

December 2, 2015

## WPWL 2016: EUROPE'S BEST WP TEAMS ALREADY MAKING WAVES



With another thrilling year for international water polo in sight, world-class players and their national teams are already making waves in the European preliminaries of the FINA Men's Water Polo World League 2016.

Following the men's third round of the home-and-away games held on December 1, 2015, Greece, Serbia and Italy respectively lead Group A, B and C with 9 points each.

See [results](#) and press release [here](#)

A total 12 teams are taking part in the qualification phase for Europe, and the provisional rankings of the FINA Men's Water Polo World League is as follows:

**GROUP A:** GRE 9pts (3W); HUN 6 (2W, 1L); ROU 3 (1W, 2L); GEO 0 (3L)

**GROUP B:** SRB 9pts (3W); MNE 3 (1W, 1L)\*; ESP 3 (1W, 2L); FRA 0 (2L)\*

**GROUP C:** ITA 9pts (3W); CRO 6 (2W, 1L); RUS 3 (1W, 2L); TUR 0 (3L)

*\*the two teams didn't play the second round yet, the match has been postponed to March 2016.*

Round 4 on February 16, 2016 will see France facing current World and World League champions Serbia; Georgia will receive Hungary; 2012 Olympic silver medallists Italy will pit their strength against Russia on home soil and Spain will play Montenegro. Romania and Greece will face for the second time since the start of the season as will World silver medallists Croatia and Turkey. Cities where the games will be disputed will be announced early 2016.

In the women's field, the competition will resume on December 8 for the third round. So far, the Netherlands are leading Group A with 9 pts\*, while Russia is first in Group B with 6 points.

*\*the team had an anticipated third round game (NED 11 - ITA 10) on October 22.*

RESULTS AND RANKINGS ON FINA.ORG

## More development initiatives throughout Oct and Nov 2015



Throughout October and November this year, another six Clinics were held in five FINA member nations; St Lucia and Trinidad & Tobago, in the Caribbean, and Papua New Guinea in Oceania hosted Clinics for Swimming Coaches, while the Maldives, in the Indian Ocean, and Surinam (South America) welcomed Swimming Officials.

The St. Lucia Swimming Association organised a competitive swimming course for 17 coaches from September 20 – October 1, 2015. Specific areas such as biomechanics and hydrodynamic in swimming, in-water strokes techniques and workout assessment were part of the comprehensive 11-day programme during which the participants' level of engagement was really high and enjoyable. A modern facility, including a new 50m pool, is now available within the island's complex and will help develop a stronger competitive swimming environment for the youth in this region of the world.

Port of Spain, in Trinidad and Tobago, was also the host to a Swimming Coaches Clinic from November 11-15, 2015, bringing together 11 local participants under the leadership of Dave Farmer, FINA expert from Barbados. Farmer reported that taking the participant's various backgrounds into account, a very fruitful and positive atmosphere prevail throughout the course. Trinidad has a lasting tradition in swimming with many high quality swimmers, competing at the continental games as well as the Olympic Games training on the island. An additional ultra-modern Aquatic Centre is scheduled for completion within the end of the year.

Farmer commented: *"The future of aquatics in Trinidad appears to be on sound footing. The country's coaches are eager to learn and are receptive to new information. It is very important that a level of coach education be continued to ensure stability and replacement for years to come."*

From October 20-24 the Papua New Guinea Swimming Inc. organised a five-day Clinic in Port Moresby under the hat of FINA lecturer John Bladon. 37 coaches attended the course, aimed to educate the participants on how to deliver basic swimming squad sessions that develop the swimming technique of apprentice swimmers. The course outline was classroom theory sessions in the morning (strokes teaching progressions drills; simple biomechanics; training programs skill based; energy systems; training sets overview; race analysis) and practical pool sessions in the afternoon. The participants left the Clinic with a clear understanding of the importance of delivering educated, systematic programmes to their athletes and the importance of communicating in a proactive and positive manner for all to enjoy the sport.

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## Budapest to celebrate FINA stars in January 2016 !

FINA is pleased to confirm that the **FINA World Aquatics Gala and Awards Dinner "Soirée des Etoiles"** 2015 will be held in the end of January, 2016, in Budapest, Hungary.

The prestigious event was first held in Doha, Qatar, in December 2014 and is set to become an annual tradition for FINA as it wishes to pay tribute to the world's elite Aquatic athletes who provide enormous efforts throughout the year and shine at all FINA competitions.

The Magyar capital is the host of the FINA World Championships and FINA World Masters Championships 2017 to be held in July / August.

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