

**ARE YOU READY FOR THE GAMES? LUXEMBOURG 2013**

15<sup>th</sup> games of the small states of Europe



27<sup>th</sup> May - 1<sup>st</sup> June  
www.luxembourg2013.lu

# GSSE NEWS

The Official Newspaper of the Games of the Small States of Europe in Luxembourg 2013

### Medal Table GSSE 2013

	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
LUX	9	8	10	27
ISL	7	10	8	25
CYP	6	3	4	13
MNE	5	0	0	5
LIE	3	6	3	12
MON	2	4	2	8
SMA	1	2	0	3
AND	1	1	1	3
w	0	0	7	7

**Sport Program**

Complete Sport Program

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**Culture**

Sports meets Culture

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**Weather Forecast**

Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May max. / min.

Cloudy 12° / 8°

Wind 25km/h 230° SO

## First medals awarded



Monaco started the "gold rush" of the GSSE 2013, in climbing twice on the top step of the podium in men gymnastics, in individual and team competitions.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Gold Medal for Luxembourg



Judo offered the first 2 Gold medals for the Luxembourg delegation.

The first of them was won unexpectedly by the youngster Taylor King (-63 kg) after she had 4 consecutive victories (2 by "shido", 1 by a golden score and 1 by "yuko" Her toughest opponents were Laura Salles ( Andorra) and Marcon Bezzina ( Malta).

The second Gold went , as was expected, to Marie Muller ( -52 kg).

### Double Gold for Jean-Francois Schneiders

The everlasting rivalry in Swimming between Iceland and Luxembourg ended in a draw with each country winning 3 Gold Medals on the first day of competition. Liechtenstein won the other 2 Gold Medals thanks to their specialists in butterfly .

Other great performance of the day were the 2 victories of Jean-François Schneiders (Luxembourg) in backstroke and in crawl. The latter was a Meet – Record. Julie Meynen with her victory in crawl set a new national record.



**Partenaires Or**



**Partenaires Institutionnels**



**Partenaires Argent**



**Partenaires Bronze**



## Yesterday's Gold medals

### ATHLETICS, MEN

100 m: Christos Chatziangelidis (CYP), 800 m: Amine Khadiri (CYP), 5000 m (m) : Pol Mellina (LUX), Pole Vault : Nikandros Stylianou (CYP), Shot Put: Danijel Furtula (MNE)

### Athletics, Women

100 m: Anne Ramona Papaioannou (CYP), 800 m: Anita Hinriksdottir (ISL), 10 000 m: Sladana Perunovic (MNE), Long Jump: Nektaria Panayi (CYP), Javelin throw: Asdis Hjalmsdottir (ISL)

### Swimming, Men

100 m Freestyle : Jean-François Schneiders (LUX), 200 m Backstroke: Jean-François Schneiders (LUX), 200 m Butterfly: Christophe Meier (LIE), 200 m Individual Medley: A. Sveinn McKee (ISL)

### Swimming, Women

100 m Freestyle: Julie Meinen (LUX), 200 m Backstroke: Eyglo Gustafsdottir (ISL), 200 m Butterfly: Julia Hassler (LIE), 200 m Individual Medley: Hrafnhildur Luthersdottir (ISL)

### Judo, Men

-60 kg: Irodotos Kelpis (CYP), -66 kg Nikola Gusic (MNE), -73 kg Daniel Garcia Gonzales (AND), -81 kg Srdjan Mrvaljevic (MNE), -90 kg Denis Leider (LUX), -100 kg Karim Gharbi (SMR)

### Judo, Women

-52 kg Marie Muller (LUX), -57 kg Tanja Bozovic (MNE), -63 kg Taylor King (LUX), -70 kg Lynn Mossong (LUX)

### Cycling

Time Trial Men: Stefan Küng (LIE), Time Trial Women: Christine Majerus (LUX), Gymnastics

MAG Individuals Julien Gobaux (MON), MAG Team: Monaco

## Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May Sports Program

**BASKETBALL, 16.00:** Malta-Iceland (W), **18.15:** Cyprus-Andorra (M), **20.30:** Luxembourg-Island (M)

**BEACHVOLLEYBALL, 13.00:** Cyprus-Malta (W), **14.00:** Andorra-Liechtenstein (W), **15.00:** Iceland-Cyprus (M), **16.00:** Monaco-Luxembourg (M), **17.00:** Luxembourg-Iceland (W), **18.00:** Liechtenstein-Andorra (M)

