



E-STARS TEAM SET FOR BRITISH GAS DUEL IN THE POOL WITH USA 25th November 2009

The combined forces of Great Britain, Italy and Germany will come together under the team name of E-Stars to go head-to-head with the might of the U.S. at the British Gas Duel in the Pool in Manchester next month.

E-Stars comprises 14 British, 14 Italian and eight German swimmers and will take on the world's number one swimming nation at the Manchester Aquatic Centre on 18th and 19th December.

The combined team will be lead by British Swimming Head Coach Dennis Pursley who believes it will be a "thrilling event".

"This is going to be an exciting encounter for everyone involved whether you're a swimmer, a coach or one of the thousands of spectators," said Pursley. "We've got a great opportunity to race many of the best athletes in the sport and all in our own backyard.

"I'm very much looking forward to presenting a strong challenge to the Americans with athletes from Britain, Italy and Germany in the first competition of it's kind in Europe."

"The format is made for a thrilling event. It's short and sweet with just one opportunity to get it right as the programme is made up of straight finals with no heats. It will be very exciting for spectators and I'm sure our team will feed off this."

Double Olympic Champion Becky Adlington believes the opportunity to see so many stars in action in Manchester should not to be missed.

"Following the success of the World Short Course last year, it's great that the British public will have another opportunity to watch a world class swimming event in Manchester next month," said Adlington.

'It's been an outstanding year for British Swimming with a best ever medal haul at the World Championships in Rome and it seems only fitting to finish the year on a high with some of the greatest swimming talent going head-to-head.

"To be able to watch the cream from Britain, Italy and Germany race the best of the United States, including the likes of Michael Phelps, is an amazing opportunity."

British Gas, principle partner of British Swimming, is the headline sponsor of the event, which provides a unique opportunity for fans to see the world's greatest swimmers going head-to-head for supremacy in the pool.

Both teams will include up to 18 men and 18 women with British Swimming, Germany and Italy sending a combined team for the short course (25m) meet.

-ends-

The British contingent comprises:

David Davies – British Gas ITC Loughborough

James Goddard – British Gas ITC Stockport
Thomas Haffield – City of Cardiff
Michael Rock – British Gas ITC Stockport
Liam Tancock – British Gas ITC Loughborough
Christopher Walker-Hebborn – British Gas ITC Bath
Robbie Renwick – City of Glasgow
Rebecca Adlington – Nova Centurion
Francesca Halsall – British Gas ITC Loughborough
Joanne Jackson – British Gas ITC Loughborough
Hannah Miley – Garioch
Elizabeth Simmonds – British Gas ITC Loughborough
Gemma Spofforth – Portsmouth Northsea/University of Florida
Caitlin McClatchey – British Gas ITC Loughborough

The Italian contingent comprises:

Fedrico Colbertaldo - GS Fiamme Azzurre / Montebelluna Nuoto
Christian Galenda - Fiamme Gialle / Canottieri Aniene
Edoardo Giorgetti - Canottieri Aniene
Filippo Magnini - Larus Nuoto
Luca Marin - Ispra Nuoto
Joseph Davide Natullo - Can Napoli
Fabio Scozzoli - Imolanuotoromagna - GS Esercito
Ilaria Bianchi - Imolanuoto Asd
Chiara Boggiatto - Nuoto Livorno
Alessia Filippi - Aurelia Nuoto
Caterina Giacchetti - Canottieri Aniene
Federica Pellegrini - Canottieri Aniene
Ilaria Scarcella - Nuotatori Rivarolesi
Francesca Segat - Fiamme Gialle / Ispra Nuoto

The German contingent comprises:

Steffen Deibler - TG Biberach
Hendrik Feldwehr - SG Essen
Marco Koch - DSW 12 Darmstadt
Benjamin Starke - SG Neukölln
Annika Melhorn - SG ACT/Baunatal
Caroline Ruhnau - SG Essen
Daniela Schreiber - SV Halle
Daniela Samulski - SG Essen

For further details contact Dave Richards, British Swimming Media Manager, on 01509 632237, 0778 992 6136 or email dave.richards@swimming.org

For programme information visit www.duelinthepool.com

About British Swimming

British Swimming is the National Governing Body for Swimming, Diving, Synchronised Swimming, Water Polo and Open Water in Great Britain. It is responsible internationally for the high performance representation of the sport. The members of British Swimming are the three Home Countries national governing bodies of England (ASA), Scotland (Scottish ASA) and Wales. (Welsh ASA) British Swimming seeks to enable its athletes to achieve gold medal success at the Olympics, Paralympics, World Championships and Commonwealth Games.

About British Gas

The nation's leading energy supplier, British Gas is the Principal Partner of British Swimming, supporting the sport at all levels: 'From paddling pool to podium'. Since March British Gas has been driving shared objectives with British Swimming to get more people swimming regularly through Swimfit and Learn to Swim. Recently British Gas launched a high profile campaign

with Rebecca Adlington to give a free swim to all of its customers. British Gas also wants to ensure local pools stay open and stay at the heart of the community. In areas of 'aquatic deprivation' British Gas is helping Pools 4 Schools to bring swimming to urban communities. For more information visit www.britishgas.co.uk/swimming

About Speedo®

The world's leading swimwear brand, Speedo® is passionate about life in and around the water, creating revolutionary new technologies, designs and innovations. Supporting swimming from grass-roots through to elite level, including the phenomenal Michael Phelps, Speedo® is owned by Speedo Holdings B.V and distributed in over 170 countries around the world; SPEEDO, the ARROW device, FASTSKIN, LZR PULSE, SPEEDO ENDURANCE, FLIPTURNS, FASTSKINFSII, SPEEDO BIOFUSE, SWYM and LZR RACER are registered trademarks of Speedo Holdings B.V. The LZR RACER suit has worldwide design rights and patents pending.

About Manchester City Council

As host of the British Gas Duel in the Pool, Manchester continues to strengthen its impressive reputation for successfully hosting major international sports events, recognised when the City was awarded the SportBusiness Sports City 'Gold' Award in 2008. This year has seen no let up with the staging of innovative events such as the City Games, that brought the phenomenal Usain Bolt to the streets of Manchester, Skyride, that opening up the City Centre roads for a mass participation cycling experience and most recently the World Netball Series that showcased a fast and exciting version of the sport to packed galleries at the MEN Arena. Whilst the City recognises the profile and economic benefits that these events bring, its excellent range of accessible sports venues and facilities, combined with its school and community sports development programmes ensure that residents see real legacy benefits.

Daktronics - Official Pool Timing Systems

Daktronics is a worldwide leader in LED scoreboard displays and timing systems, with reference sites all over the world. Daktronics specialize in providing affordable scoring solutions to elite venues, local authorities, clubs, schools and colleges with a product for every budget. Daktronics offer a full turnkey solution to include, project management, design, manufacture, installation and service with all product fully warranted. With The recent introduction of the GPR and SSL even more variety is now available to our customers. What was once considered too expensive and complicated, Video, live and recorded is now been regularly seen in Swimming pools across the UK, thanks to Daktronics. www.daktronics.co.uk

