



PRESS RELEASE

N° 53/2008 for Swim Star Web Portal

FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix 2008 Capell (AUS) and Uvarova (RUS) get first victories of the year

Lausanne (SUI) July 14, 2008 – Brendan Capell (AUS) and Anna Uvarova (RUS) respectively won the men's and women's race of the fifth leg of the 2008 FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix, held on July 13 in Sabac (SRB). In their first victories of the year, Capell completed the 19km of the competition in 2h39m57s, while Uvarova triumphed in 2h48m22s.

In the men's field, the dominator of the season – the Bulgarian Petar Stoychev, winner of the first three legs – , was only fifth, behind Stéphane Gomez (FRA, second for the third time this season and winner of the fourth race in Italy), Daniil Serebrennikov (RUS, third, his first 2008 podium) and Andrea Volpini (ITA, fourth).

In the women's race, Natalia Pankina (RUS), also victorious in the first three races of the year, was absent in Serbia, but the Russians were well represented with Uvarova first and Ekaterina Zhdanova in second. The third place went to Britta Kamrau-Corestein (GER), winner of the previous race between Napoli and Capri.

MEDALLISTS IN SABAC

MEN

1. Brendan Capell (AUS) 2h39m57s
2. Stéphane Gomez (FRA) 2h41m23s
3. Daniil Serebrennikov (RUS) 2h42m01s

WOMEN

1. Anna Uvarova (RUS) 2h48m22s
2. Ekaterina Zhdanova (RUS) 2h48m52
3. Britta Kamrau-Corestein (GER) 2h48m54s

The FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix is one of the two new long-distance swimming competition series' launched by FINA in 2007 (the other is the FINA 10km Marathon Swimming World Cup). These two series' replace the FINA Marathon Swimming World Cup contested since 1993/1994. The Grand Prix competition is designed for open water swimming races of and above 15km. The next race for the 2008 series will take place on July 19 in Ohrid Lake (MKD).

THE 2008 FINA OPEN WATER SWIMMING GRAND PRIX (GP)

Dates & Sites

- (1) *Race GP No 1 - February 3, 2008 - Maraton Acuatica Rio Coronda in Santa Fe (ARG), 57km*
- (2) *Race GP No 2 - February 9, 2008 - Rosario (ARG), 15km*
- (3) *Race GP No 3 - February 16, 2008 - Viedma (ARG), 15km*
- (4) *Race GP No 4 - July 5, 2008 - Marathon del Golfo Capri-Napoli (ITA), 36km*
- (5) *Race GP No 5 - July 13, 2008 - Sabac Swim Marathon (SRB), 19 km*
- (6) *Race GP No 6 - July 19, 2008- Ohrid Lake Swim Marathon (MKD), 30km*
- (7) *Race GP No 7 - July 26, 2008 - Traversée Internationale du Lac St. Jean, Roberval (CAN), 32km*
- (8) *Race GP No 8 - August 2, 2008 - Traversée Internationale du Lac Magog (CAN), 34km*
- (9) *Race GP No 9 – October 18, 2008 - XVII Sumidero Canyon Swim Marathon in Chiapas (MEX), 15km*

2008 MEN'S PODIUMS

- (1) **1. Petar Stoychev (BUL)**; 2. Stéphane Gomez (FRA); 3. *Damian Blaum (ARG)*
- (2) **1. Petar Stoychev (BUL)**; 2. Stéphane Gomez (FRA); 3. *Damian Blaum (ARG)*
- (3) **1. Petar Stoychev (BUL)**; 2. Andrea Volpini (ITA); 3. *Rodolfo Valenti (ITA)*
- (4) **1. Stéphane Gomez (FRA)**; 2. Rodolfo Valenti (ITA); 3. *Gabriel Villagoiz (ARG)*
- (5) **1. Brendan Capell (AUS)**; 2. Stéphane Gomez (FRA); 3. *Daniil Serebrennikov (RUS)*

2008 WOMEN'S PODIUMS

- (1) **1. Natalia Pankina (RUS)**; 2. Edith Van Dijk (NED); 3. *Laura La Piana (ITA)*
- (2) **1. Natalia Pankina (RUS)**; 2. Esther Nuñez (ESP); 3. *Alessandra Romiti (ITA)*
- (3) **1. Natalia Pankina (RUS)**; 2. Annegret Braun (GER); 3. *Marianela Mendoza (ARG)*
- (4) **1. Britta Kamrau-Corestein (GER)**; 2. Natalia Pankina (RUS); 3. *Stefanie Biller (GER)*
- (5) **1. Anna Uvarova (RUS)**; 2. Ekaterina Zhdanova (RUS) ; 3. *Britta Kamrau-Corestein (GER)*