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Introducing the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational

*Julia Galan
Meet Director
EU Swimming Invitational*

Mark your calendars; the 4th edition of the annual EU Swimming Invitational will take place on 17-18 October 2009 in the beautiful town of Aarschot, Belgium.

Aarschot, situated in the province of Flemish-Brabant in the northern part of the country, boasts a superb swimming facility. The competition will take place in Aarschot's 25-meter, 8-lane swimming pool, equipped with electronic timing and scoreboard, a second pool for general warmup purposes, and a sports hall where swimmers can rest and relax in between events. The sports hall and swimming pool will be equipped with wide-screen televisions projecting the heat and event currently being swum, so that swimmers and spectators alike may keep up-to-date on the competition.

Hosted by the Aarschotse Zwemclub Schoonhoven, this year's EU Swimming Invitational will allow swimmers aged 10 years and younger to swim during the afternoon session, and have the chance to experience the finals.

Medals will be awarded to the first three swimmers of each age group category for each final. This year, a very special cash prize, the Ascot Swimming Cup - Grand Prix Village Aarschot, will be awarded to the top three swimmers of each age group with the best individual FINA performances at the end of the competition.

In terms of special events, the traditional opening ceremonies will feature the parade of countries and the playing of the anthems. A farewell party with banquet will be held after the Sunday finals as part of the closing ceremonies.

For meet information, programme of events, lodging, and other details, please visit the website at www.euswim.org. Pre-entry forms, required for participation, are also available on the meet website.

If you have any questions about the competition, please email me at julia@euswim.org. I hope to see all of you in October! «

Team INSUBRIKA Strikes Gold, Breaks Records at Italian Championships

*Barbara Allaria
INSUBRIKA ASD, Gallarate (Italy)*

The INSUBRIKA swimming organization, based in northern Italy, achieved top-notch results at the recent Italian National Championships, held in Riccione.

Nicolò Ossola won the youth category final in the 100m breaststroke, turning in an age group national record with his time of 1:10.14. Nicolò also followed up with a 4th place finish in the A-final for the 50m breaststroke, swimming a time of 27.83.

On the ladies' side, Carla Venice turned in the second best all-time Italian performance in the 50m breaststroke with a time of 31.61.

INSUBRIKA is looking forward to the next age group National Championship series at the beginning of April. INSUBRIKA is also preparing for their annual international long-course competition, to take place on 2-3 May in Busto Arsizio. The meet attracts some of the top Italian and international swimmers, and will be one of the most important tests prior to the World Championships in Rome.

For more information, please visit <http://www.bustonuoto.com/index.htm>. «



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