS WORLD LEADING MARK IN DOHA TO WIN 50 METRE BREASTSTROKE

[November 3, 2015](#) ~ [Tony Morrison](#)

Jamaica's World Cup Star Alia Atkinson has found a formidable rival in American Molly Hannis on the final stages of the 2015 FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup tour. Hannis who is enjoying a breakout fall stopped the three Olympian's win streak in the sprint breaststroke events in Tokyo as she copped the 100 metre breaststroke title in 1:07.71 and edged Alia 30.63 to 30.79 for the 50 metre crown.

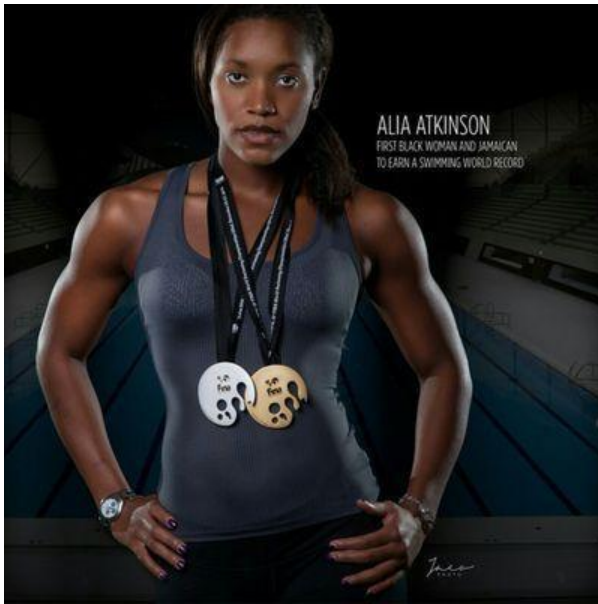
On day 1 of the Doha stop it was advantage Hannis as she again took the 100 metre breaststroke in 1:06.94 to Atkinson's 1:07.83. Atkinson, who had an uncharacteristically slow first 50, was fourth at the half way mark in 32.16. Such is the heart of the Jamaican she was able to over haul Denmark's Rikke Moller Pedersen the world record holder in the 200 and Australian Leiston Pickett .She ,however was unable to catch the American.

On the final day in Doha Atkinson brought the heat in the final of the 50 metre breaststroke. Her reaction time to the gun was 0.61 .Hannis was .04 of a second behind. The start being essential to the 50 wrote the tale of what unfolded in the race. Atkinson built on her advantage to win convincingly in 30.55 .Hannis claimed Silver in 31.12 out touching Pickett by .01

With that win Atkinson has posted the fastest time of the World Cup Series bettering the 30.56 by American Breeja Larson in Moscow in August. It also doubles as the fastest time in the world for the 2015-2016 season.

Atkinson made her third final of the stop in the 50 metre butterfly .Atkinson clocked 27.06 to finish fourth overall.

The Jamaican also raced in the 200 breaststroke finishing eleventh in 2:33.22 and twentieth in the 200 metre individual medley in 2:23.63. She was also seventeenth in the 50 metre freestyle in 26.88.



Alia Atkinson

Photo taken from @AliAtki

<https://draftingthecaribbean.wordpress.com/2015/11/03/atkinson-posts-world-leading-mark-in-doha-to-win-50-metre-breaststroke/>