

February 20, 2019

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OVER 260 DIVERS, INCLUDING OLYMPIC AND WORLD CHAMPIONS, TO TAKE PART IN DIVING WORLD SERIES 2019



The 2019 FINA/CNSG Diving World Series, a competition exclusively open to the world's diving elite, with numerous World and Olympic champions taking part, will kick-off next week in Sagami-hara (JPN, March 1-3), one of the two new hosts of this year's circuit which is expected to see over 260 divers throughout the season. The Series provides an additional opportunity for the divers to prepare for the 18th FINA World Championships 2019 in Gwangju (KOR) and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, offering worldwide visibility through the broadcast agreements in place.

The event will then move to Beijing (CHN) on March 7-9. The last three meets will be held in Montreal (CAN, April 26-28), Kazan (RUS, May 10-12) and London (GBR, May 17-19), as the capital comes back on the circuit after hosting a leg of the Series in 2015.

There are 10 events on the programme, dispatched as follows:

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
SESSION 1* - MORNING	SESSION 1* - MORNING	SESSION 1* - MORNING
> 10m platform SYNCHRO WOMEN	> 10m platform (A+B) WOMEN	> 3m springboard (A+B) WOMEN
BREAK 30 MIN	BREAK 30 MIN	BREAK 30 MIN
> 10m platform SYNCHRO MEN	> 3m springboard (A+B) MEN	> 10m platform (A+B) MEN
AWARD CEREMONIES		
SESSION 2* - AFTERNOON/EVENING	SESSION 2* - AFTERNOON/EVENING	SESSION 2* - AFTERNOON/EVENING
> 3m springboard SYNCHRO WOMEN	> 10m platform FINAL WOMEN	> 3m springboard FINAL WOMEN
BREAK 15 MIN	BREAK 15 MIN	BREAK 15 MIN
> 3m springboard SYNCHRO MEN	> 3m springboard FINAL MEN	> 10m platform FINAL MEN
AWARD CEREMONIES	BREAK 15 MIN	BREAK 15 MIN
	> 10m platform MIXED SYNCHRO	> 3m springboard MIXED SYNCHRO
	AWARD CEREMONIES	AWARD CEREMONIES

The total prize money available for this 13th edition of the Series is USD 1.35M. Only divers taking part in all five legs are eligible for the overall prize money.

Since the inception of the event, China is the dominating force as Chinese divers have won 49 medals, while 12 nations have shared the podium throughout the years. Russia and Canada are the other two best nations to watch for. Find out more about the star athletes [here](#)

The Beijing leg will once more be highlighted by the participation of the sport's biggest names: Chinese stars Cao Yuan, Siyi Xie, Chen Aisen, Shi Tingmao and Ren Qian are amongst the ones to watch for. Canada's strong delegation is going to be headlined by Jennifer Abel, Pamela Ware and Meaghan Benfeito, while Francois Imbeau-Dulac and Philippe Gagne are also attending. Evgenii Kzunetsov, Nikita SHleikher, Aleksandr Bondar et Iuliia Tomoshinina will represent Russia. Great Britain's most famous diver Thomas Daley will of course take the plunge and will be joined by, but not only, Jack Laugher, Lois Toulson and Grace Reid. Mexico is another potential medal contender with Rommel Pacheco and the DPR Korean heroes Mi Rae Kim and Il Myong Hyon could steal the show too. Complete Entry List is available on FINA website.

You will be able to closely follow LIVE all the results of this meet on the [FINA app](#), and all finals will be live streamed on [FINAtv](#).

Check out the 2018 results and rankings

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FIRST ATHLETE JOINS FINA APPROVED CENTRE IN KAZAN (RUS)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



On February 15, Kristina Panasenکو of Kyrgyzstan was the first ever athlete to integrate the latest FINA approved Development Centre in Kazan, Russia, the city that successfully hosted the 16th FINA World Championships in 2015.

Kristina Panasenکو, 16, who specialises in breaststroke, is a member of the Kyrgyz national swimming team and has taken part in the FINA World Championships in Budapest (HUN) in July 2017 as well as the Asian Championships in 2016 in Tokyo (JPN).

