EUROPEAN championships

Short course



Rijeka 08

11-14 December

Croatia

LEN european aquatics

european championships Short course

Rijeka 08

arena

OMEGA

EUROVISION

Rijeka Sport's Association

Croatian Swimming Federation

City of Rijeka

Information Bulletin n° 1

Welcome to Rijeka!



Dear Athletes of the 12th European Short Course Championships,
Dear Participants, Journalists and Visitors,

Rijeka is truly looking forward to the 12th European Short Course Championships that will take place in the challenging Kantrida Swimming Complex. More than 600 top athletes, from some 50 European countries, accompanied by quite a number of distinguished persons related to this wonderful sport, along with more than 400 journalists, are expected in Rijeka in December 2008 with the open hearts and warm hospitality of Rijeka citizens, grateful and proud to be given the chance of demonstrating their ability to organize such a demanding sports event.

Rijeka's history, its present and the future, even its name, is tightly related to water. The city was established in Roman times, along both banks of the Rjecina River, and a safe port was developed around the deep Bay of Kvarner. Rijeka is, of course, the most important Croatian port city, and one among the top ten European ports. From a former industrial centre, Rijeka is unfolding into a dynamic city of services and urban tourism. Interesting cultural events attract many visitors, and the organization of demanding sports events are a kind of follow-up to its long history as a city investing a lot in the development of sports and boosting with many top athletes. All water related sports like swimming, water polo, rowing and sailing have deep roots in Rijeka and its region.

This Kantrida Swimming Complex is of Olympic size and represents the pride of every single person living in and around Rijeka. The Complex will be adjusted to the special requirements of Short Course Championships, to fully match the LEN demands. I hope that this special building achievement will give pleasure and joy to everyone, the swimmers, the organizers, the spectators and all involved in this renowned sports event.

Not only Rijeka but the entire Region along the Adriatic, known for the beauty of its landscape as well as the open and communicative residents with a deep Mediterranean spirit, welcome you to the 12th European Short Course Championships, hoping that this extraordinary sports event, the friendships you will make here, the moments you will remember, will be as pleasant as possible, to make you come back again and to explore the natural beauties of this Region on a future occasion.

However, above all, I hope that this event will generate top achievements by the swimmers. To the athletes I wish many excellent results, to the organizers a full success, and to everyone involved a lot of joy and excitement!

Vojko Obersnel, M.Sc.
Mayor of the City of Rijeka



In December 2008, we will have the pleasure of hosting in Rijeka the European Short Course Championships. This competition, where some of the best athletes of the World compete, will offer us a fantastic show and great thrills. We will strive to provide the atmosphere that will inspire athletes to achieve the best results and provides spectators an event to remember.

In previous editions of this championship, Croatian swimmers have been successful and I certainly hope that on this occasion they will offer us some unforgettable performances. This will certainly make stands crowded with our famous enthusiastic sport supporters.

From the organizing point of view, the marvellous brand new venue "Kantrida Swimming Pool", will be an excellent setting and already a guarantee for the success of the Championships. The City of Rijeka will offer the warmest welcome to all athletes and their accompanying persons. This is a city which has been highly modernized and made even more beutiful during the last years becoming an important tourist attraction.

Local swimming club Primorje celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, and these championships will be a great opportunity to take look back in its history as one of the best swimming clubs in this part of Europe, whose members have been World Record holders and Olympic medallists.

For all these reasons I am fully convinced that we will all be very satisfied with the celebration of the European short course Championships 2008 in Rijeka.

I look forward to seeing you there. Until then, my very best wishes to you all.

Goran Pavić
Croatian swimming federation president

RIJEKA,

a city and port in the Rijeka Bay, on the northern coast of the Kvarner Gulf, cutting deep into the mainland. Average temperature in January reaches 5°C, and in July 22.8°C. The annual rainfall is 1,600 mm; 2,120 hours of sunshine a year. Good connections with the hinterland, modern port facilities and strong naval and commercial tradition helped Rijeka to develop into Croatia's biggest port. It also represents an important European transit port.

