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FINA/CNSG MARATHON SWIM WORLD SERIES TO CONCLUDE IN CHUN'AN



The 2019 circuit of the [FINA/CNSG Marathon Swim World Series](#) resumes on Sunday September 29 in Chun'An, China, for the ultimate meet of the season after eight previous legs in Doha (QAT), Seychelles (SEY), Setubal (POR), Balatonfured (HUN), Lac St Jean (CAN), Lac Megantic (CAN), Ohrid (MKD) and Nantou (TPE) from February to September 2019.

Close to 50 of the world's best swimmers have registered for the Chinese leg, 29 men and 18 women from Bolivia, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden, Singapore, Thailand and Venezuela.

Ranking leaders Hungary's Kristof Rasovszky and Italy's Rachele Bruni are set to take part in the 10km race in their respective gender category while the runners-up Matteo Furlan (ITA) and Ana Marcela Cunha (BRA) will also take the plunge in the Chinese waters.

Amongst the other men to watch for on Sunday are Olympic champion Ferry Weertman of the Netherlands, teammate Marcel Schouten, Brazil's veteran Allan do Carmo and Andreas Waschburger of Germany, while the women's race will be highlighted by the participation of the Italian Arianna Bridi and China's Xin Xin.

The races will be live streamed on [FINA.tv](#).

Current 2019 ranking

The 2020 edition of the [FINA/CNSG Marathon Swim World Series](#) will again stop in the four continents with Doha (QAT) as the first host, respecting the recent years' tradition to welcome the initial stage of the event, on February 15.

The circuit will then move to the Seychelles (date to be confirmed) and Setubal (POR) on June 13. Still in Europe, the long distance swimmers will head to Balatonfured (date to be confirmed), the lake that welcomed the open water competition of the 2017 FINA World Championships, before flying to Canada to take part in the two traditional meets in Lac St Jean (July 23) and Lac Megantic (August 8). Ohrid, in Macedonia and Chun'An (CHN) will be the last two hosts of the 2020 competition (dates to be confirmed).

[More on fina.org](http://more.on.fina.org)

XIN XIN (CHN) - "I THINK OPEN WATER WAS CALLING ME AND WAITING FOR ME"

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



With the ultimate leg of the FINA/CNSG Marathon Swim World Series 2019 to be held in Chun'An, China, top athlete Xin Xin of China comes back to her successful open water story in an interview for FINA Magazine.

"Am I champion? Am I champion?" Xin Xin asked the first Chinese coach she met after she stepped on to the pontoon. "Yes, you are the champion!" Then,

chanting like a kid, Xin ran into her coach's arms and asked, "Am I good?" "Perfect!" said her coach Jin Hao.

Xin is the first Chinese swimmer in history to win an open water event at the World Championships. She beat Haley Anderson of the United States by 0.90 seconds to win the 10km, while Rachele Bruni of Italy came away with the bronze. A total of 64 swimmers competed in the race, in which defending champion Aurélie Muller of France, who won in 2015 and 2017, ended up in 11th place, missing Olympic qualification.

Xin competed in the 800m freestyle at the 2012 London Olympics, finishing 24th overall, but after switching to open water she claimed fourth place in the 10km marathon at the 2016 Rio Games at Copacabana Beach.

"We are still young and inexperienced in this event"

Congratulations! You have won the first open water world title for China. Did you expect to be the world champion before the race?

Never! I was 11th two years ago in Budapest. I just wanted to enter the top 10 and earn a ticket to the Tokyo Olympic Games. It was a surprise to me too. I did not think about the medal. I thought it was too difficult to finish top three. In fact, I did not bring my clothes and shoes for the victory ceremony with me. My teammates had to run back to the hotel and bring the clothes to me. And then I borrowed shoes from my team-mate.

What was your feeling after you made history for China swimming?

I was greatly honoured to win the title here in Gwangju. It was always the dream for every athlete. China has only competed in the open water competition since the 2007 Worlds. We are still young and inexperienced in this event. I was glad that I made the dream come true for all of our Chinese swimmers and coaches.

What were your tactics for the competition? How did you prepare?

Most of the swimmers did the same tactics in open water, I guess. My coach and I talked about the tactics last night and in the morning before the race. I just tried to swim as relaxed and comfortable as possible in the first five laps. I tried to save more energy and kept the best for last.

Did you follow all your coach's words during the race?

It's always been competitive in the open water race. I did my best and exactly executed the instruction my coach told me on every lap. During the race I kept my pace and stayed with the pack of the world's fastest swimmers. I tried to improve my position from 50th, 40th, 30th and 20th until the last split. I started to accelerate my speed and I gave it all in the last lap. There was someone who dragged me in a mass in the last 300 metres, I thought I must sprint to the finish line as fast as possible.

Read full interview on FINA website



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FINA DIVING GRAND PRIX 2020 TO STOP IN THE FIVE CONTINENTS

FINA is pleased to announce the truly universal 2020 calendar of the annual circuit of the FINA Diving Grand Prix.

Visiting the five continents, the Diving Grand Prix will be held across eight meets, kicking-off in Madrid (ESP) on February 14-16. The circuit will then stop in Rostock (GER) from February 20-23 for another European leg before heading to North America with Windsor (CAN) from May 14-17. Asia will then stage the Grand Prix in Singapore from May 29-31 and Kuala Lumpur (MAS) from June 5-7 and Cairo (EGY), the only African stop, will then host the event from June 17-20. The last two legs will be in Bolzano (ITA) from July 3-5 and Gold Coast (AUS) from November 6-8.

Madrid, Rostock, Cairo, Bolzano, Gold Coast, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur renew their commitment to the event as they all were hosts in 2019, while Windsor is a new comer on the circuit. Windsor has hosted many FINA events in the past including the highly successful FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) in December 2016 and legs of the Diving World Series.

You can check-out the Rules & Regulations for the Grand Prix [here](#)

Calendar 2020 at a glance

1. Madrid (ESP) – February 14-16
2. Rostock (GER) – February 20-23
3. Windsor (CAN) – May 14-17
4. Singapore (SGP) May 29-31
5. Kuala Lumpur (MAS) – June 5-7
6. Cairo (EGY) – June 17-20
7. Bolzano (ITA) – July 3-5
8. Gold Coast (AUS) – November 6-8

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Official FINA Partners



FINA OFFICE
CHEMIN DE BELLEVUE 24A/24B
1005 LAUSANNE
TEL. (+41 21) 310 47 10
FAX (+41 21) 312 66 10

The Fédération Internationale de Natation, FINA (founded in 1908) is the governing body for aquatics worldwide.

Its five disciplines - Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Diving, Water Polo and Artistic Swimming - are all included in the Olympic programme. High Diving is on the World Championships programme since 2013. FINA organises World Championships, World Swimming Championships in 25m-pool and World Masters Championships every two years. FINA counts 209 affiliated National Federations on the five continents and has its headquarters in Lausanne (SUI).