



# DATA-DRIVEN TRAINING

Presented by Julie Percifield

January 2017



# OBJECTIVES

- Clarify terminology
- Get comfortable with how to interpret and use data
- Provide a framework for incorporating data into your training plan
- Simplify the hardware/software selection process
- Open the network for finding experts amongst our club for when you need help down the road

This is NOT:

- A step-by-step tutorial on your program or device of choice
- A one-size-fits-all approach to training

# WHAT CAN DATA DO FOR YOU?

Tell a story: your triathlon journey



Elucidate behaviors or techniques that contribute to niggles & lingering injuries

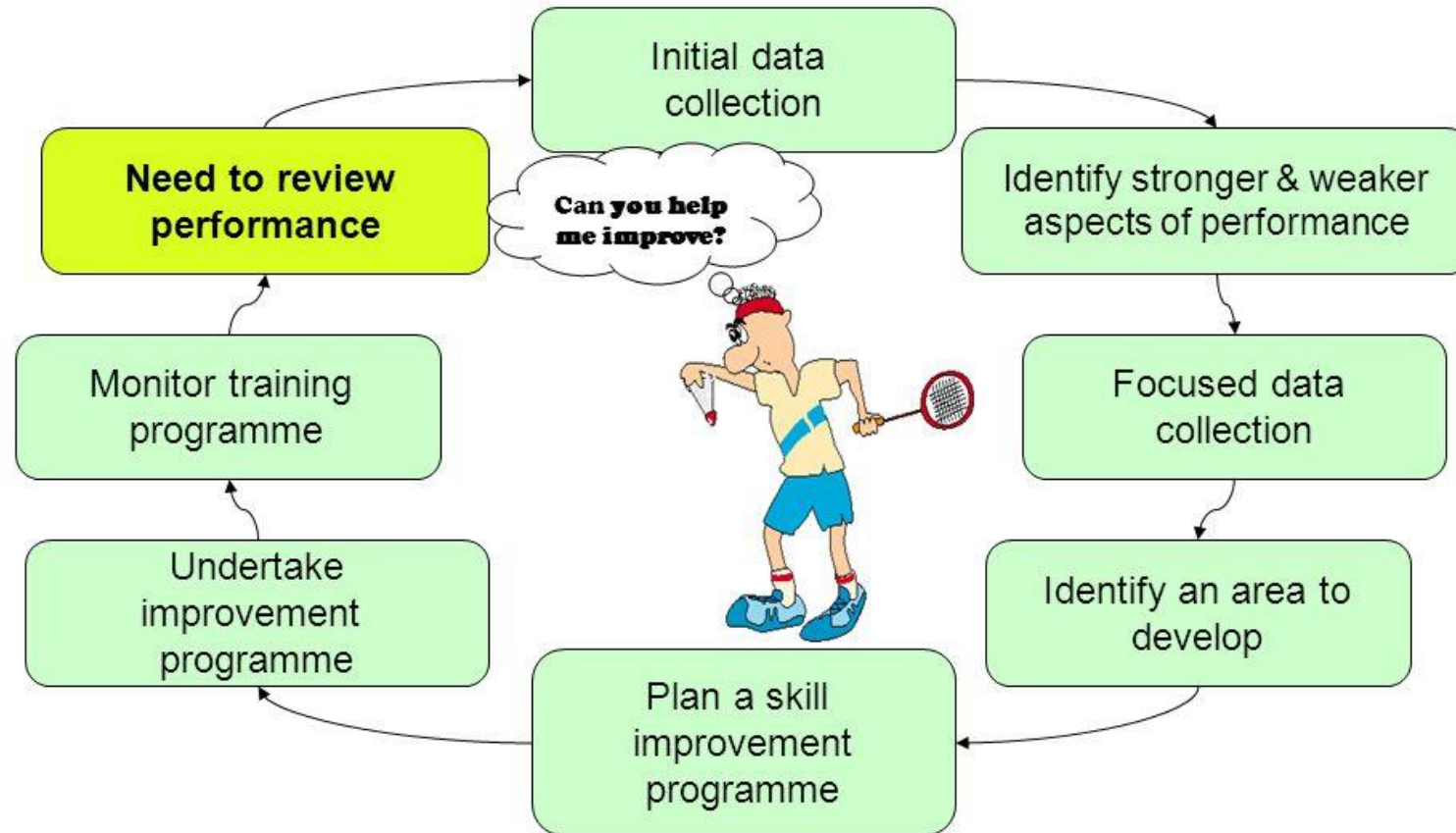


Enable consistency

Help establish correlations between FACT and what you FEEL



# The Cycle of Analysis





# DATA 101: THE DATA ANALYSIS CYCLE



SENSOR



RECEIVER (DEVICE)



SOFTWARE  
(PROGRAM/APP)

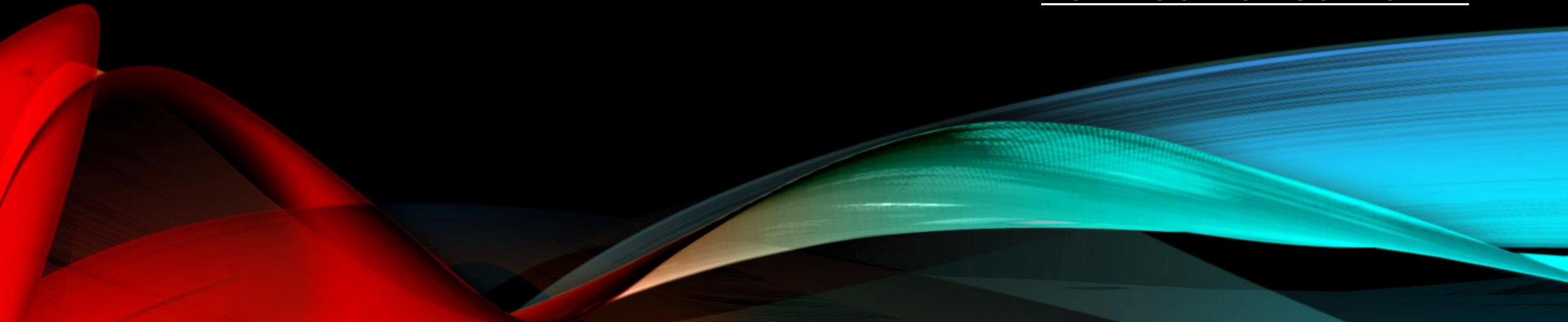


ATHLETE

“WHAT ENDURANCE ATHLETES MUST ENDURE  
ABOVE ALL IS NOT ACTUAL EFFORT, BUT  
PERCEPTION OF EFFORT”

Matt Fitzgerald

How Bad Do You Want It





# BIG PICTURE: WHAT IS RPE & WHY DO WE USE IT?

- Novices to pros can use RPE as a basic metric to guide workouts and racing strategy – easiest metric to use in training
- What differentiates novices & veterans: knowing how hard they CAN push themselves when RPE is high
  - Use supplementary metrics to correlate back to RPE.
  - Use specific workouts to track RPE over training season – same workout should feel easier as fitness improves
  - Use supplementary metrics to measure economy & set pacing strategies for training and racing
  - Use recovery metrics to gauge how hard to push in upcoming training sessions and when to pull back to prevent over-reaching, over-training or injury