Rijeka is a lively cultural and artistic centre, with a number of cultural and educational institutions and schools (several faculties). The main crossroads of the Adriatic tourist traffic, which flows from central Europe to the central and southern Adriatic. The airport "Rijeka" is located near Omisalj on the island of Krk.

The city of Rijeka is an important business, trade, industrial and cultural centre in the western part of the Republic of Croatia. It is located on the Adriatic, at a point where the sea has made its deepest incision into the European continent. Due to its natural and geo-political characteristics the area is ideally situated for harbour and shipping centre development. In addition to activities related to the sea, such as tourism, shipping industries, forwarding agencies, harbour activities and shipbuilding, Rijeka within its wide boundaries also boasts numerous other major industries; civil- mechanical-electro-engineering, oil and petrochemical, timber, pulp and paper industries all feature in Rijeka's business portfolio. However, the largest part of its economy is concentrated, apart from tourism, on export.

Being a coastal town Rijeka boasts a wide diversity of sporting activities. Aquatic sports include sailing regattas, internationally renowned spear fishing contests, sub-aqua sea fishing competitions, swimming and water polo. A mere 30 km from Rijeka the mountains offer opportunities for the hiking, mountaineering, hunting and coarse game fishing enthusiasts.

During the winter months the mountains are covered with snow and provide suitable slopes for the amateur and professional skier alike. The town itself has two professional football teams and numerous other sporting clubs; basketball, hockey, handball, tennis, badminton and the bocce.





How to reach us

If you come from Zagreb (the official airport)...

Driving through Grobničko polje you come to the plane where Mongols and Turks were passing in their ruthless attacks. Today here is the racing track that was taken into consideration for the competition in the racing of Formula 1. Through the canyon of the river Rječina and underneath the castle of Trsat you descend by the market route of the road Luiziana, named after the daughter of the Austrian emperor and the second wife of Napoleon Marie Louise and you come to Sušak, the eastern part of the city. Beyond you have the former "Paper factory" and on the other bank of the river of Rječina, water - spring Zvir, which never drains and recently got the cupola covering.

If you come from Trieste or Ljubljana...

Descending from Matulji towards the city you can see the whole Kvarner Bay, with the mountain UËka at the foot of which is situated Opatija, and islands Krk and Cres. You are partly driving on the former racing track on which the motor races for the "Great Adriatic Prize" were driven before "Grobnik Track" was constructed. With the straight road that follows the coast you arrive at the swimming pool of the "Swimming Club Primorje" next to which is the football stadium "Kantrida" where the "Football Club Rijeka" plays its matches. The stadium is very interesting because it was erected on the spot of excavation made for the constructing of the city port. Then, driving alongside the industrial units you can see the shipyard "3. maj" which developed from the shipyard "Ganz - Danubiuz", then you pass near a large petroleum refinery, the skyscraper of "Novi list", well known daily newspaper, the town park in Mlaka after which follows the hospital complex. The central of the complex is the former Maritime Military Academy, the institution where the Austrian and Hungarian officers were educated from 1866 till 1918. Then you arrive at the railway station and here, you are in the centre of the city of Rijeka.

