# Phasing in Triathlon

## **Dr Malcolm Brown MBE**

## Dr Malcolm Brown BEd BA MA

**Director of Sport:** 

Edinburgh University Queens University Ulster University Leeds Metropolitan University

UK Athletics Coach (Endurance) 1990 – 2000 Leeds Triathlon Centre Coach 2004 – 2013 British Triathlon Coach 2006 – 2013 British Triathlon 2006 – 2012

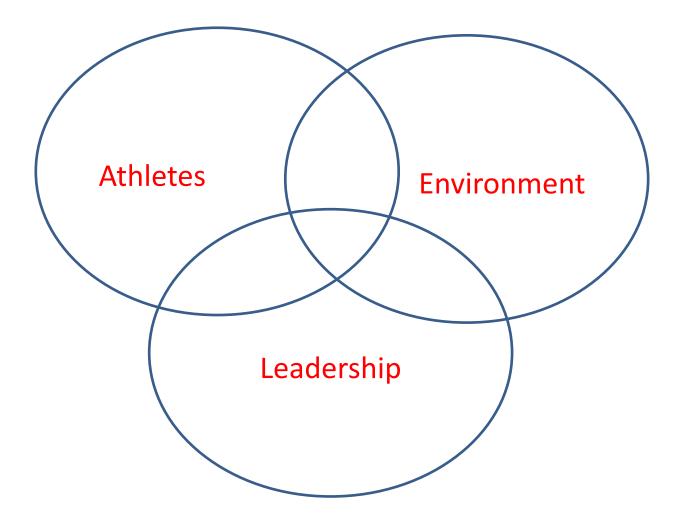
## World Triathlon Championships Results

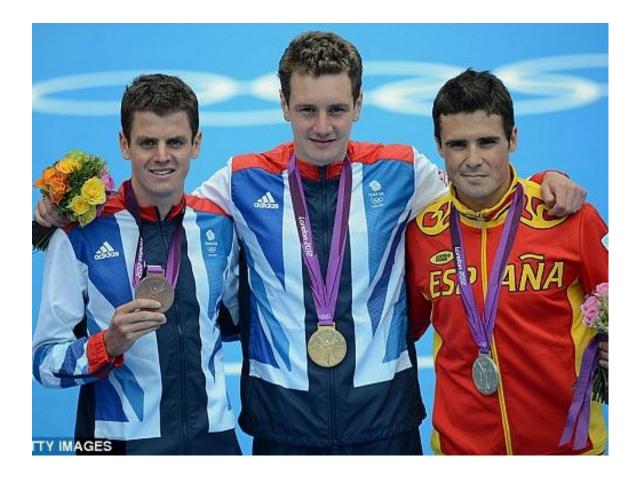
Medals 2009 - 2013

UK (21) [Leeds 14] Australia (11) Germany (11) Spain (11) USA (6) France (6) Canada (6)

## **Triathlon Training Centres**

	<u>San Diego (USA)</u>	<u>Leeds (UK)</u>
History	yes	no
Climate	yes	no
Interest	yes	no
Population	yes	no
Sponsorship	yes	no
World Cham	ps	
Medals	6 (USA)	14 (21 UK)







#### Alistair Brownlee (age 24)

Olympic Champion 2012 World Champion 2011 and 2009 World U23 Champion 2008 World Junior Champion 2006 European Champion 2011 and 2010



#### Jonny Brownlee (age 23)

Olympic Bronze Medal 2012 World Champion 2012 World Sprint Champion 2011 and 2010 World U23 Champion 2010 World Junior Bronze 2008



#### Non Stanford (age 24)

World Champion 2013 World U23 Champion 2012



#### Tom Bishop (age 23)

World U23 Bronze Medals 2012 and 2011 World Junior Silver Medal 2010



#### David McNamee (age 25)

World U23 Silver Medal 2011

## Leadership and Coaching

Jack Maitland Malcolm Brown

- Experienced coaches and former athletes (know the business)
- Fundamental principles and values
- Little ego
- Empower athletes by encouraging decision making and autonomy

## Leadership and Coaching

Jack Maitland Malcolm Brown

- Education has priority in formative years
- Curiosity
- Cross sports experience: best practice knowledge
- Open inclusive philosophy
- Settled in Leeds: in it for the long haul

## **Training Environment: Structure**

- Built over years (2004 2012)
- Low tech Low cost
- Coach/Physiotherapist (2004 2006)
- Conditioning specialist (2007)
- Nutritionist (2008)
- Physiotherapist (2008)

## **Training Environment: Culture**

- "earn" additional services/competitions/trips
- No culture of entitlement
- Group is vital
- Fun is important
- Learn from older athletes
- Leeds cold, wet, hilly

## Training Environment: Culture

Grass is not greener elsewhere

"Fast track" strategy from Junior to Senior

- Establish sound biomechanics and skills
- Increase training loads between ages 18-21 to world class threshold

