Warner wows crowd at Harry Jerome Track Classic

Damian Warner earns unofficial title of "the world's greatest athlete" after Tokyo Olympics performance

Jess Balzer

jfedigan@burnabynow.com

"The world's greatest athlete" put on a performance June 14 during the 2022 Harry Jerome Track Classic in Burnaby.

Damian Warner, who earned the unofficial title after claiming decathlon gold for Canada at the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics, took part in the men's open international 110-metre hurdles and men's long jump.

The gold medallist won both events at Swangard Stadium, finishing with a time of 13.68 seconds on the track and a jump of 7.69 metres across the sand.

"Every single time you can go into a competition that pushes you, it's always a step forward," Warner said during a news conference on June 13 to promote the event.

During the 2020 Summer Games, the 32-year-old from London, Ont., set an Olympic record and became the fourth man to break the 9,000-point mark in decathlon — a challenge consisting of 10 track-and-field disciplines.

Warner matched his world best time in the 100-metre race (10.12 seconds) and broke a 24-year-old Olympic decathlon record in the long jump at 8.24 metres.



HAPPY LANDINGS: Olympic gold medallist Damian Warner hits the sand during the long jump competition at the 2022 Vancouver Sun Harry Jerome Track Classic at Swangard Stadium. PHOTO **JENNIFER GAUTHIER**



Clearance: Canadian Olympic champion Damian Warner (left) races during the men's international 110-metre hurdles at the 2022 Vancouver Sun Harry Jerome Track Classic at Swangard Stadium. PHOTO **JENNIFER GAUTHIER**



In flight: Blake Furtado of Simon Fraser University competes in long jump at the Harry Jerome Track Classic at Swangard Stadium in Burnaby. PHOTO JENNIFER GAUTHIER



1ST PLACE \$250 GIFT CARD



2ND PLACE A VANCOUVER CANADIANS FAMILY PACK



WATCH FOR CONTEST DETAILS JUNE 30TH IN THE BURNABY NOW & NEW WESTMINSTER RECORD!