# KEY OBJECTIVES BY DISCIPLINE

## Swim

### **Technique, technique, technique!**

1. Minimize side-to-side movement
2. Minimize lower-body drag
3. Maximize distance per stroke at low RPE (without losing momentum)
4. Swim in a straight line between buoys

## Bike

1. Optimize power-to-weight ratio
2. Minimize loss of power to the pedal
3. Minimize side-to-side movement
4. Minimize tensing of muscles that don't contribute to moving you forward
5. Maintain consistent power across course & conditions
6. Optimize cadence to minimize RPE on the run

## Run

1. Minimize vertical oscillation
2. Minimize side-to-side movement/maintain a straight kinetic chain [front/rear-view]
3. Minimize tensing of muscles that don't contribute to moving you forward
4. Optimize power-to-weight ratio

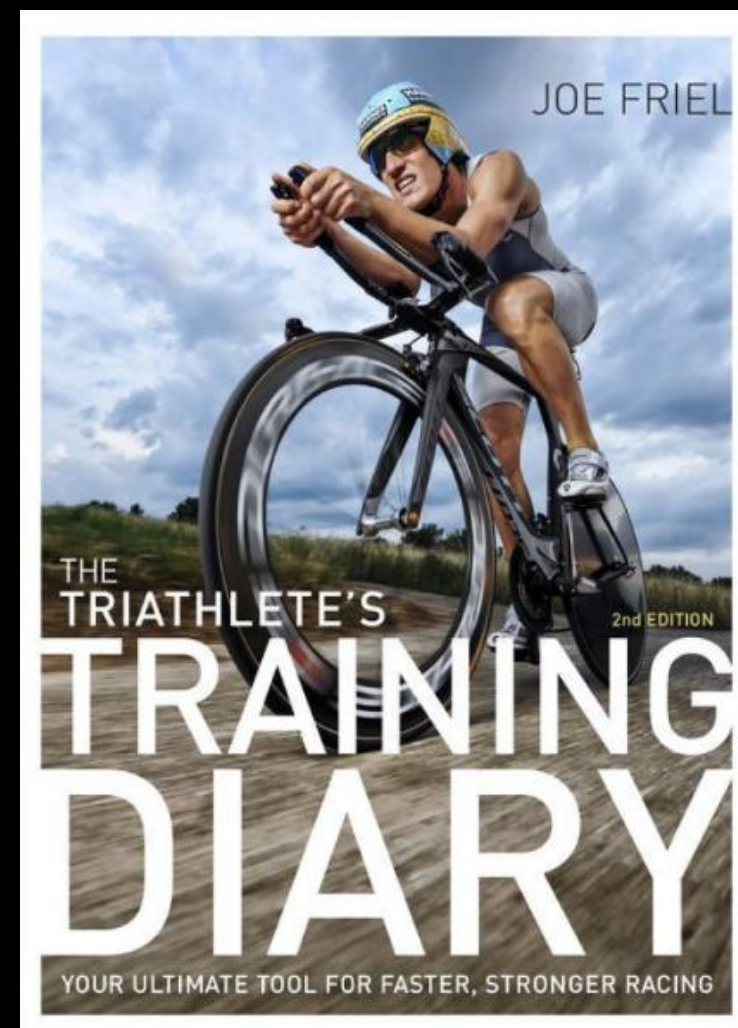
**BOTTOM LINE: BE EFFICIENT & ECONOMICAL!**



# GENERAL METRICS

These metrics can be applied across all disciplines:

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
RPE	Rate of Perceived Exertion: level of perceived difficulty (by the athlete) of effort expenditure from 1 - 20 where 1 represents no difficulty and 20 represents extreme difficult/couldn't maintain effort any longer	-	-	Y	N	N
Heart Rate	Instantaneous heart rate indicated in beats per minute	bpm	133bpm	Y	Y	Y
Heart Rate Average	Average heart rate over duration of session or interval	bpm	133bpm	N	Y	Y
Heart Rate Zone	Heart rate zone as determined by test or 200-age ranging from 1 - 5 with 1 representing the easiest/lowest effort heart rate zone (aerobic) and 5 representing the hardest/most difficult heart rate zone (anaerobic threshold)	-	4	Y	Y	Y



# SWIM

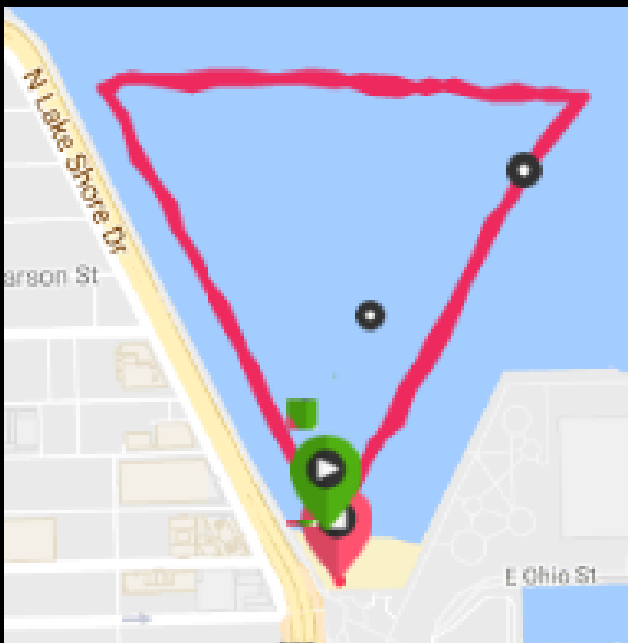
Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
Pace	Speed indicated in minutes per 100 yards or 100 meters	0:00/ 100yd	1:30/ 100yd	Y	N	Y
Strokes	Number of strokes taken to traverse one length of the pool	-	19	Y	Y	Y
DPS	Distance per stroke: yards or meters traversed in one stroke	yd or m	1.8 yd	N	Y	Y
SWOLF	Swim Golf: Strokes + average time to traverse one length of the pool	-	34	Y	N	Y