**SHOOTING, 10.00:** Trap (W/M), **10.00:** Air Rifle (D), **12.30:** Air Rifle (D/F), **15.00:** Trap (M/F), **15.00:** Air Rifle (M), **17.30:** Air Rifle (M/F)

**SWIMMING, 10.00:** 100m Backstroke (W), **10.08:** 100m Backstroke (M), **10.16:** 400m Freestyle (W), **10.26:** 400m Freestyle (W), **10.36:** 100m Butterfly (W), **10.44:** 100m Butterfly (M), **10.52:** 200m Breaststroke (W), **11.04:** 200m Breaststroke (M), **17.30:** 100m Backstroke (W/F), **17.35:** 100m Backstroke (M/F), **17.40:** 400m Freestyle (W/F), **17.50:** 400m Freestyle (M/F), **18.20:** 100m Butterfly (W/F), **18.25:** 100m Butterfly (M/F), **18.30:** 200m Breaststroke (W/F), **18.38:** 200m Breaststroke (W/F), **19.05:** 4x200m Freestyle Relay (W/F), **19.15:** 4x200m Freestyle Relay (M/F)

**TENNIS, starting at 9.00, 14.00:** Singles (M/W), **14.00:** Doubles (M)

**TABLE TENNIS, 10.00:** Team (M), **11.30:** 4th Round (W), **15.00:** Team (M/F), **16.00:** Team (W/F)

**VOLLEYBALL, 10.00:** Iceland-Cyprus (M), **12.30:** Cyprus-Iceland (W), **17.30:** Monaco-Luxembourg (M), **20.00:** San Marino-Luxembourg (W)

## Stade Josy Barthel - Athletics

# Five gold medals for Cyprus

Cyprus dominated the competition right from the start on Tuesday, with Amine Khadiri's 800-metre men's Gold the first of five Gold medals awarded.

Another Gold medal was gained in pole vault by Nikandros Stylianou, who beat the record set in the 1995 Luxembourg GSSE by Cypriot compatriot Photis Stephani by 5 centimetres, clearing the 5,15-metre bar on the first attempt.

Long jumper Nektaria Panayi jumped to the top of the competition in her first attempt with the smallest possible lead. She didn't give up and retained top position in all five attempts.

