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Beijing ready to host second Diving World Series leg

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National heroes and Olympic champions Shi Tingmao, Cao Yuan and British stars Thomas Daley and Jack Laugher will lead a total a group of 78 divers from 14 countries ready to compete at the second leg of the FINA/CNSG Diving World Series, from March 7-9.

The Beijing Water Cube is hosting this last major competition before it is transformed into the Ice Cube, the venue that will stage the Beijing 2022 Olympic Games curling competition.

FINA Best Women Diver of the Year consecutively since 2015 Shi Tingmao said during the pre-meet press conference:

"It is always great and sweet to compete in the Water Cube. I have a new partner, but long-time friend, Wang Han for the synchro event. Wang is excellent and skilful. I hope we can show our best in front of the home crowds."



Cao Yuan, who collected two golds in the synchro platform and synchro springboard as well as one silver medal in the individual 3m springboard in the first leg in Sagami-hara, Japan, said he will continue his momentum in Beijing.

"It is a big challenge to me to handle three events from springboard and platform. I need to find the balance in between," Cao said.

Thomas Daley was happy to come back to the Water Cube again:

"I took four months off with my family because I now have a son. It changed my perspective on a lot of things, including training and diving. For me being able to train and dive is all the more important now because I have someone that I want to make proud," said Daley who made a strong comeback last week in Japan as he finished second in the 10m platform with 579.85 points, just behind Chinese Yang Jian's 586.20.

"It was my first international competition since I am back from my break and it went pretty well last week. So I am looking forward to competing here in the Water Cube," Daley said.

Jack Laugher, 2016 Olympic gold medallist in the 3m synchro springboard, who had an operation on his ankle last year said:

"I had a difficult season last year, but I am getting ready this year. China is always one of my favourite legs and where I always did pretty well. I am really glad to be here," Laugher said.

According to Water Cube Director Yang Qiyong, it is the ninth edition of World Series and the last one before the venue makes its transition into the Ice Cube.

"I hope you will enjoy the top diving competition here and then we will turn the Water Cube into the Ice Cube for the Olympics Year in three years."



China swept all ten gold medals on offer at the first leg of the FINA/CNSG Diving World Series in Japan.

You are able to closely follow LIVE all the results of this meet on the FINA app, and all finals are live streamed on FINAtv.