# Building the Core team: Strategic and Operational (2006 – 2012)

## CRITERIA:

- 1. World class expertise or very close
- 2. Open, honest, trustworthy, discreet, loyal
- 3. No job too small inside or outside specialism
- 4. Ability to work across disciplines
- 5. Work beyond contract
- 6. Long term commitment

## Alistair Brownlee

- 8 year plan age 16-24
- Clear vision and technical model
- Clear view of training methods
- Assess the athlete
- Assess the event requirements
- Clarify priorities at different ages and stages

## Alistair Brownlee

#### Vision and Technical Model

 To run 10k in 28 minutes 800m in 1:56:00 200m in 26:0

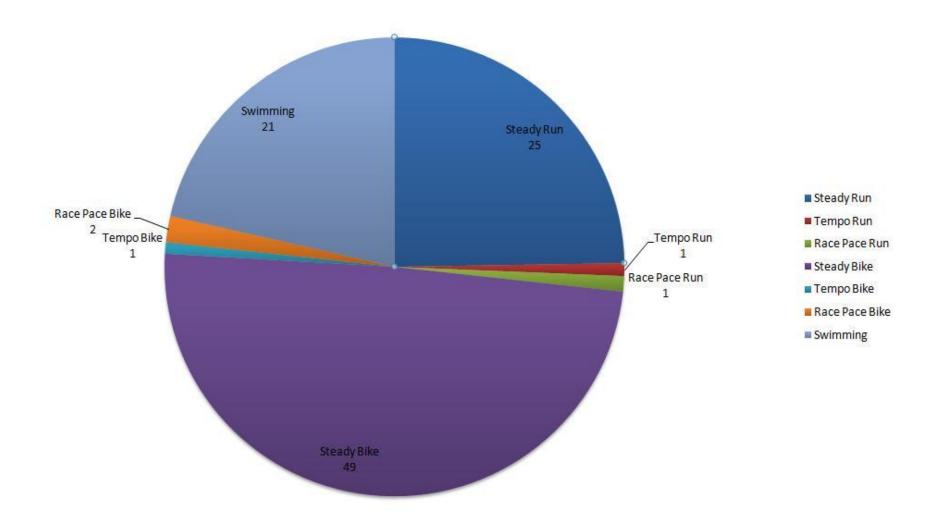
#### **Technical Model**

- Posture
- Foot strike
- Rotations
- Hamstrings and Quads
- Drive
- Sprints versus endurance

## Progression

Year	<u>Age</u>	Performance (T)	<u>Race</u>
2005	17	34:12	
2006	18	33:27	
2007	19	33:04	
2008	20	31:30	
2009	21	29:04	29:35
2010	22	30:00	
2011	23	29:50	29:15
2012	24	29:07	
2013	25		28:32

## Percentage Distribution of Training



#### **Alistair Brownlee**

#### Typical training week Feb 2012

#### steady/aerobic

tempo/hard/interval

#### S&C/physio

Monday	<b>Tuesday</b>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	Sunday
80 min steady run 120bpm	Easy Swim	Easy swim	Fast swim	Easy swim	Run session 30 mins hard 160bpm	4 hrs easy bike
Drills S&C	40 min easy run	75 min easy run	60 min easy run	S&C	3.5 hrs easy bike	1hr 40 easy run
Hard Swim	1 hr easy bike	3.5 hr bike	2 hr easy bike 20 min efforts within this	60 min easy run	30 min easy run	
2 hr easy bike	Track 15 mins hard 170bpm			60 min easy bike		

## **Training Zones Running**

<u>Zone</u>	Race Pace	<u>mins/secs per km</u>
1	< marathon (42k)	4:20 - 4:30
2	> marathon (42k)	3:30 - 4:00
3	21 – 30k	4:20 - 4:30
4	12 – 15k	2:55 – 3:00
5	5 – 10k	2:40 - 2:50
6	3 – 5k	2:35 - 2:40
7	800m – 1500m	2:30 - 2:32
8	200m – 600m	0:30 - 1:30

## **General Preparation**

Aerobic Anaerobic Speed (alactic anaerobic) Drills Strength and Conditioning Technique Altitude Tent

## **Specific Preparation**

Aerobic Anaerobic Speed Technique Recovery Drills Strength and Conditioning **Race Preparation Tempo Runs** Altitude Training Camp (St Moritz)

## Lessons Learnt

- 1. Volume of Training
  - (i) 3 Sports(a) Swim(b) Run(c) Cycle

(ii) Cross Training: Bike - Run Run - BikeSwim

## Lessons Learnt

2. Frequency of Training (sessions per week)

#### **Triathlete**

7 x 3 = 21

<u>Athlete</u>

 $7 \times 2 = 14$ 

excluding strength and conditioning,

technique, physio and massage

## Lessons Learnt

3. Content of Training

Aerobic 98% Aerobic 2%

#### 4. Complexity of Training