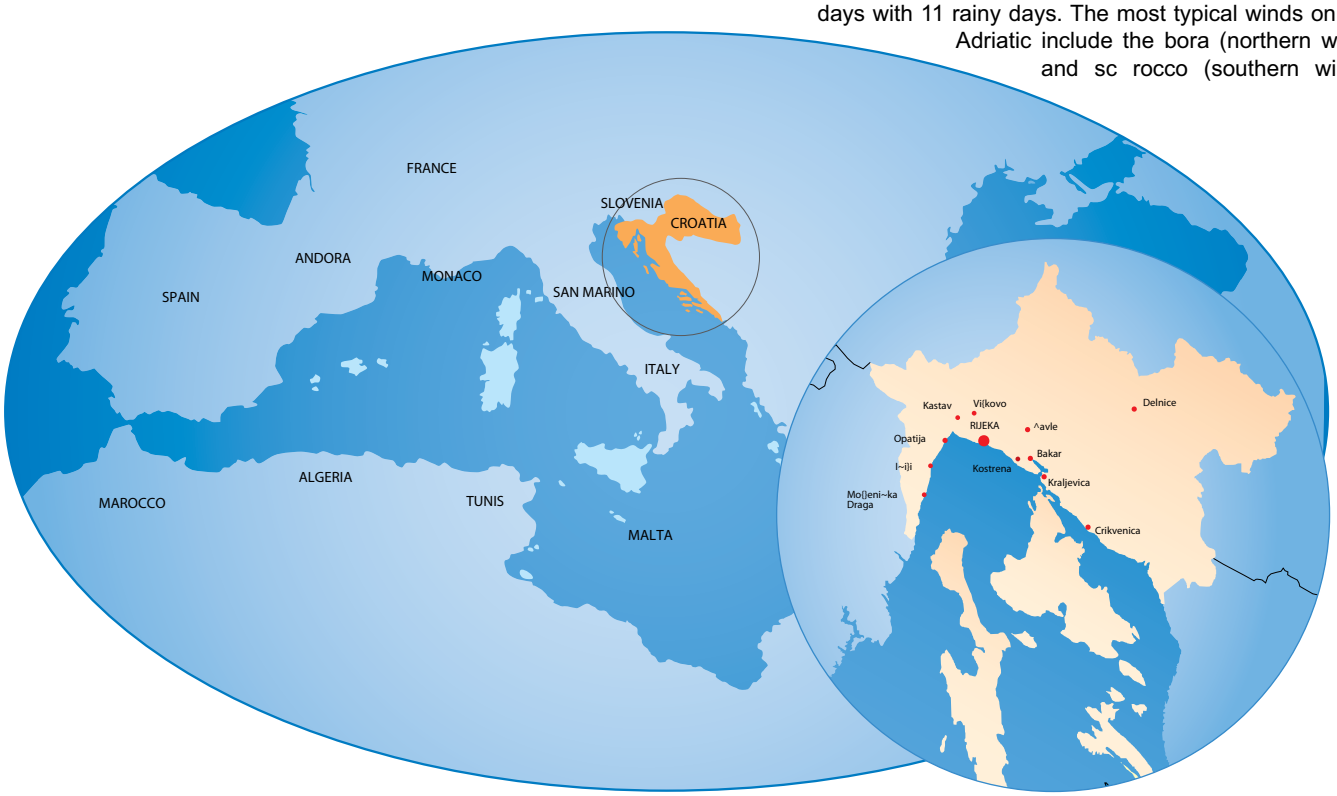
If you come from the sea...

It is really fascinating experience to come to Rijeka by the sea because it is the only way to understand its elongation and soft placed position alongside the coast. Sailing around almost two kilometers along breakwater, where there once was a secession bathing place, you enter the port basin built according to the ground plans of the French architect Pascal who designed the ports of Marseille and Trieste. After several rises and falls, today the port of Rijeka looks almost idyllic with lots of sailing and fishing boats which start from here their cruises in the Adriatic.



Climate

Rijeka is a town and a port in the Gulf of Rijeka on the northern coast of the Bay of Kvarner. It lies at 14° 26' east longitude and 45° 21' north latitude. Average annual temperature reaches 13.8°C. In May the average temperature is 13.5° C and in June 20.3°C. Average humidity during the year is 58%, while in May and June it reaches 64%. Total annual precipitation amounts to 1228 mm with a total of 86 rainy days. In May and June this value reaches 129 mm and 109 mm respectively. In December, when during the Championships takes place, average temperature is 6.9°C with precipitation amount of 155.9 mm and the number of sunny days are only 6 days with 11 rainy days. The most typical winds on the Adriatic include the bora (northern wind) and sc rocco (southern wind).