OWS Example: <https://connect.garmin.com/modern/activity/1351631733>

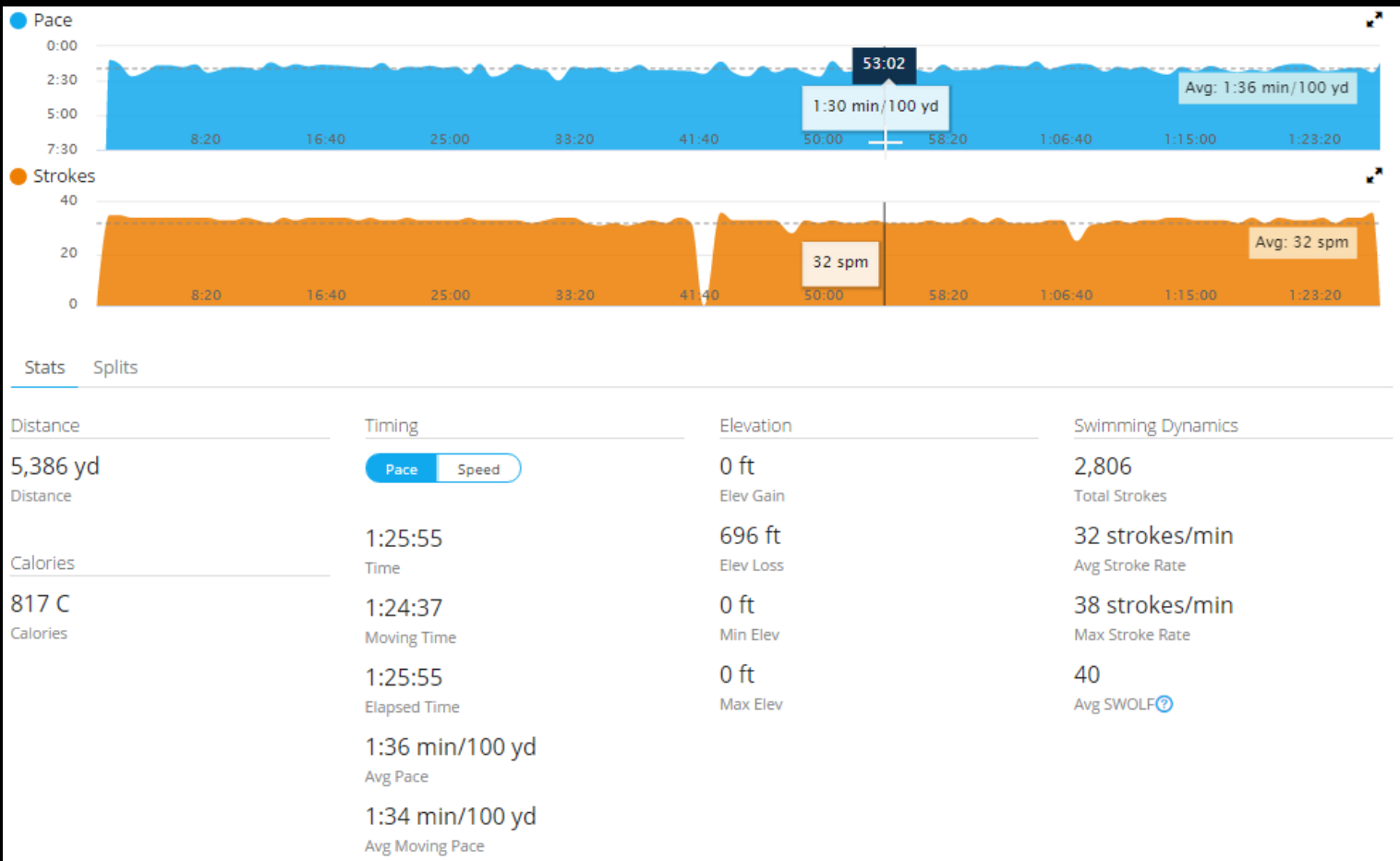
Pool Swim: <https://connect.garmin.com/modern/activity/1543047659>



# OPEN WATER SWIM



Stats					
Splits					
Splits	Time	Cumulative Time	Moving Time	Distance	Avg Distance per Stroke
1	40:39	40:39	39:49	2,644	1.80
2	45:16	1:25:55	44:48	2,742	1.71
Summary	1:25:55	1:25:55	1:24:37	5,386	1.76



# POOL SWIM

## Interval 14 100 Yards 1:22.9

FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		REST
1	19.3	2	20.6	3	21.8	4	21.3	0:22.2

## Interval 15 100 Yards 1:23.4

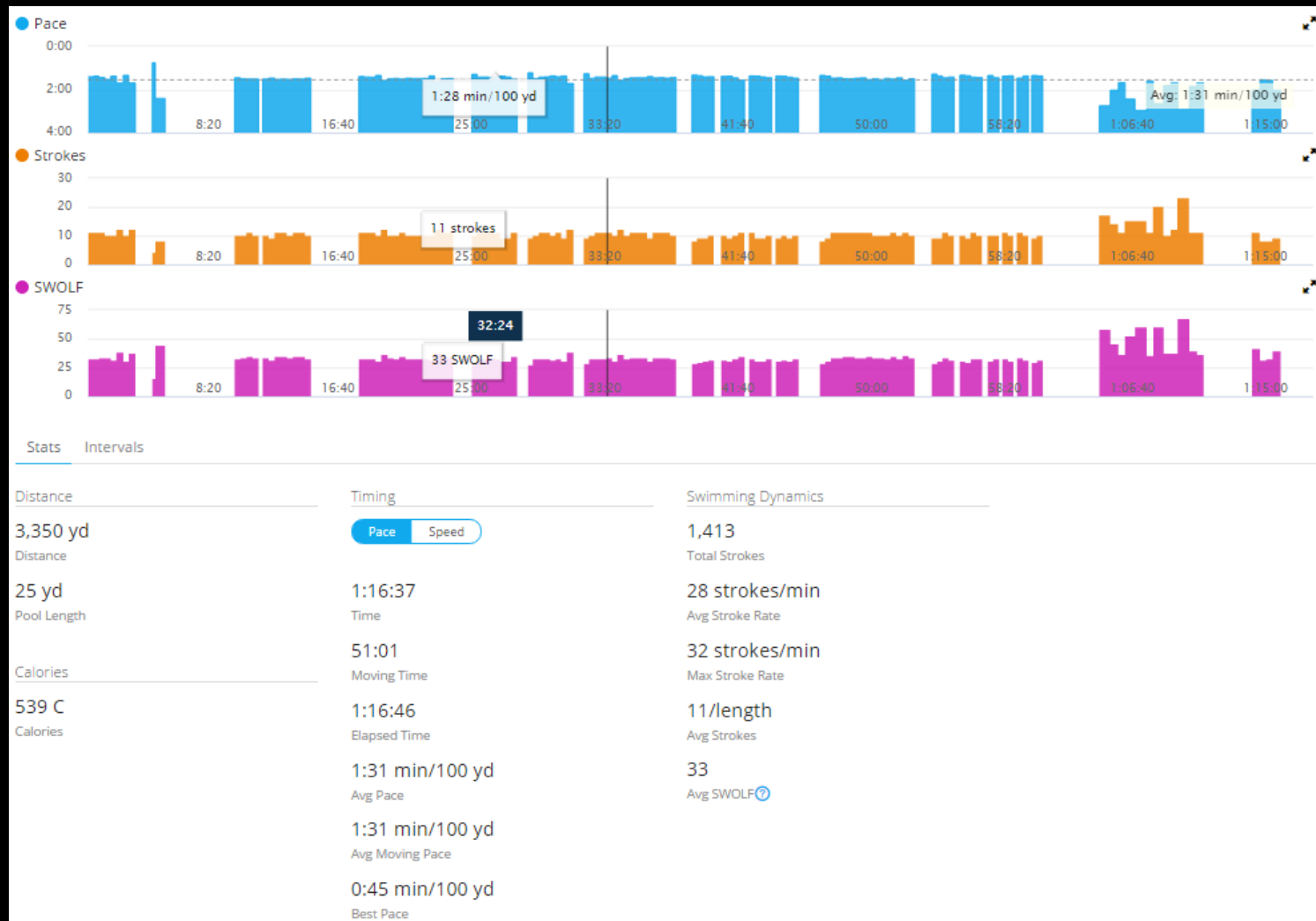
FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		FREESTYLE		REST
1	20.0	2	20.4	3	21.4	4	21.6	0:21.3

