

PEATY SETS NEW WORLD RECORD AMID MORE ARENA SUCCESS

22 AUGUST 2014

Adam Peaty set a new world record of 26.62secs in the 50m breaststroke at the European Championships in Berlin as the Arena swimmer found himself on top of the world.

The 19-year-old took 0.05secs off the world record held for five years by Cameron van der Burgh – another Arena swimmer – who had set the previous mark at the 2009 World Championships.

Peaty though has to win the final tomorrow if he is to add another title to the two golds he has collected already in Germany in the 100m breaststroke and mixed medley relay in which the Great Britain team also set a world record.

On that front, Gregorio Paltrinieri and Gabriele Detti replicated their first and third places from the 1500m freestyle in the 800m while Sarah Sjöström was second in the 100m butterfly making it three golds and two silvers for the Swede overall.

Peaty glided into the wall rather than nailing his finish before hoisting himself on to the lane rope and blinking in amazement while trying to absorb the information on the scoreboard.

He said: "I feel absolutely amazing. I had to look at that scoreboard about five times before I knew I had broken it.

"I haven't got any words for it. I haven't broken a world record before so I don't know how it feels.

"Hopefully it will sink in by tomorrow so I can get my head down and hopefully get a better performance out of myself."

Paltrinieri led from start to finish to add the 800m freestyle title to the 1500.

The Italian finished in 7:44.98, a championship record, 3.51 ahead of Pal Joensen with European record holder Detti claiming his second bronze of the week in 7:49.35.

Paltrinieri said: "I swam fast again and I won another medal. Today I was so tired but I won the gold medal. There is more and more - it is so good. 7:44 is not my best time but I was tired.

"During this race I was feeling in so much pain after the 1500 and I was really looking forward

to touching the wall.

“It’s so strange that I train 365 days a year and then I am feeling stressed for 800m.

“But I am so happy. After these championships I am going to Lisbon with my childhood friend.”

Sjostrom lost out in the 100m butterfly by 0.01secs to Denmark’s Jeanette Ottesen.

The Swede had already won the 50m butterfly and 100m freestyle as well as relay silver and gold.

Ottesen went out fast and despite the striving of Sjostrom, she was edged out by the narrowest of margins. She said little afterwards other than “tight race.”

Luca Dotto was fifth in the 100m freestyle in 48.58 although he swam the lead-off leg as the Arena-backed Italy team topped the podium in the mixed 4x100m freestyle relay in a new European record of 3:25.02.

Konrad Czerniak is fastest into the 100m butterfly final with Pawel Korzeniowski also safely through. Laszlo Cseh also progressed although it took a swim-off to secure the eighth and final place.

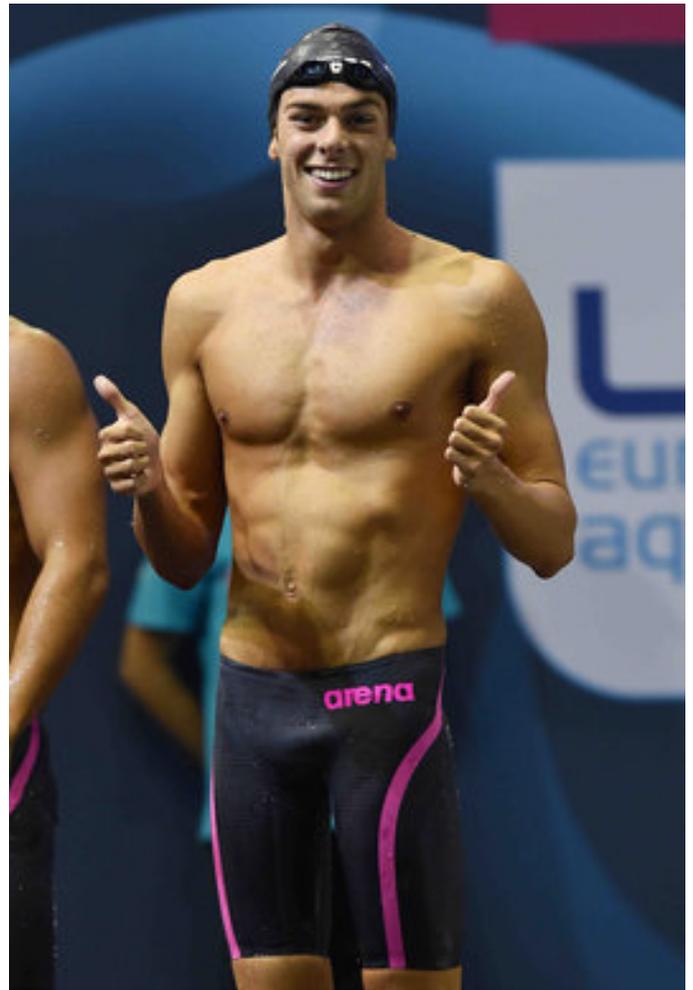
Radoslaw Kawecki heads the field into the men’s 200m backstroke.

Katinka Hosszu is third fastest into the 200m freestyle with Charlotte Bonnet also through while Mie Nielsen leads the way in the 50m backstroke with Fran Halsall also making it through.



IMAGES





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