Tourist route

A sightseeing tour of the city's nucleus

- Municipal Palace / Stendarac - the city flagpole / Church of St. Jerome
- University Library (permanent exhibition of the Glagolitic script) / Museum of Modern Art Rijeka - Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art
- Governor's Palace - Maritime and Historical Museum of the Croatian Litoral
- City Museum
- Natural History Museum
- Palace of Justice
- St.Vitus' Church - Calvary - Kozala
- St.Sebastian's Church
- Ruins of the late-antiquity castrum
- Old Gateway "The Roman Arch"
- Palazzo Comunale - oldest Town Hall in Rijeka
- Church of the Assumption and the Leaning Tower
- The centre of Sušak - Trsat
- Croatian National Theatre "Ivan pl. Zajc"
- Main Market
- "Modello" Palace
- Orthodox Church of St. Nicholas
- City Tower

Security and logistics

Security

The City of Rijeka, together with Primorsko-Goranska County, covers an area of 3,582 sq. kilometres with a total population of more than 300,000. Taking into account the number of criminal offences, misdemeanours and even traffic offences, it is one of the safest areas in the Republic of Croatia. One of the most recent proofs of the high level of safety to be enjoyed in the City of Rijeka is the fact that Rijeka was the host of the third pastoral visit of the late Pope John Paul II, which took place in June 2003.

During the European Championships, all the necessary safety measures will be undertaken to guarantee an impeccable unfolding of the event, protecting all the athletes and other participants of the event.

In assuring the security of the European Championships, we will draw upon the experience gained in the organization of similar events.

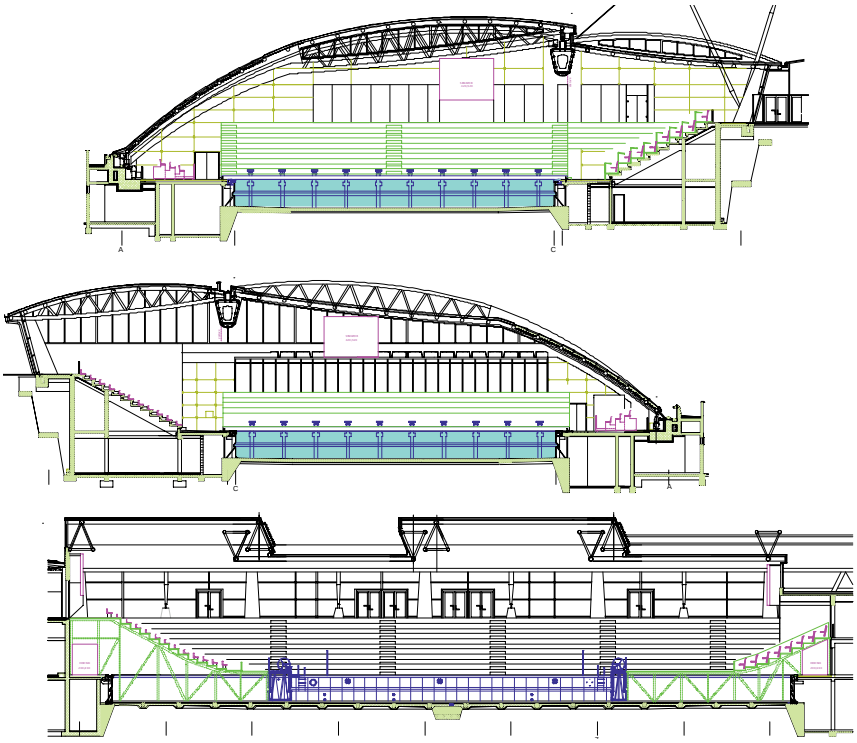
Logistics

The transportation of the athletes from their accommodation facilities to the swimming pool complex will be organized according to the local schedule, which will take into account all the needs of the accredited participants in the championship. Personal drivers and cars will be at the disposal of LEN family. For LEN family and Organization Committee members personal drivers and cars, as well as minibuses will be available. Buses and minibuses will be standing by to transport referees and their personnel to the swimming pool complex. Athletes, coaches and leaders of national teams will use buses. Transportation services will be free if accommodation is reserved through the organizing committee. The transfers from the official airport Zagreb are only provided to teams who book their accommodation via the organizing committee.



