



NEWS RELEASE

Plunge into the action with the 10th FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup 2016 presented by Yakult

- **Marquee international swimming event to inspire local swimming community**
 - **Sees record number of participants from Singapore**

SINGAPORE, 19 September 2016 – The FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup 2016 presented by Yakult will be back in Singapore from 21st to 22nd October 2016 at the OCBC Aquatic Centre, marking its 10th year in Singapore. It will be the first stop in the Asian cluster of the competition.

With the elite two-day swim meet, people in Singapore will witness some of the world's best swimmers including recently crowned Olympic medalists, and swim their hearts out alongside Singapore's very own athletes.

Plunging into the action with the world's best

As the first city in the Asian leg of the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup competition, Singapore will play host to some of the world's champion swimmers, fresh off their Olympic conquests this year.

Most notably, three-time Olympic gold medalist and world record holder, the 'Iron Lady', Katinka Hosszú, who has been a regular at the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup in Singapore since her debut here in 2012 will be participating in the swim meet this year. Last year at the 9th edition of the competition, Katinka emerged as the Singapore Asian cluster champion, finishing with two Gold, one Silver and two bronze medals.

Fans can also expect to see the recent Olympic medalists like Australia's Kyle Chalmers and Mitch Larkin, Japan's Masato Sakai and Daiya Seto, South Africa's Chad Le Clos and Cameron Van Der Burgh and of course some of Singapore's very best swimmers compete at the 10th edition of the competition. With more international and local swimmers expected to confirm their attendance in the coming weeks, fans can expect a gathering of more than 20 Olympic and World Championship medalists in this year's World Cup – the highest number recorded in the last 6 years since 2010.

Noting the significance of the 10th anniversary of the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup, Joscelin Yeo, Vice President (Swimming), Singapore Swimming Association and previously one of Singapore's most bemedalled swimming athletes, believes that the competition has been crucial in helping develop the sport in Singapore, benefitting the local aquatic community and bringing the best sporting action to the people.

"In celebrating a decade of the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup in Singapore, it is indeed a true testament to Singapore as the regional hub for aquatics in the region. Over the past 10 years, our local swimming fraternity of athletes, coaches and officials have had the opportunity to work and swim with the world's best. This has not only inspired generations of swimmers but has benefited the wider aquatic



community in Singapore, with our coaches and officials also having an opportunity to learn from the world's best."

"Such competitions are critical to the development of the sport and having it in Singapore provides an opportunity for Singapore to come together to witness world class sporting action and cheer on our Team Singapore athletes," said Joscelin Yeo.

Donning red and white to represent the nation, Team Singapore is expected to send a contingent of 40 national swimmers. In this edition of the World Cup, the competition is open to an additional 160 Singaporean club swimmers to encourage development of the sport at a local level using an international exposure as a platform.

"Having the opportunity to host some of the world's best athletes, coaches and officials, will also give us the platform to exchange best practices and learn from our visiting guests. For our young swimmers, we're able to give them an opportunity to spar and learn from Olympic medalists and they too, have a chance to swim and compete in front of a home crowd. For our coaches and officials, the competition also presents a very valuable experience to network and to learn from the international swimming fraternity. These opportunities go a long way in building the sport and helping us achieve our vision of a world class aquatics nation," added Joscelin Yeo.

Experience swimming in a world-class setting

As with the earlier editions of the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup, aspiring young swimmers and fans can look forward to many exciting activities and initiatives, such as a meet and greet with the star swimmers or local swimming clinics for coaches and athletes.

The third edition of the Yakult Relay Challenge will also take place this year as part of the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup 2016 presented by Yakult, introducing a category for corporate participation for the first time. The relay challenge serves as a platform for non-competitive swimmers and families to compete in a world-class setting at the OCBC Arena. Participants can join the Family, Schools, Master, Open and Corporate categories for the 4x25m relay competition and stand a chance to win attractive cash prizes.

Tickets to the FINA/airweave Swimming World Cup 2016 presented by Yakult will be available for purchase on www.sportshubtix.com come 21 September 2016. Tickets will also be available at the Singapore Indoor Stadium Box Office and all SingPost Outlets.

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ABOUT FINA/AIRWEAVE SWIMMING WORLD CUP 2016

Launched in 1979, the FINA Swimming World Cup gathers world-class swimmers in a series of two-day meets organised between August and November each year. Across nine locations, the 25m short course circuit is structured in clusters (Middle East, Europe and Asia) and distributes a total of prize money reaching US\$ 2 million. From 2015-2017, airweave will be the Title Sponsor of the World Cup.

ABOUT SINGAPORE SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

The Singapore Swimming Association (SSA) is the National Sports Association governing aquatic sports in Singapore. These include five key disciplines – diving, open water swimming, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo. As the national governing body, SSA spearheads its vision of developing the Republic to become a leader in aquatic sports – regionally as well as globally. Closer to home, SSA collaborates with various affiliate clubs and stakeholders, to proactively nurture a greater depth of local talent through various outreach efforts and programmes.

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