**Race Report SwimRun Cote d’ Azur 2024**

The glamorous Côte d'Azur showcased its splendor once again this weekend, with pleasant water and air temperatures, along with calm waters, providing excellent conditions to fully enjoy the race.

The SwimRun Côte d’Azur team, led by Christoph, Gregory, and Jeff, along with their many dedicated volunteers, created a unique atmosphere in the race village and along the courses. On the day before the race, participants picked up their race packets and engaged in plenty of small talk to build excitement. With around 750 competitors, this event set a new record, making it the premier race on the Côte d'Azur, boasting over 150 more starters than the previous year.

**At 8 AM, the Long Distance** race kicked off, covering 30 km. The atmosphere was as vibrant as ever, with nearly 200 starters entering the water at the first water entry point, greeted by the rising sun, creating fantastic photo opportunities for spectators. The excitement of the race was palpable, especially with world champion Matthieu Pouillain teaming up with Florian Schäfer, alongside fast competitors Rémi André and Thomas Deffains, who are also multiple World Series podium athletes. Ultimately, Rémi and Thomas triumphed with a time of 3:04:43, just seconds ahead of Matthieu and Thomas. Both teams finished five minutes under the previous course record set by world champion Max Andersson last year.

**The Half Distance** race started at 8:45 AM, attracting the largest number of participants and many familiar faces, while the final Sprint race began at 9:30 AM

**My SwimRun World Championships Sprint.**

* This course was short but fast, consisting of only 8 km, including 2 km of swimming. World-class teams were in attendance, with the clear favorites from Kebab League, Arnaud de Lustrac and Jereme Gueguen, taking the lead, as did their mixed team counterparts Melisande Muller and Pierre de Lustrac. In the women's category, Oana Cretier and Perrine Masselin proved unbeatable
* Spanish **solo winner** Unai Nieto matched the entire distance against the Kebab League teams, securing the championship title decisively. The women’s title was fiercely contested among three competitors, with Elise Sacchieri ultimately emerging victorious.

In our series, we also differentiate **a Masters category**, defined by a combined age over 90.

* The strong team Envol, featuring Eric Mackoviak and Pierrick Soler, claimed victory in this category. The mixed title went to the well-known UK team of Sarah Richardson and Richard Stannard. The women’s title was awarded to Caroline Bocquet and Alda Maziani.
* The solo Masters titles were claimed by Holger Ziehe from Germany, while Laurinane Marin narrowly defeated duathlon world champion Anne Gautier in the women’s category.

This event is renowned for its vibrant atmosphere, with numerous volunteers contributing to the fun and lively setting. The stunning villas along the course, surrounded by Mediterranean palms and cactus landscapes, provided a delightful backdrop for both athletes and spectators.

Athletes were welcomed at the finish line with a generous buffet of food and drinks, along with plenty of goodies. Following the World Championships Sprint in 2024, the World Championships Marathon has also been awarded to SwimRun Côte d’Azur, ensuring many participants will return for the longer distance.

Many competitors, especially those from abroad, took advantage of the warm autumn weather on the Côte d'Azur to extend their stay, making the journey worthwhile in more ways than one.

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