## Interval 16 50 Yards 0:41.9

FREESTYLE		REST
1	20.2	0:13.1

## Interval 17 50 Yards 0:41.1

FREESTYLE		REST
1	20.7	0:13.5





# BIKE

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
Speed	Instantaneous speed indicated in mph or kmh	mph	19 mph	N	Y	Y
Speed Average	Average speed over duration of session or interval			N	Y	Y
Pace	Speed indicated in minutes per mile or kilometer	0:00 /mi	3:30 /mi	Y	Y	Y
Power	Instantaneous power (force & angular velocity) required by rider to move bike forward.	W	195W	N	Y	Y
Power Normalized	Power over duration of session or interval taking into account only active pedaling (removes 0's).	W	195W	N	Y	Y
Power Average	Power over duration of session or interval including pedal idling (0 values).	W	195W	N	Y	Y
Power PerPeriod	Average power over period specified (i.e. 3s, 5s or 10s) typically used instead of instantaneous power for smoother course correction and comparison to normalized power	W	195W	N	Y	Y
Power Zone	Power zone as determined relative to FTP from 1 - 7 with 1 representing the easiest/lowest effort power zone and 7 indicating the most difficult/hardest effort.	-	6	Y	Y	Y

Ben Hoffman's 2014 Kona power analysis:  
<http://home.trainingpeaks.com/public/workout/EBSQI7XXLGSVNHALNBMCTIX65A>



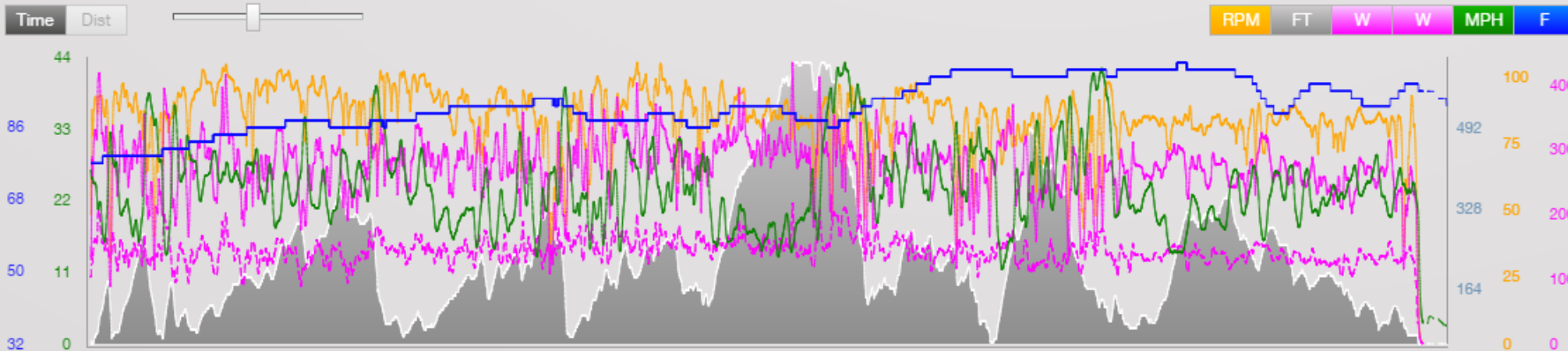
# TRAINING PEAKS BIKE PROFILE



4:33:40 111mi 288.7TSS  
IM Kona



Ben Hoffman



## Entire Workout

Duration 4:33:40 Distance 111 mi TSS 288.7

Work	4448 kJ	IF	0.80
NP	288 W	VI	1.05
Pwr. Bal.	47.9/52.1%	El. Gain	4262 ft
Grade	--	El. Loss	4252 ft
VAM	285 m/h	W/kg	3.66

	MIN	AVG	MAX	
Power	0	274	785	W
Cadence	6	89	123	rpm
Speed	0.00	24.4	47.0	mph
Pace	00:00	02:27	01:17	min/mi



## Laps

<input type="checkbox"/> Entire Workout	4:33:40
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #1	12:24:30
<input type="checkbox"/> 1st half of bike	2:18:39
<input type="checkbox"/> T1 to start of Hawi climb	2:05:32
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #2	10:58:80
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #3	11:02:83

# BIKE (CONTINUED)

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
PWR	Power to Weight Ratio: ratio of power divided by weight (in kg). Used to normalize efficiency rating across riders	W/kg	4.3 W/kg	Y	Y	Y
FTP	Functional Threshold Power: power output estimate to cover 40km. Typically tested in 30 min interval or 1 min then 2 x 8min interval.	W	195W	N	Y	Y
%FTP	Percentage of FTP output by rider. Typically used to define training or racing power targets	%	75%	Y	Y	Y
Cadence	Number of pedal revolutions or strokes per minute. Typically used in triathlon to improve leg heaviness feeling in bike-to-run transition	rpm	90 rpm	Y	Y	Y
Variability Index	How smooth or evenly paced an athletes power output was during a race or work out where a properly paced time trial should have a VI value of 1.05 or less	-	1.1	N	Y	Y
Grade	Elevation change (or slope) over length of climb/descent relative to the horizontal.	%	4%	N	Y	Y

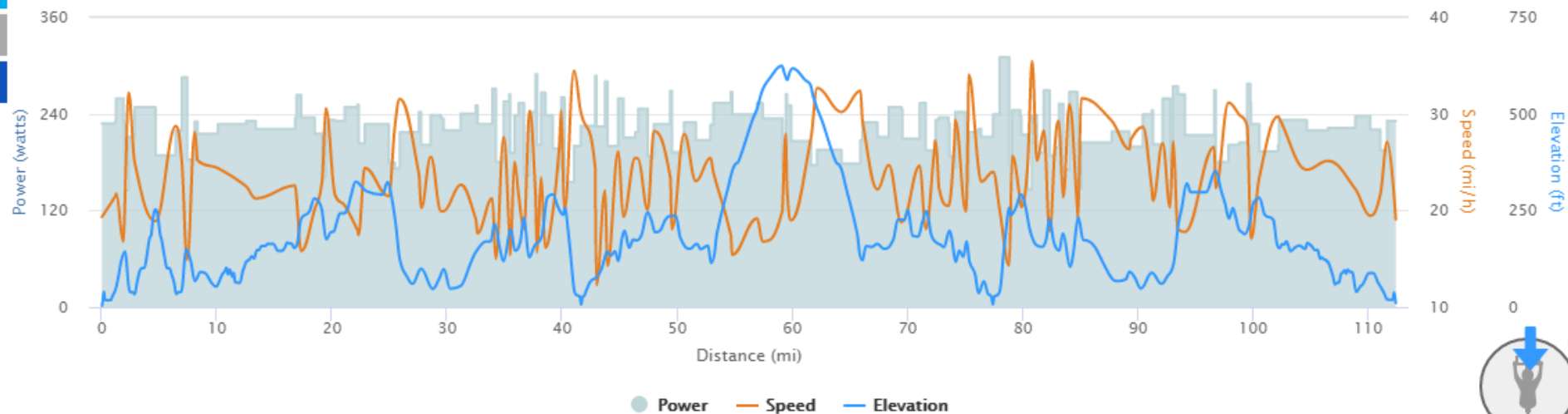
# 2016 KONA BIKE PREDICTIONS & POWER PLANS @ [HTTPS://WWW.BESTBIKESPLIT.COM/CASE-STUDY-KONA](https://www.bestbikesplit.com/case-study-kona)

