

# Gan delivers strong performance in Barcelona

## Swimming Western Australia

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Perth City swimmer **Heidi Gan** put up an impressive show to finish 29th in the open water 10k at the Barcelona World Championships.

Gan, who is representing Malaysia in Spain, recorded 1:59:01.4, beating the time she swam over the same distance at last year's Olympic Games in London (2:00:45).

Australian dual Olympian **Melissa Gorman** and 14-year-old **Chelsea Gubecka** finished 20<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> respectively in the race, with Brazil taking gold and silver over the four lap course.

With less than a minute separating the first 30 swimmers home, Gorman covered the first lap in just over 30 minutes to come through in seventh place at the 2.5km mark before the Brazilian pair of **Poliana Okimoto Cintra** and **Ana Cunha** started to take control of the race.

Experienced and comfortable swimming in a competitive and at times congested field, the 27-year-old Gorman was not able to rein in the lead group over the last 2.5km and finished just 11 seconds out of the medals.

Swimming in her first major international meet and the second youngest in the field of 53, Gubecka stuck with the main pack for the entire race to finish less than a minute from the leaders.

Gan's time put her just 40 seconds behind the race leader.

The next event on the open water schedule will see the Australian team compete in the 5km team's event tomorrow, with two men and one woman competing for a combined time over the distance.

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## Women's open water 10km results

1. **Poliana Okimoto Cintra** BRA (1:58:19.2)
2. **Ana Cunha** BRA (1:58:19.5)
3. **Angela Mourer** GER (1:58:20.2)

## Australian results

20. **Melissa Gorman** AUS (1:58:30.9)
29. **Heidi Gan** MAS (1:59:01.4)
30. **Chelsea Gubecka** AUS (1:59:16.3)