

# THE COLLINS CUP™

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## **THE PROFESSIONAL TRIATHLETES ORGANISATION ANNOUNCES CHRISSIE WELLINGTON AND NORMANN STADLER AS EUROPEAN TEAM CAPTAINS FOR THE COLLINS CUP**

**LONDON, UK AND BOULDER, USA:** The Professional Triathletes Organisation today announced the appointment of Chrissie Wellington, 4x IRONMAN World Champion and IRONMAN distance world record holder, and Normann Stadler, 2x IRONMAN World Champion, as Team Europe Captains for The Collins Cup. The Collins Cup is a first of its kind global competition in which teams of professional triathletes from the USA, Europe and the rest of the World (the “Internationals”) will compete to determine which region dominates the sport of triathlon.

Modelled after golf’s Ryder Cup, The Collins Cup will be a long-distance team competition among USA, Europe and the Internationals. Each team will consist of 12 professional triathletes, six men and six women. (Click here to see [The Collins Cup--How It Works.](#))

Chrissie Wellington commented, “I am thrilled to have been selected as one of the European Team Captains for the inaugural Collins Cup. Triathlon is such an amazing sport – innovative, forward thinking and truly open to all. The Collins Cup marks a hugely exciting and important new addition to the race calendar, with the best male and female athletes in the world racing head-to-head in a fantastic new format. Not only that, there’s the opportunity to be involved in a whole weekend of tri-related activities, enabling us to celebrate everything that’s great about our sport. Together with Normann, I can’t wait to captain the European Team in this unique debut event!”

Normann Stadler stated, “It is a privilege to be able to serve as a Team Europe Captain with Chrissie. The Collins Cup, with its Ryder Cup format, will produce an exceptionally exciting and dramatic event. The Points System particularly suits the European style of racing, where we go all out from the starting gun, as opposed to some of the strategic “cat and mouse” waiting styles of others. European athletes like Ryf, Frodeno and Kienle

race not just to win, but to win by big margins. We will be taking this approach at The Collins Cup, and it is very unlikely that Team USA or the Internationals will be able to withstand this type of onslaught. Europe will win. The only question will be whether the USA or the Internationals gets stuck with The Broken Spoke trophy.”

### **About Chrissie Wellington**

Chrissie Wellington is a 4x IRONMAN World Champion (2007, 2008, 2009 and 2011). She holds the world record for the IRONMAN distance of 8:18:13. When she won the IRONMAN World Championship in her first attempt it was described as “a remarkable feat, deemed to be a near impossible task for any athlete racing as a rookie at their first IRONMAN World Championship.” She went on to win every long-distance race she entered, 13 in all, and retired undefeated. In 2016, she was appointed an *Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)*. Before becoming a professional triathlete, Chrissie worked for the UK Government as a policy adviser on international development and development projects in Nepal. Development issues remain one of her passions, and she is an active patron for a number of charities in UK and overseas, as well as being an accomplished motivational and public speaker. Chrissie is a passionate advocate on issues related to women and sport, including being part of a UK Government all party Parliamentary Committee on women/sport. She published her autobiography, *A Life Without Limits*, in February 2012, which went straight to Number 1 on the Sunday Times Best Seller list, and will be releasing her latest book entitled “*To the Finish Line: A World Champion Triathlete's Guide to Your Perfect Race*” in September. [chrissiewellington.org](http://chrissiewellington.org)

### **About Normann Stadler**

Normann (the “Normanator”) Stadler is a 2x IRONMAN World Champion (2004 and 2006). Known for his unyielding racing style, Normann holds the Kona bike course record of 4:18:32. He is recognised as the most formidable cyclist in triathlon history and his relentless bike splits could demoralise his competitors. Stadler went on to found and lead the Commerzbank Triathlon Team 2009-2011 (former Dresdner Kleinwort Investmentbank Team 2007/2008). In 2011, Stadler had emergency heart valve repair and aortic replacement surgery caused by a genetic problem. Having recovered from his surgery, he retired from racing and has been an ambassador for the sport, working in Corporate Health Management, Corporate Camps, Consultant Sports Tourism Industrie, parallel @WHU Düsseldorf // SPOAC in a General Management program for Sport Business. In 2017, Stadler will be teaming up with a partner to launch an International Sports Management Agency.

For more information please visit the website at [thecollinscup.com](http://thecollinscup.com) or for press enquiries email us at [info@thecollinscup.com](mailto:info@thecollinscup.com)

Contacts:

Charles D. Adamo--CEO  
Professional Triathletes Organisation  
[charles.adamo@protriathletes.org](mailto:charles.adamo@protriathletes.org)  
+1 480 399 9001 | +44 7880 710 004

Henry White--Marketing Director  
Professional Triathletes Organisation  
[henry.white@protriathletes.org](mailto:henry.white@protriathletes.org)  
+44 7837 824 930

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