2016 Kona / Daniela Ryf

Power Plan Time Analysis Weather Yaw Angles Gradients Peak Power Notes

Distance

Time



## Race Overview

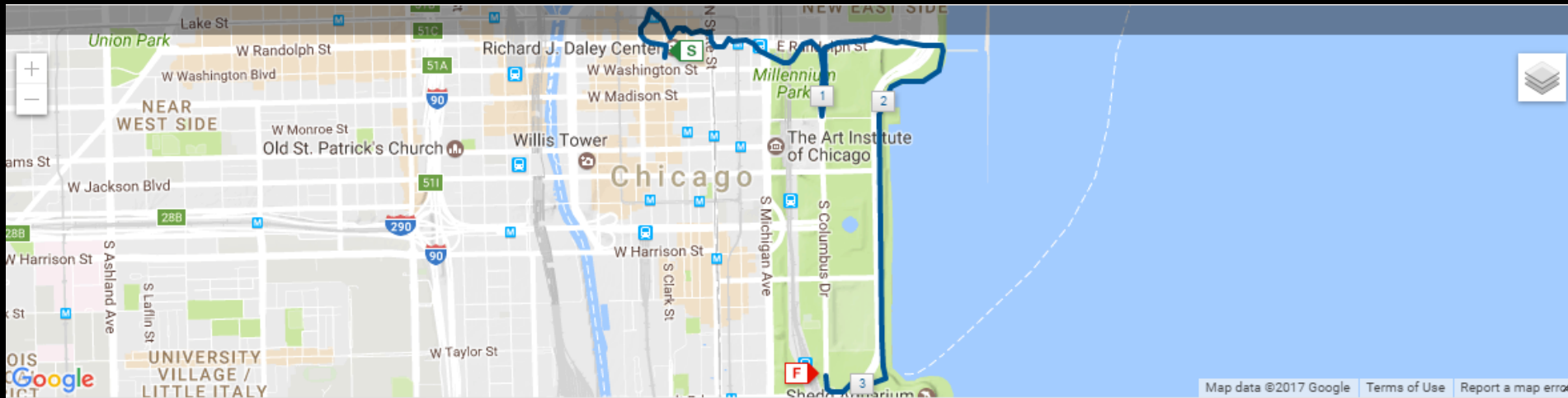
Course	2016 Ironman World Championship
Distance	112.4 mi
Time ?	04:53:04
Avg. Speed	23.01 mph
Avg. Power	224.50 watts
Normalized Power®	229.11 watts
Variability Index	1.02
Intensity Factor®	0.76
Training Stress Score®	284
Watts/Kg	3.81
Avg. Yaw	9.93 °
Bike	Felt



# RUN

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
Speed	Instantaneous speed indicated in mph or kmh. Typically used for treadmill	mph or kmh	6.2mph	Y	Y	Y
Pace	Speed indicated in minutes per mile or kilometer	0:00/mi	3:30/mi	Y	Y	Y
GCT	Ground Contact Time: the amount of time your foot is in contact with the ground on each stride. Excludes 0's from standing or walking.	ms	225ms	N	Y	Y
Vertical Oscillation	The amount of “bounce” – i.e. vertical up and down movement – generated while running. Typically measuring centimeters your torso moves from a fixed point during each stride.	cm	9cm	N	Y	Y
Stride Length	Distance traveled per one stride of running	m	1.04m	N	Y	Y
Cadence	Number of times athlete's foot turns over, or strikes the ground, per minute	spm	180 spm	Y	Y	Y

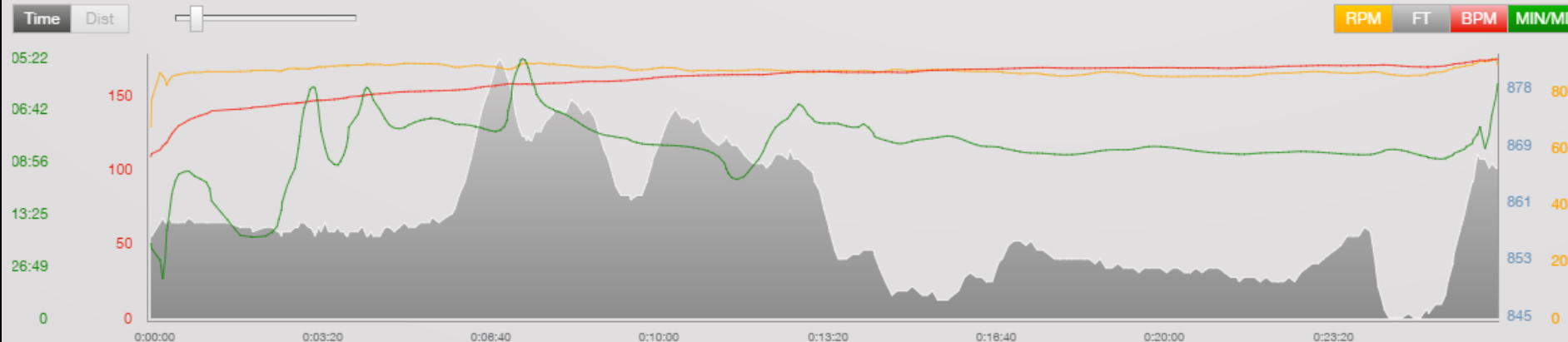
# TRAINING PEAKS RUN PROFILE



Duration 26:38.90 Distance 3.18 mi rTSS 67.8

NGP	07:52 min/mi	IF	1.19
Pa:Hr	8.80%	EF	1.38
El. Gain	69 ft	Grade	0.1%
El. Loss	56 ft	VAM	47 m/h
VAM W/kg	0.24		

