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30 September 2009

Volume 2, Issue 4

The 2009 EU Swimming Invitational Approaches

*Julia Galan
Meet Director
EU Swimming Invitational*

It's October and the 4th edition of the EU Swimming Invitational is just around the corner. This year's competition, to be held in Aarschot, Belgium, will be hosted by the Aarschotse Zwemclub Schoonhoven. The competition will be bringing together more than 300 swimmers from 9 participating countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Great Britain, Ireland, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and the United States.

From the parade of countries, to fast competition, to the farewell party on Sunday night, the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational should be a spectacular event. I look forward to seeing you there!



Miskolc Unveils Spectacular New Swimming Complex

*Peter Lavotha
Club Laguna Miskolc
Miskolc, Hungary*

On October 5, the city of Miskolc, Hungary celebrated the grand opening of its new swimming complex. The stately new facility, a project several years in the making, consists of a 10-lane, 50x25 meter pool with moveable bulkhead, a separate pool for warmdown purposes, electronic timing and seating for up to 500 spectators.

The swimming complex will be the new home of Club Laguna Miskolc, who will begin their training in the pool on October 12. Club Laguna is a strong supporter of the EU Swimming Invitational, with several swimmers holding meet records. Club Laguna will participate in the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational in Aarschot.

Congratulations to Club Laguna Miskolc on their fantastic new swimming facility! «



Introducing the Universita Brno Swimming Club

*Jiri Povolny
Universita Brno Swimming Club
Brno, Czech Republic*

The Universita Brno Swimming Club was first established as a diving association in 1963. The competitive swimming group began in October 1972 and has steadily seen improvements under the guidance of Coach Jirí Povolný since then. Between 1983 to 1992, the teams has trained several Czech swimming champions, including a national record in the 50 freestyle, held by Jarmil Pronek.

Several of the club's greatest triumphs came in open water swimming. The first Czech open water champion established his mark in 1979. In 1989, Michal Špacek took the silver medal in the 25 kilometer race at the European Long Distance Swimming Championships in 1989. Yvetta Hlaváčová was the first Czech winner of marathon swimming in the World Cup and was also a member of bronze medal team in the World Championships held in Egypt. Yvetta also holds the women's world record for the English Channel race since 2006. That same year, David Cech also swam the English Channel and back. Cech also set a world record for the Gibraltar swim.

The club has achieved such spectacular results even despite very difficult training conditions. Since 2001, the club has received only a symbolic subsidy from the University and the hours of the swimming pool are extremely limited. Despite such obstacles, the swimmers of Universita Brno hold fast to their dreams and beliefs in the success of their club.



We look forward to seeing the club at the 2009 EU Swimming Invitational in Aarschot next week! «

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