Competition venue

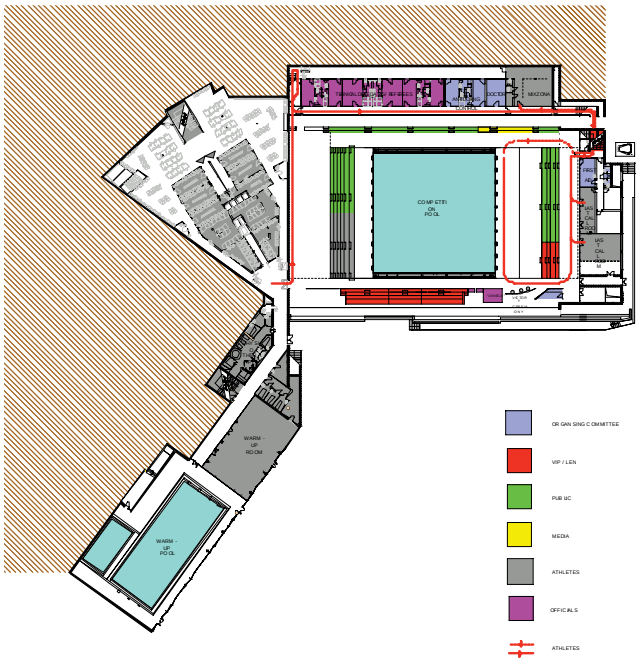
The Project of the new indoor pool was a base for developing and building a high class swimming centre, which is going to be one of the most sophisticated and advanced sports facilities in Rijeka and this part of Europe. This project will satisfy the needs of the local swimming club, and allow Rijeka to bid for organization of the biggest swimming events. This complex is the turning point of the local community, and the centre of the new urban re-development in the area. Local area surrounding the pool is connecting the coastline with the city, allowing the citizens to easily approach the beach, as well as integrating it into a green area, with the minimum effect on the ecology. The architecture follows the natural surroundings.



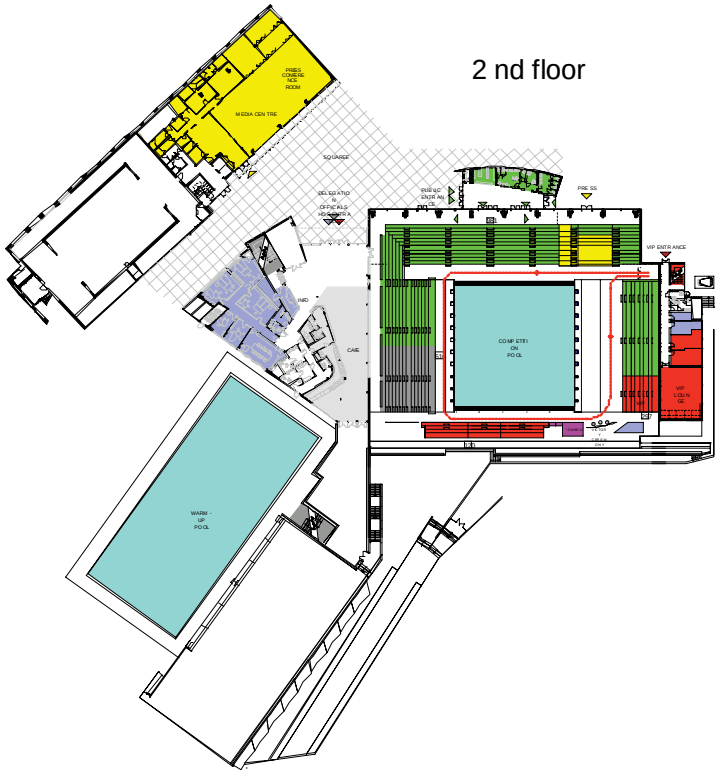
The new, indoor pool, with dimensions 53mx25m, has the capacity to host the biggest sports events, as well as for every day use for training and recreation. The maximum depth is 2.30m, and the minimum 2.10m. Two movable ends, one 1.20m wide, and the other 1.80m, allow us to maximize the use of the pool in different dimensions and different activities. Two fixed stands are located along the wider sides of the pool, with a total capacity of 1154. The north stand has a capacity of 924 (to be used by the spectators) and the opposite side has a capacity of 230 (to be used by the athletes and competitors). The outside wall at the larger stand is a glass wall, and it allows the interior to communicate with the outside area. Three out of four roof parts are movable and it allows the interior to communicate with exterior even more, while the terrace becomes a part of the inside area. At the east, the shorter side of the pool's finish line, a timing office and control room are located. The shape of the facility is meant to reduce the inside volume UP of the building, while keeping the minimum ceiling height of 7.5m for water polo competitions. Two main objectives were to be followed by the design: optimizing the costs of building and maintenance, and decreasing the effects on the natural resources of the surrounding area.

