



Press Release 12/2013 for Swim Star Web Portal

FINA OPEN WATER SWIMMING GRAND PRIX 2013

Sales Rubio and Geijo win 88km-race at home

24 swimmers (14 men, 10 women) participated on February 10 in the longest race of the **FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix 2013**, a 88km-effort in **Hernandarias** (Argentina).

Local heroes **Luciano Sales Rubio** (men) and **Pilar Geijo** (Women) won their races, in a time of 9:39:42:00 and 9:49:53:00 respectively.

It was the first triumph of the season for Sales Rubio – fourth in Santa Fe (ARG) – and for Geijo, also fourth on the second leg of the series, and eighth in Rosario, at the opening of the circuit.

Among men, **Damian Blaum**, also from Argentina, earned silver in a time 9:39:42:09, while **Saleh Mohammad** (SYR) got the bronze in 9:39:42:11. Blaum had been third in Santa Fe, and Mohammad's best result in 2013 was a seventh place in Rosario. Medallist in Santa Fe (silver) and Rosario (bronze), Guillermo Bertola (ARG) was fifth in Hernandarias. The winner of the two first races also in Argentina, Simone Ercoli, from Italy, did not take part in this longer effort.

In the women's field, **Pilar Geijo** was followed by Russia's **Olga Kozydub** (silver in 9:49:53:42), and by **Esther Nunez** (ESP), third in 9:56:48:56. Kozydub had previously been first in Santa Fe and third in Rosario, while Nunez was the winner in Rosario and got the bronze in Santa Fe.

The race between Hernandarias and Parana was the third and last in Argentina. The series will now move to the northern part of the American continent, with the next three legs in **Mexico** and **Canada**, before concluding with two events in Europe – **Ohrid** (MKD) and **Capri-Napoli** (ITA).

FINA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix 2013 calendar:

Race 1: January 27, 2013 in Rosario (ARG)

Race 2: February 3, 2013 in Santa Fe-Coronda (ARG)

Race 3: February 10, 2013 in Hernandarias-Parana (ARG)

NEXT RACE: April 20, 2013 in Cancun (MEX)

Race 5: July 27, 2013 in Lac St-Jean (CAN)

Race 6: August 3, 2013 in Lac Magog (CAN)

Race 7: August 24, 2013 in Ohrid Lake (MKD)

Race 8: September 1, 2013 in Capri-Napoli (ITA)