

FINA/ARENA SWIMMING WORLD CUP 2007

Randall Bal (USA) and Therese Alshammar (SWE) get the World Cup

Randall Bal (USA) and **Therese Alshammar** (SWE) were the winners of the 2007 FINA/ARENA Swimming World Cup, after the conclusion of the seven meets of the competition, held in seven cities in the five continents from October 19 to November 25. In the men's overall ranking, the American scored 186 points (and gets US\$100,000), after being the best performer in five legs (Durban, Singapore, Sydney, Stockholm and Belo Horizonte), second in Moscow and third in Berlin. Moreover, Bal was the most gold medal winner of the entire competition, with 21 titles – he won all the backstroke events (50m, 100m and 200m) of the World Cup. In the women's field, Therese Alshammar finished first with 160 points, following her first places in Moscow, Stockholm and Belo Horizonte, and her second places in Durban, Singapore and Berlin. The runner-up in the women's ranking was the American Natalie Coughlin with 110 points, while the US\$30,000 corresponding to the third place went to Marleen Veldhuis (NED, 65 points).

If the first places in the men's and women's ranking were almost decided before the Belo Horizonte (BRA) last and seventh meet on November 23-25, the absence of some stars in Brazil dictated some changes in the podium of the overall men's competition ranking - the non-attendance of Nikolay Skvortsov (RUS), the third before the Brazilian meet, benefited Pereira (fourth before swimming in Belo Horizonte). Among women, and even if Marleen Veldhuis did not travel to Brazil, she had enough advance to keep her third overall place.

7th Meet – November 23-25, 2007 in Belo Horizonte (BRA)

WINNERS

	WOMEN (W)	MEN (M)
50m free	Therese Alshammar (SWE) 24.23	Roland Schoeman (RSA) 21.38
100m free	Josefin Lillhage (SWE) 53.81	Roland Schoeman (RSA) 46.85
200m free	Josefin Lillhage (SWE) 1:55.32	Rodrigo Castro (BRA) 1:45.89
400m free	Josefin Lillhage (SWE) 4:11.50	Adam Lucas (AUS) 3:51.88
800m free (W)	Mariana Brochado (BRA) 8:51.60	-
1500m free (M)	-	Luiz Arapiraca (BRA) 15:19.32
50m backstr.	Lize-Marie Retief (RSA) 28.39	Randall Bal (USA) 23.62
100m backstr.	Natalie Coughlin (USA) 59.88	Randall Bal (USA) 50.80
200m backstr.	Joanna Maranhao (BRA) 2:13.16	Randall Bal (USA) 1:53.18
50m breaststr.	Tatiane Mayumi Sakemi (BRA) 32.17	Gerhard Zandberg (RSA) 27.37
100m breaststr.	Tatiane Mayumi Sakemi (BRA) 1:08.98	Eduardo Fischer (BRA) 59.89
200m breaststr.	Tatiane Mayumi Sakemi (BRA) 2:31.37	Jonas Andersson (SWE) 2:13.19
50m butterfly	Therese Alshammar (SWE) 25.69	Lyndon Ferns (RSA) 23.40
100m butterfly	Natalie Coughlin (USA) 56.39	Fernando Silva (BRA) 51.45
200m butterfly	Keri-Leigh Shaw (RSA) 2:10.39	Kaio Almeida (BRA) 1:54.39
100m medley	Natalie Coughlin (USA) 59.81	Roland Schoeman (RSA) 53.13
200m medley	Joanna Maranhao (BRA) 2:14.27	Thiago Pereira (BRA) 1:54.58
400m medley	Joanna Maranhao (BRA) 4:42.29	Thiago Pereira (BRA) 4:08.49

World Cup winners for 2007 and final prize money:

MEN			
Swimmer	Country	Points	Prize money
1. Randall Bal	USA	186	US\$100,000
2. Stefan Nystrand	SWE	101	US\$50,000
3. Thiago Pereira	BRA	96	US\$30,000
WOMEN			
Swimmer	Country	Points	Prize money
1. Therese Alshammar	SWE	160	US\$100,000
2. Natalie Coughlin	USA	110	US\$50,000
3. Marleen Veldhuis	NED	65	US\$30,000