Smaller pool, dimensions 25x10m which is used by the competitors during the competitions in the main pool, for warm up, is located at the same level as the main pool, south of the competition pool. Alongside the smaller pool, a beginners' pool is located, dimensions 10x5m, with a maximum depth of 0.8m. Around the pool area there are going to be massage rooms, saunas, fitness rooms, and a beauty salon.

1 st floor



2 nd floor



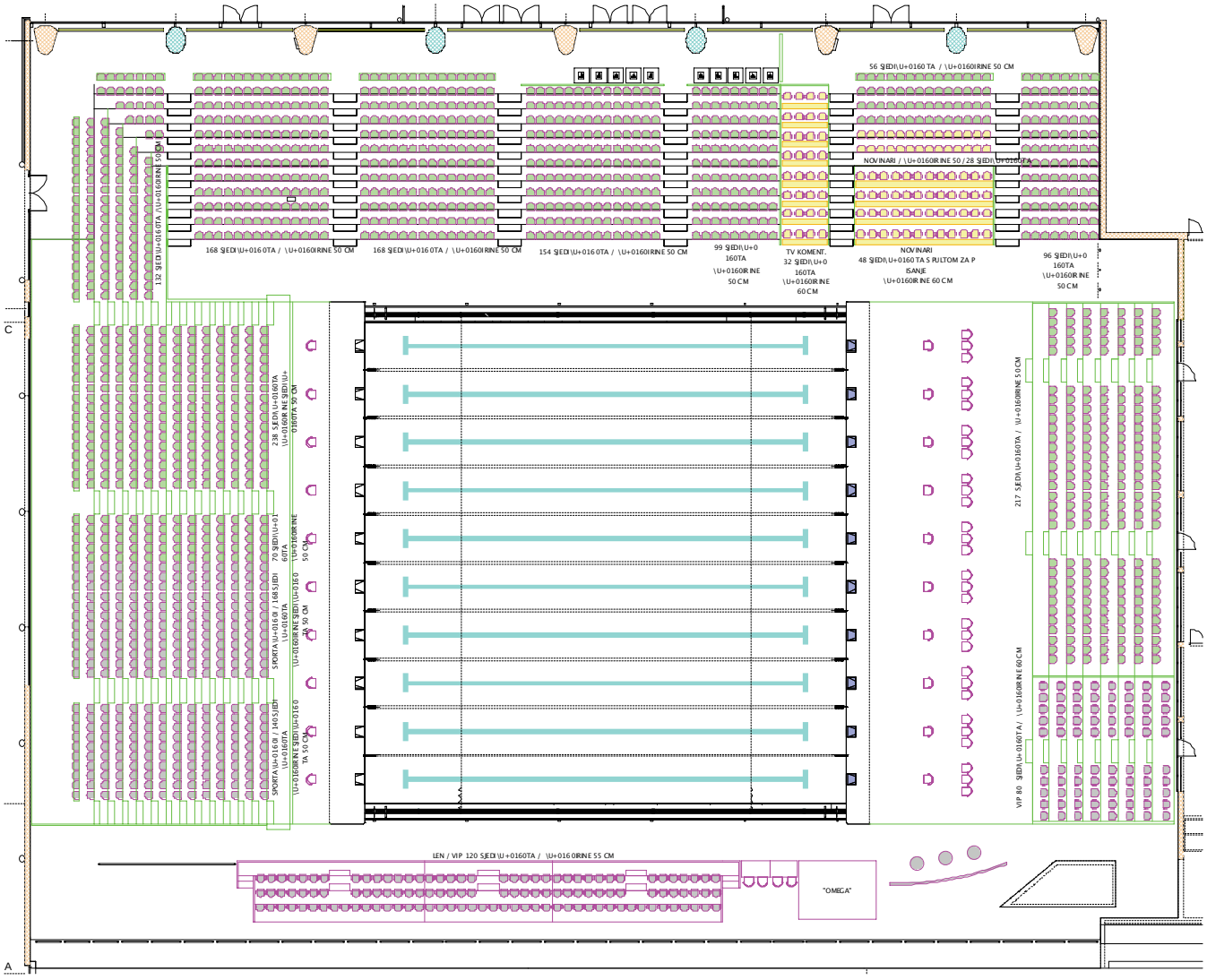
The swimming pool area and the surrounding rooms are located 8-10 meters above the sea level, and are approachable from the reception area one level above the pool deck. The reception is fully glassed so it allows plenty of natural light in, as well as a view of the indoor pool, along with the attractive part of Kvarner Bay. Stairways and elevators will connect these two areas, and connect the reception with the locker rooms, change rooms and sanitary node (junction). This area allows the switching between the wet and dry area, and actual entering to the pool deck area. There are plenty of spaces for various offices' use with the beautiful view of the entire bay area.