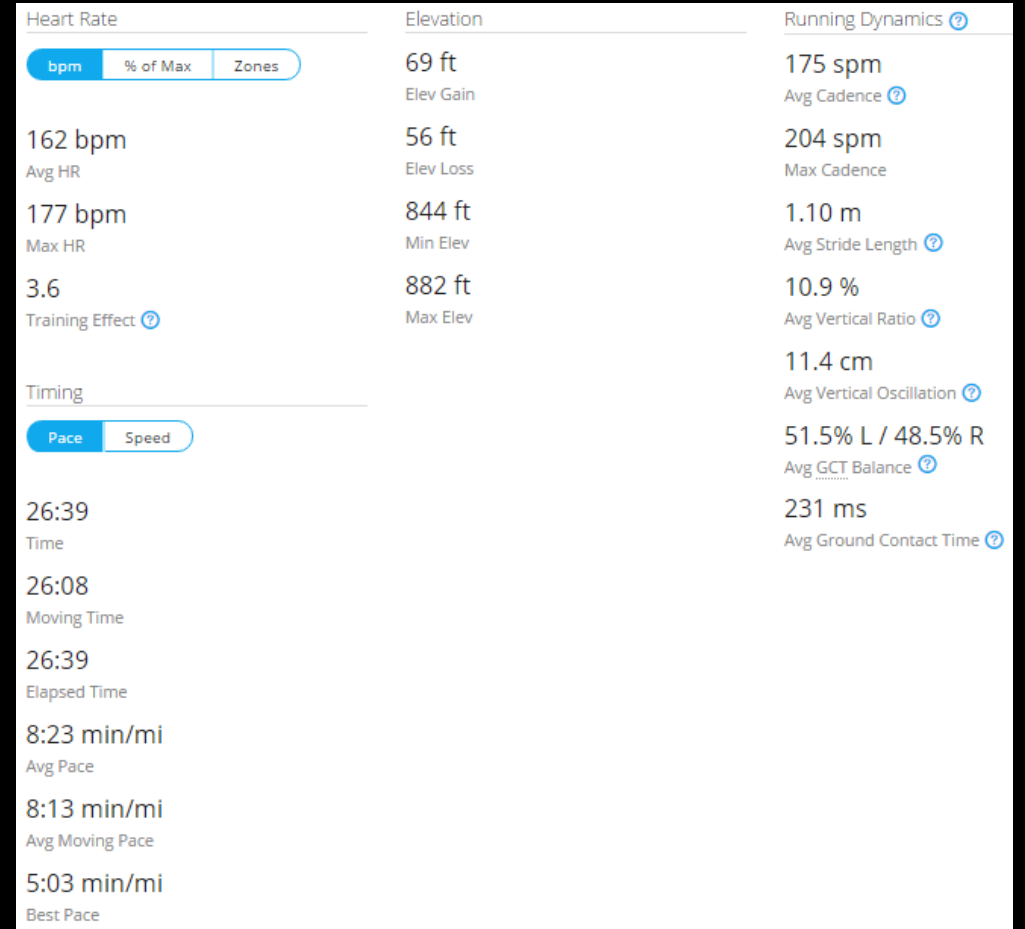
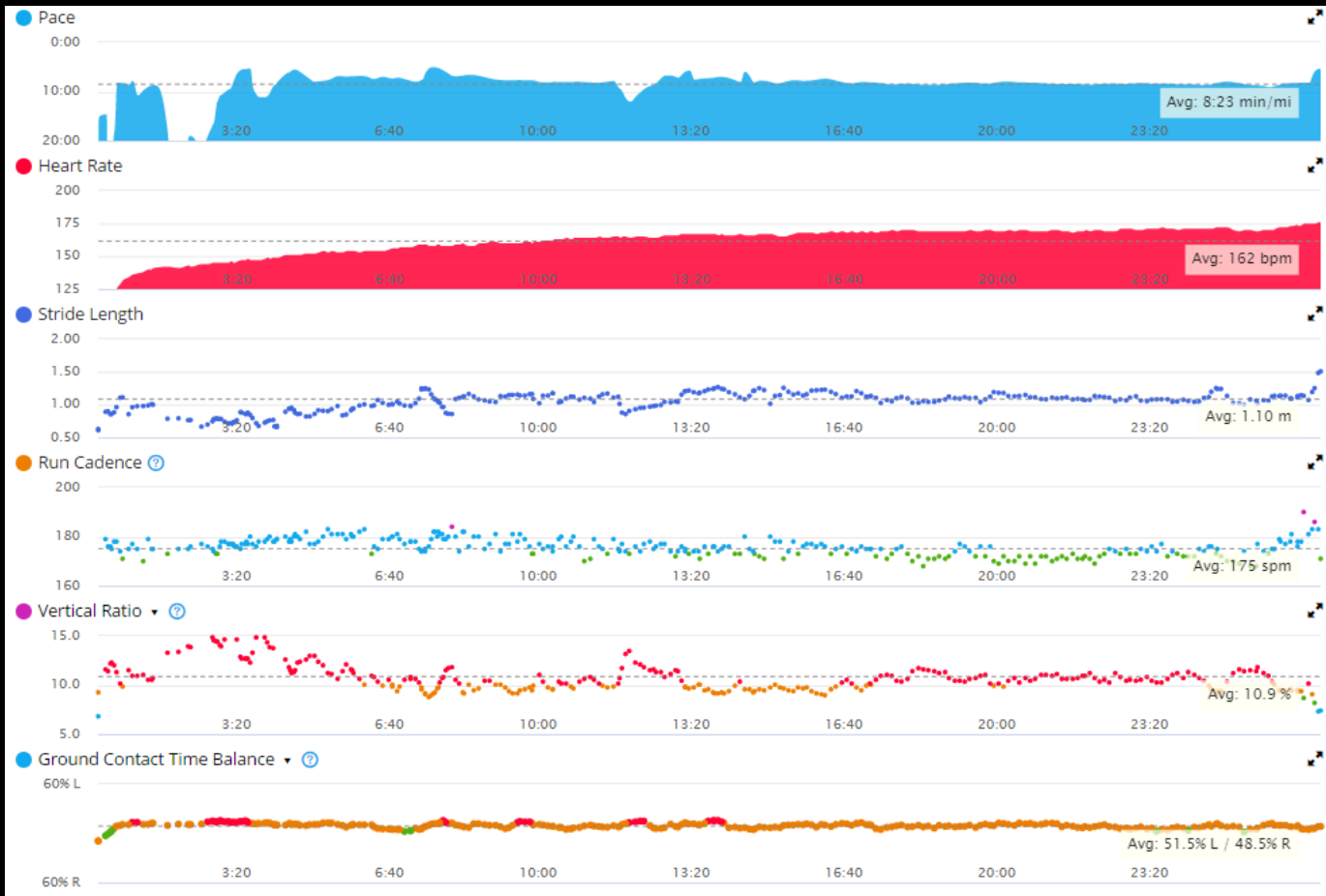
	MIN	AVG	MAX	
Heart Rate	106	162	177	bpm
Cadence	48	87	102	rpm
Speed	0.00	7.16	11.9	mph
Pace	00:00	08:23	05:03	min/mi
Elevation	844	858	882	ft



