

August 29, 2018

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## BIG SWIMMING NAMES READY FOR POOL ACTION AT SWC'S INAUGURAL LEG



With less than 10 days to go to the inaugural leg of the FINA Swimming World Cup 2018, many swimming legends have shown interest in one of the most important events of the discipline.

With room for more entries, Russia's Kirill Prigoda has confirmed his attendance to all seven stops of the World Cup, while Olympic bronze medallist and current World Record holder Vladimir Morozov and Olympic silver and bronze medallist as well as World champion Yuliya Efimova are amongst the other home nation athletes registered for Kazan.

While last year's overall Series winners Sarah Sjöström (SWE) and Chad Le Clos (RSA) are ready to make the headlines again, the famous Iron Lady of Hungary, Katinka Hosszu, who is a veteran of the World Cup is also set to take the plunge at the Kazan Aquatics Palace from September 7-9. Compatriot Zsuzsanna Jakabos and David Verraszto will also be there.

China will be represented by, but not only, Yifan Yang, Yuhang Wu and Zhiaho Zhang.

The U.S. delegation will be led by short-course World champion Michael Andrew.

Australia's accomplished talent Mitch Larkin also confirmed attendance, as did Ranomi Kromowidjojo and Jesse Puts of the Netherlands.

Kazan hosts are organising a Speedo Swim Clinic & autograph session on September 4 as well as a formal World Cup presentation at the Kremlin on September 5. A press conference will be hosted on September 6 at the venue before the Opening Ceremony kick-off the event on Friday September 7.

In addition, the organisers have focused on a out-of-competition programme open to kids and amateur swimmers with two dedicated challenges on Saturday September 8.

The World Cup meets will count towards qualifying for the 14th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) 2018 to take place from December 11-16 in Hangzhou, China.

For the first time, the series will combine both long and short course competitions. See details [here](#)

All the pool action will be LIVE STREAMED on [FINAtv](#) and daily races reports will be available on [FINA website](#). You can check out the results on [FINA mobile app](#).

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## FINA PARTNERS WITH CHINA'S SPD BANK CCC FOR TWO MAJOR SWIMMING EVENTS



OFFICIAL PARTNER

FINA is pleased to reveal it has teamed up with China's Shanghai Pudong Development Bank Credit Card Center (SPD Bank CCC), the fastest growing company in licensed credit card centres in China, which becomes an Official Partner of both the [FINA Swimming World Cup 2018](#) and the upcoming [FINA World Swimming Championships \(25m\) 2018](#).

Shanghai-based SPD Bank CCC is venturing into sport for the first time with FINA aiming to enhance its global impact and the brand popularity. This new partnership will also assist FINA in promoting and spreading the universal values of swimming and elite competition to the Chinese market which are embodied in the company's mission: "Supporting young people to enjoy life and pursue their dream".

FINA President Julio C. Maglione commented:

*"FINA is very pleased to add SPD Bank Credit Card Centre to its Official Partners list and to team up with one of the most respected banks in China which will tremendously help promote swimming within the Chinese market. SPD Banks Credit Card Centre's support is of the utmost importance to achieve a successful strategy for those two major swimming competitions."*

Under the agreement announced today, SPD Bank Credit Card Center will become the worldwide exclusive FINA Partner for Banking and Credit Card Services. SPD Bank Credit Card Center will further explore its business initiative "Consumer Finance + Sports" to provide more products and services to the young consumers.

[More on fina.org](#)

## BELGRADE: SPAIN, AUSTRALIA, USA AND THE NETHERLANDS TOP TO THEIR GROUP

The 4th FINA World Women's Youth Water Polo Championships is currently being held in Belgrade, Serbia, until Sunday September 2.

Spain, Australia, USA and the Netherlands are respectively leading their group.

After the first two competition days, the provisional ranking is as follows:

**Group A:** 1. Spain, 2. Italy, 3. Canada, 4. Serbia

**Group B:** 1. Australia, 2. Greece, 3. Brazil, 4. Uzbekistan

**Group C:** 1. USA, 2. Hungary, 3. Argentina, 4. Kazakhstan

**Group D:** 1. Netherlands, 2. Russia, 3. New Zealand, 4. South Africa

Read detailed game reports on [FINA website](#) and results are also available [here](#)

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**Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA)**

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 Synchronised 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 (SU).

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