33.89 for a 50m breast (25m pool) and 1:13.73 (25m pool) for a 100m breast race are Kristina's best times so far.

Athletes are welcome in Kazan by the local FINA Development Centre coordinators as transport, accommodation and meals are fully organised and financed by FINA and the local administration of the complex.

The programme's participants will stay in a new ideally-located campus as fully-equipped double rooms are provided. The distance from the campus to the sports complex and the swimming pool is no more than 300m.

In addition to the strict training agenda, the young talents will be offered some cultural and educational activities such as language lessons and own brand management courses. Sporting events and outdoors activities complete the comprehensive care support.

To find out more about the Kazan Development Centre please look at the brochure [here](#)

Kristina Panasenکو will be joined in the weeks to come by Giorgi Biganishvili (GEO), 21, Arina Baikova (LAT), 18, Nichita Bortnikov (MDA), 16, Ado Gargovic (MNE), 20, Mi Song Pak (PRK), 17, and Bisma Khan (PAK), 17.



SWIMMING STARS SAY “YES” TO NEW CHAMPIONS SERIES

With two and a half months to go to the kick-off of the brand new [FINA Champions Swim Series](#), many swimming stars have already confirmed their participation in the three-leg competition, taking place on April 27-28 in Guangzhou (CHN), May 11-12 in Budapest (HUN) and May 31-June 1 in Indianapolis (USA).

After the first set of invitations was sent, several Olympic and world medallists expressed their interest in taking part in the Series, distributing almost US\$ 3 million in prize money, plus over US\$ 800,000 in appearance fees and all travel and accommodation expenses covered. All the Series meets will serve as qualifying events for both the FINA World Championships Gwangju 2019 and the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

Among the men, Anthony Ervin, from the USA, and reigning Olympic champion in the 50m free, will swim his signature event, while Pieter Timmers (BEL), silver medallist in Rio 2016 will be the man to beat in the 100m free.

Gabriele Detti (ITA, 400m free), Russians Kliment Kolesnikov and Vladimir Morozov, American Ryan Murphy and China's Xu Jiayu will shine in the backstroke races; Brazilians Joao Gomes Junior and Felipe Lima will be strong competitors in the 50m breast; 2016 Olympic champion Dmitry Balandin (KAZ) and 2017 world gold medallist Anton Chupkov (RUS) will have an epic fight in the 200m breast; the best three swimmers at the 2017 Worlds in Budapest: Ben Proud (GBR), Nicholas Santos (BRA) and Andriy Govorov (UKR) – will meet again in the 50m fly, while Chad Le Clos (RSA) will be the protagonist in the 100m fly; Magyar stars Laszlo Cseh and Kristof Milak are serious contenders in the 200m fly; and Chinese ace Wang Shun will highlight the 200m IM.

In the women's field, Pernille Blume (DEN, Olympic champion), Sarah Sjöström (SWE, world gold medallist) and Ranomi Kromowidjojo (NED) will certainly set the tone in the 50m free, while Penny Oleksiak (CAN, Rio 2016 winner) and Cate Campbell (AUS) will be forces to be reckoned with in the 100m free.

Federica Pellegrini (ITA, 2017 world champion) will be in action in the 200m free and Li Bingjie (CHN) will swim for gold in the 400m free.

In the 50m back, an interesting duel will take place between Etienne Medeiros (BRA, the best at Budapest 2017) and Liu Xiang (CHN); in the 100m and 200m back, Katinka Hosszu (HUN) will be the woman to watch, but in the longer distance she will be closely challenged by Emily Seebohm (AUS) and Kathleen Baker (USA); in the 50m and 100m breast, a trio of US swimmers – Lilly King, Katie Meili and Molly Hannis – is ready to shine; Sjöström, Kromowidjojo (both in 50m and 100m), but also Oleksiak, and Kelsi Dahlia and Dana Vollmer (USA), only in 100m, will bring the show in the butterfly events; in the 200m IM, Siobhan O'Connor (GBR), Kathleen Baker and Seoyeong Kim (KOR) will have the difficult task of swimming faster than the Olympic and world champion Hosszu.

[...]



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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 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).

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