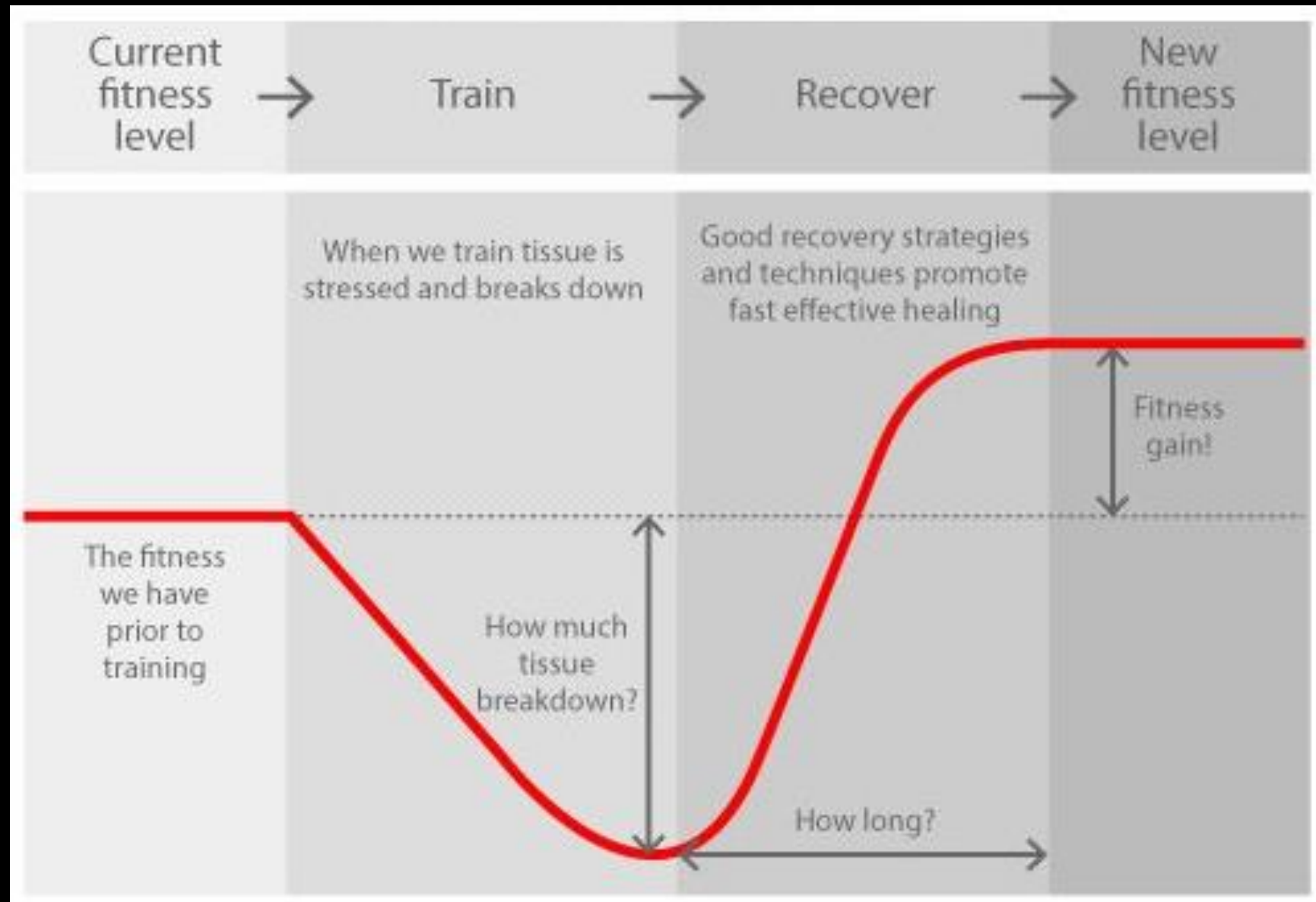
Laps

<input type="checkbox"/> Entire Workout	26:38.90
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #1	08:57.18
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #2	07:52.44
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #3	08:27.32
<input type="checkbox"/> Lap #4	01:21.95

# RUNNING DYNAMICS (GARMIN)



# RECOVERY





# RECOVERY

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
TSS	Training Stress Score: a quantitative score calculated for workouts taking into account intensity, duration and frequency relative to the individual athlete's threshold metrics (for power, heart rate and pace). Used to estimate recovery needs and ultimately to optimize training load to Peak training phase.	-	370.7		Y	Y
ATL	Actute Training Load: Fatigue; short-term effect of training (last 7 days)	-	109.5	N	Y	Y
CTL	Chronic Training Load: Fitness; long-term effect of training (last 42 days)	-	120.8	N	Y	Y
TSB	Training Stress Balance: Difference between CTL and ATL from previous day (Fitness - Fatigue = Form). Typically slightly negative up to +25 at race peak. Can be used to optimize training fatigue to A-race date	-	-24.7	N	Y	Y

$$TSS = (\text{sec} \times NP^{\circ} \times IF^{\circ}) / (FTP \times 3600) \times 100$$

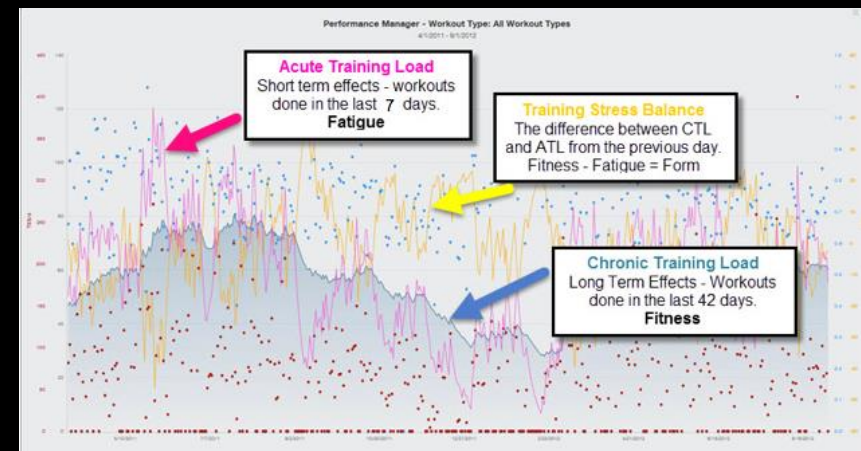


Table. Estimating TSS from RPE or Average Heart Rate

RPE (1-10 scale)	Avg HR Zone	TSS per Hour
1	1 (low)	20
2	1	30
3	1 (high)	40
4	2 (low)	50
5	2 (high)	60
6	3	70
7	4	80
8	5a	100
9	5b	120
10	5c	140

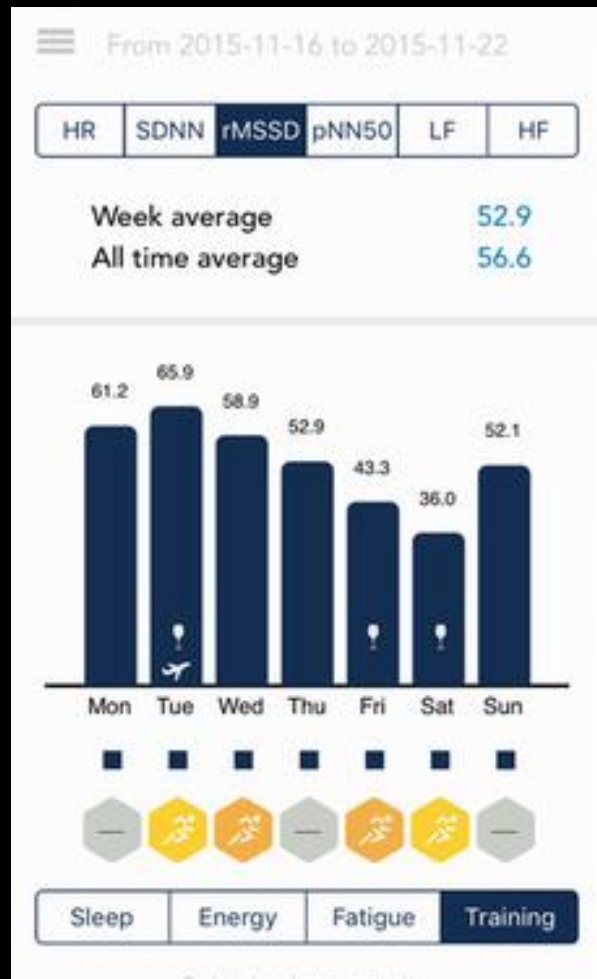
# TRAINING PEAKS PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT CHART (PMC)

