November 23, 2016

YANGZhou TO HOST SHOW OF ELEGANCE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

The 2017 edition of the prestigious annual FINA Synchro World Trophy will be organised in Yangzhou, China, from November 26-27.

For the first time Yangzhou plays host to the World Trophy, after two past very successful editions in China, with Beijing in 2014 and Shaoxing in 2015.

This weekend’s competition’s schedule unfolds as follows:

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Six of the world’s best teams will take part in the two-day event: China, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Russia and Ukraine.

China retained the overall title last year in Shaoxing on December 13, for the second consecutive year, sweeping four golds out of five up for grabs. China had collected 363.3333 points, beating Russia (349.5000) and Ukraine (347.8335).
Those same three teams will vie again for the title in Yangzhou, which promises a showcase of elegance, technical skill and rhythmed routines.

**Windsor ice hockey ring transformation has begun**

With just a week to go until the first teams and officials arrive, the WFCU Centre in Windsor (CAN) which will be the venue of the upcoming 13th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m), is in for a major transformation.

The WFCU, in normal time an ice hockey ring home to the Windsor Spitfires, is being totally transformed into a 25m pool, which will stage the six-day competition from December 6-11.

The transformation works have started right after the last hockey game of the local team and the ice has already been melted. Crews are putting the pool base in place and the arena will be very soon filled with water.

The first four or five rows of seating will also be removed to make way for the pool deck, representing a lot of work to be done in just about two weeks.

Windsor authorities trust that the entire job should be done by December 1.

**WATCH the evolution LIVE**

About a thousand athletes from 175 countries will be taking part in this biennial Swimming Championships, while the city will also welcome around 500 delegates for the 4th FINA World Aquatics Convention preceding the Championships on December 3-5.

**Best Athletes of 2016 to be announced in Windsor (CAN) on December 4**

The third edition of the FINA World Aquatics Gala and Award Dinner "Soirée des Etoiles", an evening fully dedicated to pay tribute to the aquatic stars of the year, will be held in Windsor, Canada, on Sunday December 4 in the Caesars Windsor Hotel overlooking the Detroit river.

The best athletes of the year, to be announced on December 4, have been chosen through a selection process which looks at the points collected at the most important FINA events and according to the athletes' respective ranking. In swimming, World Records points also count.

The announcement of the best athletes of the year will be taking place in conjunction of the FINA World Aquatics Convention (December 3-5).

FINA President Dr. Julio C. Maglione said: "It is going to be our great pleasure and honour to reward the greatest aquatic champions of 2016. The Gala Dinner and the Award ceremony are a way to recognise their on-going efforts and outstanding performances throughout the year. I look forward to an exciting end of the year in Windsor!"

The "Soirée des Etoiles" was first held in Doha, Qatar, in December 2014, following the FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) and the FINA World Aquatics Convention and was then staged in Budapest, Hungary, in January 2016 as a stand alone event.

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Fédération Internationale de Natation (FINA)

The Fédération Internationale de Natation, FINA (founded in 1908) is the governing body for aquatics worldwide. Its five disciplines - Swimming, Open Water Swimming, Diving, Water Polo and Synchronised Swimming - are all included in the Olympic programme. High Diving is on the World Championships programme since 2013. FINA organises World Championships, World Swimming Championships in 25m-pool and World Masters Championships every two years. FINA counts 207 affiliated National Federations on the five continents and has its headquarters in Lausanne (SUI).