The project plans to build the manufactured pool shell from stainless steel, whose technology has 20 year guarantee. Such a construction has technical and functional qualities, of longevity, safety, and above all, it follows the FINA standards for competition pools. This system connects exclusive technology and the high quality of stainless steel to produce modular pool, with perfect aesthetics, tough and safe, and technologically advanced.

Two movable bulkheads are planned, so the pool area can be used for the various activities simultaneously. Bulkheads are made out of stainless steel. Specially designed polymer ends allow smooth connections between the vertical and horizontal panels. Two bulkheads are planned so that 25m competition pool can be set up at the middle of the pool, and the middle of the stands as well. The width planned is 1.20m and 1.80m. The wider bulkhead will be used for the starting blocks and seats for the officials and competitors.

Indoor swimming complex is projected so it organization of sporting events of the highest level, European and World Championships. Sliding roof allows the object to extend over the outside platform, producing more space for the stands to be put onto the pool deck, providing seats and room for all the spectators, athletes, officials, and such. By this method, we allow the every day use to be more economic and easily maintained, and yet have the large area for the competition days.



Rijeka's experience in organising major international competitions

The citizens of Rijeka - the youth in particular (there are 30,000 primary and secondary school and 15,000 university students in the city), have a good sports reason to be excited about. They are looking forward to the completion of a new swimming pool in Kantrida, building of a new sports hall in Zamet, plan to build a football stadium in Rujevica, plan to turn Preluka into a tourist-sports-recreational zone, renovation of the swimming pool in ŠkoljiÊ as well as the renovation of numerous school sports grounds. These projects will continue Rijeka's impressive sports history and provide the opportunity for further great sports results.



