

September 26, 2018

SWIMMING WORLD CUP RESUMES IN EINDHOVEN



On the eve of the start of the FINA Swimming World Cup's second Cluster, in Eindhoven (NED), Cluster #1 winners Chupkov (RUS) and Sjöström (SWE) warm up for more action.

After Kazan and Doha, the Swedish star and the Russian ace are the provisional leaders of the 2018 ranking, with respectively 120 and 90 points.

They were the first beneficiaries of the US\$ 50,000 prize money distributed to the best of each Cluster which concluded in Doha on September 15 as 5 new World Cup records highlighted the three-day event (against 7 World Cup Records in Kazan).

2017 Series overall winner Sjöström has won 10 races so far, while Chupkov was the fastest in 3 races.

In the women's competition, Olympic and World champions Katinka Hosszu (HUN) and Yulia Efimova (RUS) have kicked started the 2018 circuit with top performances in the two inaugural legs allowing them to secure the second (90) and third (78) ranking positions, while USA's most promising young swimmer Michael Andrew won the 100m fly races as well as the 50 back in Doha. He is naturally second (87) in the ranking and last year overall runner up Vladimir Morozov of Russia is provisionally third (84).

With two days to go to Eindhoven (Friday September 28 to Sunday September 30), nearly 185 athletes are registered. Amongst them big names such as Mitch Larkin (AUS), Pieter Timmers (BEL), Yuliya Efimova (RUS), Laszlo Cseh (HUN), Felipe Lima (BRA), Katinka Hosszu (HUN), Emily Seebhom (AUS), Chad Le Clos (RSA), Blake Pieroni (USA), Alia Atkinson (JAM), Mehdy Metella (FRA), Anton Chupkov (RUS), Daiya Seto (JPN), David Verraszto (HUN), Sarah Sjöström (SWE).

Ranomi Kromowidjojo leads the 48-strong home delegation.

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The provisional ranking after Doha is as follows:

MEN

Rank	Country	Family Name	First Name	Total	Kazan (RUS)	Doha (QAT)
1	 - RUS	CHUPKOV	Anton	90	48	42
2	 - USA	ANDREW	Michael	87	42	45
3	 - RUS	MOROZOV	Vladimir	84	54	30
4	 - AUS	LARKIN	Mitchell	72	36	36
5	 - USA	PIERONI	Blake	57	21	36
6	 - HUN	VERRAZSTO	David	54	27	27
7	 - UKR	GOVOROV	Andrii	48	18	30
8	 - BRA	LIMA	Felipe	45	21	24

WOMEN

Rank	Country	Family Name	First Name	Total	Kazan (RUS)	Doha (QAT)
1	 - SWE	SJOSTROM	Sarah	120	60	60
2	 - HUN	HOSSZU	Katinka	90	36	54
3	 - RUS	EFIMOVA	Yulia	78	42	36
4	 - NED	TOUSSAINT	Kira	66	36	30
5	 - NED	KROMOWIDJOJO	Ranomi	63	24	39
6	 - NED	HEEMSKERK	Femke	51	24	27
7	 - RUS	SIMONOVA	Vitalina	48	21	27
8	 - HUN	JAKABOS	Zsuzsanna	45	27	18

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FINA INAUGURATES NEW DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN KAZAN

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

FINA has opened last week, together with the Russian Swimming Federation, a new Centre for the Development of aquatic sports in Kazan, Russia, signing a cooperation agreement with the Republic of Tatarstan.



DEVELOPMENT
CENTRE
Kazan

The Centre will be located at the Olympic Reserve School, in the same pool that hosted the FINA World Championships in 2015.

FINA President Dr. Julio C. Maglione and Minister of Sports of the Republic of Tatarstan Vladimir Leonov signed the agreement together.



The aims of the Centre are to provide aquatic athletes from different nations with training opportunities for competitions that fall under the FINA umbrella such as the World Championships but also the Olympic Games.

The Centre will also be used to host training courses for both athletes and coaches under the FINA Scholarship Programme and FINA Schools. There are plans in place to host an international FINA seminars as well.

While many of the benefits are for high performance athletes, local students will also take advantage from the new Centre.

The new Centre in Kazan joins the other training and Development Centres FINA already supports, namely: FINA Development Centre in Dakar (SEN), Thanyapura (Phuket, Thailand) - FINA Training Centre, Spire Institute (Geneva, OH, USA) - FINA Training Centre.

These hubs are used within the frame of the various FINA Scholarship and Development programmes.

FINA President Dr Julio C. Maglione, present at the inauguration last week, said:

"We are very happy to see the legacy of the FINA World Championships 2015 embodied by the inauguration of the Centre. It is a testimony of the impact of our signature event in the Tatarstan region. This Centre will not only welcome the world's swimming elite for training camps but will also serve as catalyst base for the future talents of our sport. FINA is fully supporting the project and is committed to collaborate with the local authorities to ensure a smooth operation of the Centre. "

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NEW WATER POLO: FASTER, STRONGER AND MORE SPECTACULAR

The FINA Women's Water Polo World Cup in Surgut (RUS) has been the third "field test" of a set of rule amendments, raised by the Technical Water Polo Committee this year. 18 bullet-points reflecting progressive trends in the game's development, have been duly described and distributed among the FINA Member-Federations in charge of the sport. In fact, the changes touched on a number of water polo's major aspects, including shortened breaks, attacking time and after corner throw countdown, cut by 10 seconds to 20, and introducing direct corner throwing and hitting options for goalkeepers, enabled now to cross centre line and shoots, and perform as a shooter in the penalty shout-out.

The number of players in the entry form, seemed to be the most controversial issue, has been reduced from 13 to 11, to meet the IOC requirements for Olympic quotas, issued on June 2017. The quotas are now held true for the Olympic Games-2020 only and will be a subject of further discussions whether to be implemented at FINA umbrella events.

New technological solutions empowered referees, to make it possible for them communicating during the game's run, and even make benefits of the video-repeat system. All in all, it seems that the "deadly boring time" on the offensive side is now largely reduced. The game's speed has raised to highlight intensity, dynamics and energetic attractiveness of water polo.

To learn more of the impressions, which the "new arrivals" produced on all sides in the game involved, we offered floor to the major experts on water polo and players, who took part in the 17th FINA Women's Water Polo World Cup in Surgut, 4 - 9 September, 2018.

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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 (SUI).

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