

European Diving Championships 2017, Kiev (UKR) – Day 6, Summary

What a difference 0.75 points can make

Kiev (LEN) – It could hardly be more exciting. Only 0.75 points decided between gold and silver in the men’s 3m synchro event at the 2017 European Diving Championships in Kiev on the penultimate competition day. With a world-class performance and 427.71 points to their credit Russia’s Evgenii Kuznetsov and Ilia Zakharov captured gold and their sixth European title in this event. Local heroes Illya Kvasha and Oleg Kolodiy (426.96 points) earned silver, while Britain’s Frederick Woodward and James Heatly (395.61) snatched the bronze medal with their last dive, ahead of Germany’s Patrick Hausding and Stephan Feck who finished only 2.22 points (393.39) behind. In the women’s 1m Italian Elena Bertocchi followed compatriot ‘Diving Queen’ Tania Cagnotto and grabbed the gold with 282.80 points. Russia’s Nadezhda Bazhina came second (277.35 points), a surprising bronze went to Louisa Stawczynski from Germany (271.80 points).

“As we expected, the Ukrainians were really tough opponents today,” Evgenii Kuznetsov said. “We have noticed only in the very last moment that we are less than one point ahead in the final account. We can be satisfied with our performance.”

Although it was the first medal earned together by Illya Kvasha and Oleg Kolodiy in a synchro event, Kvasha was at least “a little bit disappointed” with the second place. “The Russians were very strong today. Our third dive was not quite successful, but we have to consider that it was only our first competition together” he said.

The medallists received their awards from Kiev mayor Vitalii Klichko, the former boxing world champion followed the competition on site, in the company of several hundred fans in the Sports Centre LIKO who filled the stands entirely.

“That’s definitely great,” gold medallist Elena Bertocchi said after winning the 1m event. “My goal was to win a medal here in Kiev. Now I’ve got two gold out of two competitions.” Russia’s Nadezhda Bazhina was also delighted with her performance. “My dives today were stable and after winning the 3m title at the 2010 Europeans in Budapest I can go back to the city with a positive attitude regarding the World Championships next month.”

Germany’s Louisa Stawczynski was just happy with her first European medal after a “nerve-racking competition”. She added, “I’m always nervous before

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the competition, but today it was very bad. My goal was a 6th place as in the previous year. I clearly exceeded this goal.”

Medal table (after 11 of 13 competitions)

Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
Ukraine	3	4	3	10
Great Britain	3	0	2	5
Russia	2	5	2	9
Italy	2	0	1	3
France	1	0	1	2
Germany	0	1	2	3
Switzerland	0	1	0	1
	11	11	11	33

Day 7 will face new champions in the women’s 3m synchro and a tough battle for the men’s platform crown

Eight-time winners Tania Cagnotto and Francesca Dallapè have ended their careers, so new champions will be crowned in the Women’s 3m Synchro. Russia’s Bazhina and Kristina Ilinykh will fight for the title, same goes for Great Britain’s Grace Reid and Katherine Torrance as well as Germany’s Tina Punzel with new partner Friederike Freyer. The Men’s platform event offers the last chance for a medal for the hosts with Maksym Dolgov as one of the top contenders. But of course, Dolgov has to face tough opponents like Russia’s Viktor Minibaev and Roman Izmailov.

For more details, results and free live streaming, visit www.len.eu

REMAINING SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 18, 2017

10.00 hrs 10m Platform Men – Preliminary
 16.30 hrs **Synchronised 3m Women – Final**
 18.00 hrs **10m Platform Men – Final**

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