What is Rijeka's sports history? Playing organised sport in the city was recorded more than century and a half ago. Rijeka is the birthplace of Croatian mountain climbing. The first climb was organised here in 1852 when a group of local mountaineers headed for the nearby mountain UËka, eager to experience the view from its peaks at sunrise. That event had taken place five years before the first mountain-climbing society in the world was founded. Rijeka is also the birthplace of Croatian skiing. The credit for that goes to the oldest city sports club Club alpino fiumano, which was founded in January 1885 in order to organise hiking, mountain climbing and skiing activities. The first skiers from Rijeka also headed for Učka mountain. 1885 was the year in which The Rowing Society was founded as well. The Sailing Society was founded in 1887, The Cycling Society in 1897, The Gymnastics Society in 1906, The Swimming Society in 1908. Three swimmers from the Viktorija Swimming Club participated at the Olympic Games in Paris in 1924. The Club is still active today and is called Primorje. Miloš Milošević, world record holder and Duje Draganja, silver Olympic medallist, were some of the highly recognisable athletes and members of Primorje. Rijeka's boxer Ulderico Sergo was the Olympic bantamweight winner in Berlin in 1936. Sergo was also the triple European champion and won four Golden Gloves in fights throughout United States and Europe. Numerous Rijeka's athletes have achieved outstanding sports results in recent history as well, thus confirming the valuable sport tradition of the city by winning medals at the Olympic games, World and European Championships, Mediterranean Games and University Games. Rijeka's sports workers have, over the years, gained substantial experience in organising major international sporting events. The hearty cheering of Rijeka's sports fans at these events has always contributed to creating the atmosphere of a true spectacle. Displaying refined sports culture, they have always been able to take gracefully both the victories and defeats, especially since there is no one without the other, and when the line between the two is constantly growing thinner. Among major competitions held in Rijeka, the following should be mentioned:









Bowls
1995 Junior World Championship
1997 Senior World Championship
2006 Senior European Championship

Boxing
1999 Junior European Championship

Gymnastics
1986 Senior Balkan Games
1989 Junior Balkan Games

Handball
1987 Junior World Championship
2000 Men's Senior European Championship
2003 Women's Senior World Championship

Karate
2002 Mediterranean Championship
2004 European Championship

Motorcycling
World Championship Grand Prix (until 1990)

Sailing
1985 World Sailing Championship
1986 European Sailing Championship
2004 World Sailing Championship

Sky-diving
2004 World Championship in four disciplines

Swimming
1983 Balkan Games
2001 Synchronized Swimming Mediterranean Cup



Taekwondo
2003 European Championship

Tennis
2007 Challenger tournament

Volleyball
2001 World Cadet Championship

Water polo
2002 World League



Weight lifting
1997 Senior European Championship
2000 Men's and Women's Junior European Championship

Other
2002 Radio Sailing - World Championship
2004 Sport Games of Youth (Alps-Adriatic)

Sports workers who are included in the preparation of the 12th European championships in Swimming have substantial experience in organising the following major sporting events that took place in Croatia:

- Mediterranean Games, Split 1979
- University Games, Zagreb 1987
- European Basketball Championship, Zagreb 1989
- European Athletics Championship, Split 1990
- World Military Games, Zagreb 1999.

Accommodation

TEAM HOTELS



*** Three star hotels in Opatija: 85 — 105 €



**** Four star hotels in Opatija: 100 — 140 €



***** Five star hotel in Opatija: 110 — 170 €

These prices include full board, tourist tax (1 €), free use of the airport transportation, free use of the bus shuttle between swimming complex location and above mentioned hotels. Preliminary accommodation payment is on 15th of August and 50% deposit due is required.

MEDIA HOTELS



**** Four star hotels in Rijeka: 75 — 100 €

These prices include bed and breakfast, tourist tax (1€), free use of the airport transportation, free use of the bus shuttle between swimming complex location and above mentioned hotels. Preliminary accommodation payment is on 15th of August and 50% deposit due is required.

LEN HOTEL



***** HOTEL AMBASADOR in Opatija

Organising committee

Luciano Sušanj, Chairman
Veljko Karabaić, vice Chairman
Ivan Varvodić, vice Chairman
Željko Lukanović, vice Chairman
Tomislav Karlo, director
Henrik Grubiša, member
Igor Načinović, member
Zoran Mišković, member
Verica Mance, member
Tripo Grahovac, member
Goran Gašpert, member
Miloš Milošević, member
Josip Silov, member
Boris Traljić, member
Kristijan Sirotich, member
Slobodan Škalamera, member
Mihovil Dorčić, member
Boris Lešić, member
Ksenija Trninić, general secretary

Organising committee office

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Rijeka 08

Important information

Preliminary accommodation payment deadline is on 15th of August and 50% deposit due is required.

Official airport

for the championship is Zagreb airport.