

ISEC/14/86

4 November 1986

EMBARGO: 12.00 GMT THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 1986

The First European Community Club Team
Swimming Championships

Leeds 11 - 12 April 1987

Clubs from the twelve member states of the European Community will compete in the European Club Team Swimming Championships which will be held in Leeds next April.

The Competition will be open to teams from the champion club for men and women in each member state. Twenty four teams will be competing, each consisting of 12 swimmers, making 288 sportsmen and women in all.

The European Community flag, twelve golden stars on a blue background, will be flown at this event, and the new Community anthem, Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy' will be played.

The Commission is contributing 130,000 ECU (c.£93,000*) to this event and this sum will include prizes for the clubs of 1400 ECU (1st) 700 ECU (2nd) and 350 ECU (3rd) in both the men and women's events.

The programme of events will be organised by the British Amateur Swimming Federation and will be as follows:

First Day - Heats

1. Women: 800 m Freestyle
2. Men: 100 m Butterfly
3. Women: 50 m Butterfly
4. Men: 100 m Breaststroke
5. Women: 50 m Breaststroke
6. Men: 100 m Freestyle
7. Women: 50 m Freestyle
8. Men: 100 m Backstroke
9. Women: 50 m Backstroke
10. Men: 400 m Freestyle
11. Women: 200 m Individual Medley
12. Men: 4 x 50 m Freestyle Relay
13. Women: 4 x 50 m Medley Relay

Finals to be held during the evening sessions.

Second Day - Heats

1. Men: 1500 m Freestyle
2. Women: 100 m Butterfly
3. Men: 50 m Butterfly
4. Women: 100 m Breaststroke
5. Men: 50 m Breaststroke
6. Women: 100 m Freestyle
7. Men: 50 m Freestyle
8. Women: 100 m Backstroke
9. Men: 50 m Backstroke
10. Women: 400 m Freestyle
11. Men: 200 m Individual Medley
12. Women: 4 x 50 m Freestyle Relay
13. Men: 4 x 50 m Medley Relay

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* 1 ECU = £ 0.714492 3.11.86

The whole idea of the Community's involvement in sport goes back to the European Council (or Summit) held at Fontainbleau in July 1984, reaffirm in Milan in July 1985, on the basis of the report "A People's Europe".

Obviously the Community has no intention of being involved in sport as a matter of course. However, the Community would like to encourage member states to organise sporting events at the Community level and even see European Community teams created for certain large international competitions.

In addition, the Community would like to see sportsmen wear a Community emblem alongside their national colours, promote a system of sporting exchanges amongst athletes and trainers, encourage sport amongst the handicapped and other disadvantaged groups, work for sporting links alongside existing twinning arrangements and help to fight against violence at sporting events.

Up to now the Community has agreed to support the following events:-

- Round-Europe Yacht Race - July/August 1985
- The "Tour de l'Avenir" - a cross-Europe cycle race - September 1986
- European Community tennis championships - Antwerp, November 1986
- European Club Swimming Championships - Leeds 11/12 April 1987
- Transatlantic Yacht Race, May/July 1987. (To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome and the 200th anniversary of the American Constituti
