



PRESS RELEASE 5/2011 for Swim Star Web Portal



FINA OPEN WATER SWIMMING GRAND PRIX 2011

Stoychev (BUL) and Biagioli (ARG) untouchable in Santa Fe

On January 30, the second stage of the FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix 2011 welcomed 25 participants to brave **the 57km race between Santa Fe and Coronda**, in Argentina.

Some big names in the world of open water prevailed in the hard-fought race with close but clean finishes. After a disappointing fourth place a week ago in Rosario, **Petar Stoychev** (BUL), who began his unstoppable reign over the Grand Prix ten years ago, emerged triumphant after an intense 8h14m41s. **Andrea Volpini** (ITA) managed to keep his momentum and finished second in 8h14m43s while teammate **Rodolfo Valenti** (ITA) crossed the finish line two seconds later, clocking 8h14m45s.

In a small field of just eight competitors, the women's race podium is the same as in Rosario. Buoyed by her success a week ago, **Cecilia Biagioli** (ARG) had a blistering pace that could not be matched, finishing a clear 19 minutes (8h15m27s) between herself and silver-medallist and compatriot **Pilar Geijo**, who clocked 8h34m26s. The consistency of Spain's **Esther Nunez Morera** was evident once again with a third place in a time of 8h41m01s.

FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix 2011 calendar:

Race 1: January 23, 2011 in Rosario (ARG, 15km)

Race 2: January 30, 2011 in Santa Fe-Coronda (ARG, 57km)

NEXT RACE: February 5, 2011 in Viedma (ARG, 12km)

Race 4: February 13, 2011 in Hernandarias-Parana (ARG, 88km)

Race 5: April 23, 2011 in Sumidero Canyon (MEX, 15km)

Race 6: June 19, 2011 in Capri-Napoli (ITA, 36km)

Race 7: July 30, 2011 in Lac St. Jean (CAN, 32km)

Race 8: August 6, 2011 in Lake Memphremagog (CAN, 34km)

Race 9: August 7, 2011 in Sabac (SRB, 19km)

Race 10: August 14, 2011 in Ohrid Lake (MKD, 30km)

Race 11: TBC (UAE)