- [Performance Management Chart \(TrainingPeaks\)](#)

# RECOVERY

Metric	Definition	Units	Ex.	Manual	Sensor	Receiver
HRV	Heart Rate Variability: is the physiological phenomenon of variation in the time interval between heartbeats. It is measured by the variation in the beat-to-beat interval and serves as a means to measure parasympathetic response to training (and non-training) stress. Higher variability is better, and indicates a well-recovered, calm state, whereas persistently low values of HRV indicate chronic stress.	varies: ms Hz -	varies: 20ms .05Hz 7.3	N	Y	Y
RHR	Resting Heart Rate: the number of times your heart beats per minute while at complete rest. Resting heart rate will decrease as your heart becomes stronger. Lagging indicator vs HRV	bpm	55 bpm	Y	Y	Y
Stress	Athlete perceived daily stress rating (high/low relative to average)	-	Low	Y	N	N
Mood	Athlete perceived daily mood rating (better/worse relative to average)	-	Worse	Y	N	N
Soreness	Athlete perceived daily level of soreness (high/low relative to average)	-	Low	Y	N	N
Motivation	Athlete perceived daily level of motivation (high/low relative to average)	-	Inspired	Y	N	N

# HRV: CORRELATING FACTS WITH HOW YOU FEEL



How was your sleep quality last night?

Back POOR OK GOOD

MORE SLEEP TAGS

How was your training yesterday?

Rest Easy Average Intense

What sport did you do?

Running

How did you perform during your training?

WORSE AS EXPECTED BETTER

What training phase are you currently in?

Just training





# RECOMMENDED ANALYSIS & FREQUENCY

## 1. **Immediate feedback:** quick review from this workout

- Does the data reflect how you felt? Why or why not?
- Key takeaways: reminder not to do \_\_\_ or remember to include \_\_\_ in race plan or when I do \_\_\_, \_\_\_ happens

## 2. **Monitoring:** periodically compare similar workouts from different training phases (i.e. test workouts)

- Have you improved vs benchmark?
- What do you need to adjust for the next training phase?
- How does that proposed adjustment align to your overall training goals & capability?

## 3. **Race rehearsal analysis:** execute A-race race plan or key skills in training race to confirm effectiveness

- Did your race plan deliver the expected results?
- What to adjust (i.e. race power, cadence or HR zone), what to keep the same

**Note: it will require CONSISTENCY and TIME to develop attunement to your body!**

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

## Align Your Needs to Your Goals

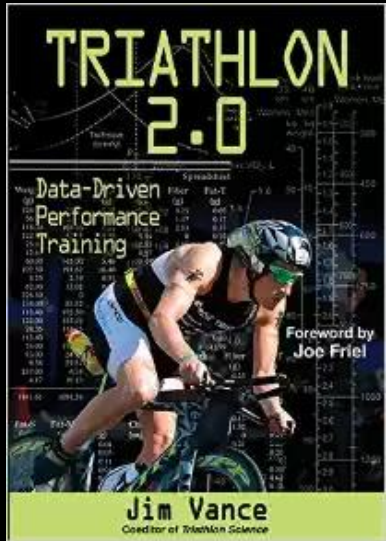
- ❑ Choose one or two disciplines that you want to focus on:
  1. What is your limiter?
  2. What are you WILLING to put time and energy into monitoring & correcting?
  3. What will deliver the greatest time benefit for your A-race this year? For your long-term goals?
- ❑ Mentally & emotionally prepare yourself
  1. Can you manage another step in the training process (data monitoring & goal re-assessment)?
  2. Will you obsess over the data instead of using it for good??

## Determine Your Budget

- ❑ How much are you willing to spend?
  - ❑ On device(s)?
  - ❑ On training software?
- ❑ Will you need a coach to help you interpret and action the data?
- ❑ Keep it simple! Aim for devices and software that
  - Auto-sync across multiple platforms
  - Measure metrics across multiple disciplines
  - Are easy-to-use
  - Allow for data-sharing between coaches and/or other athletes

## RTfM: Spend the Time to Set It Up!

- ❑ READ THE MANUAL – get the most out of your device(s) and software
  - Program workouts
  - Alert to individualized training zones
  - Record weather conditions
  - Predict adaptation & fatigue
- ❑ Set up the reports in a format that's easy for you to understand
  1. Can you take one look and know whether your form was good or bad or different than usual?
  2. Do you know what you need to take away from the report?
- ❑ Ask for help if you need it! See online tutorials or ask another athlete



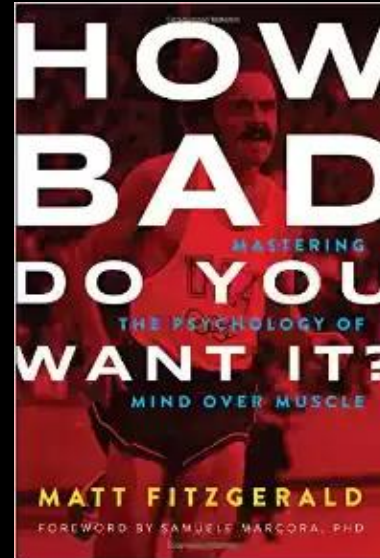
## Triathlon 2.0

- In-depth explanation on how to apply data analysis in training
- Heavy emphasis on cycling metric analysis and analysis programs



## Endurance Planet

- Podcasts & articles on a wide range of endurance-sport related topics
- Scientifically backed discussion on cutting edge research and training/nutrition trends
- Analysis and commentary by endurance professionals (coaches, professional and elite athletes, researchers, doctors, etc.)
- Features series on fellow clubmate Matt Bach "So You Wanna Go Pro"



## How Bad do you Want It?

- 8 mental coping strategies for minimizing RPE during training racing
- Examples from world champions

# RESOURCES



## TrainingPeaks

- Performance Management Chart and other articles on how to measure, use and interpret data.
- Articles on key charts for performance dashboard set-up
- How-to set up Annual Training Plans or individual workouts using TSS to define intensities and duration

# 'ROUND-THE-ROOM ACTIVITY

## Audience Poll

1. Who wants advice on programs? Who can offer advice on programs?
2. Who wants advice on devices? Who can offer advice on devices?
3. Break up into groups for focused discussions

BUT FIRST, let me leave you with some nuggets for later...



# NEED AN INCENTIVE?

Check out the latest deals on devices, sensors and training logs at TriSports.com using the referral link below:

<http://mbsy.co/trisports/27629224>

Use code **SHARE15** for 15% off + 5% back on your purchase in rewards (when you use this link!)





# CLUB RECOMMENDATIONS

Sensors

Devices

Programs

# QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

Contact @ [Julie.Percifield@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.Percifield@gmail.com)