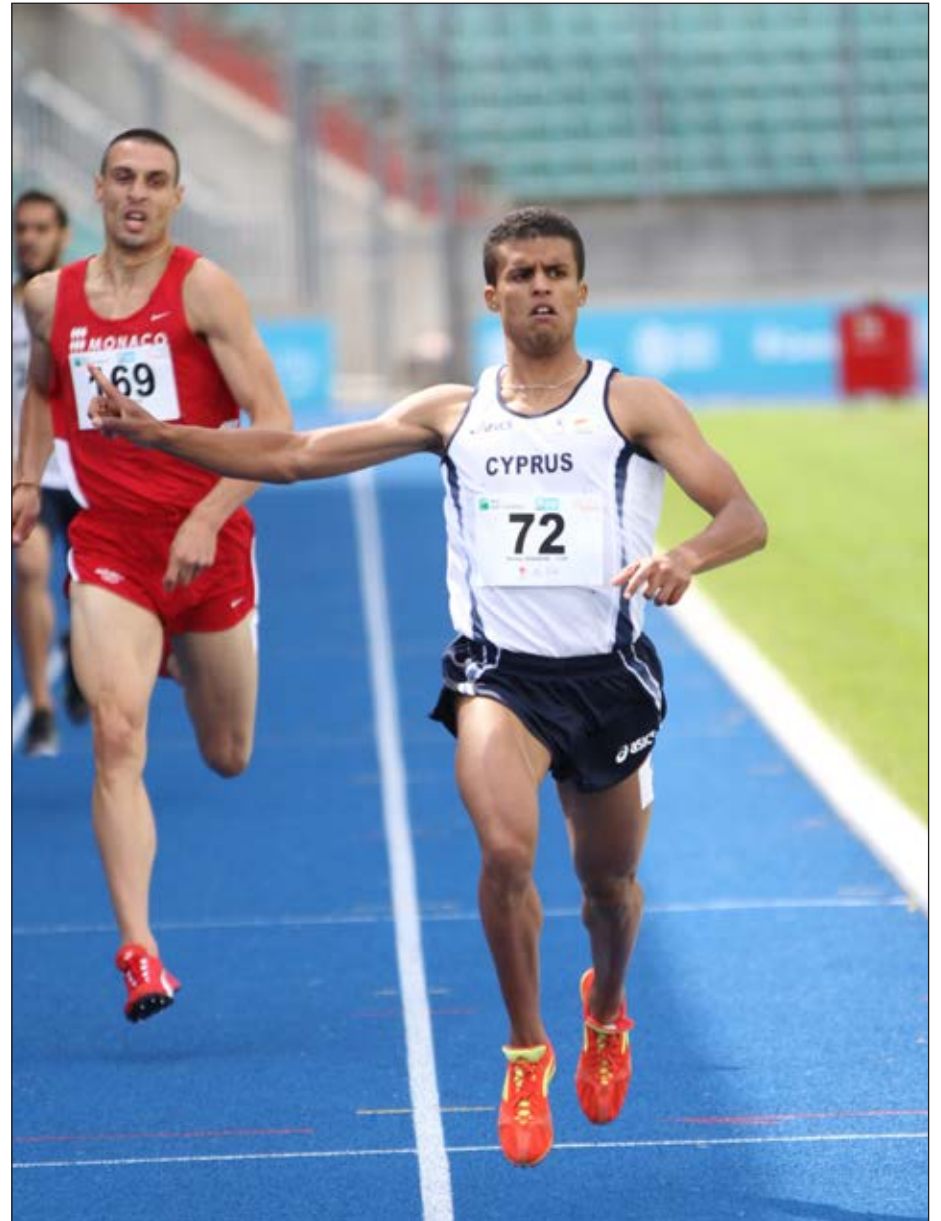
The biggest loser in this discipline was Icelander Hafdis Sigurdardottir, who missed out on what would have been a third Gold for her team.

The superiority of the Cypriot team was reinforced later in the afternoon with 100-meter sprinters Anna Ramona Papaioannou winning Gold for the women and Christos Chatziangelidis scooping Gold for the men.

Smallest team Montenegro achieved a full house with its only two athletes winning Gold in women's long distance and men's shot put.

Luxembourg's Pol Mellina received the Grand Duchy's first Gold medal in athletics, winning the 5000-meter race with a time of 14'29"82.

There was also an excellent performance from the Luxembourgish team by Silver medallist Charline Mathias, who achieved the minimum to qualify for the U23 European Athletics Championships in July, and Martine Nobili, who won Bronze in the women's 800 meters with a personal best of 2'06"57. This gives her entry to the 2013 Universiade in Kazan, Russia, next July.



## Monaco

# The team with the two extremes!



The Monaco team, which was awarded the very first medals of the Games, has probably set new records in terms of participation in the history of the GSSE with the youngest and the oldest athlete in the same delegation. Jackie Moret, who starts today in the air rifle competition, is well into his 67th year.

Meanwhile, the youngest swimmer, Claudia Verdino, who started the first of her four races yesterday with the 200 m medley, has not yet reached her 12th birthday. It was a promising start, which was appreciated by Prince Albert who attended the swimming events to support athletes from the Principality.

# Domination of a young talent Cycling TT – Gold for Küng (LIE)

Cycling has been one of Luxembourg's best disciplines in the GSSE for several years. In yesterday's time trials they won three medals, but what was not necessarily expected was that Stefan Küng would be so superior and win Gold medal in the men's competition, leaving only the four next places to Luxembourgers!

The 19-year-old has dual citizenship - his mother is from Liechtenstein - and this year he competed as a member of the BMC Development Team under a Swiss registered licence. As background, the young talent claimed a bronze medal in the individual pursuit on the Track World Championship this year in Minsk. After completing half the distance on the Circuit around Cessange, there were no doubts about his overall victory. The event started with the ladies competition, where a slightly ill Christine Majerus (LUX) nevertheless won gold.

Silver and Bronze for the Luxembourg were won by the U-23 national champion Alex Kirsch and Christian Helmig in the men's competition.



## Indoor or outdoor tennis?



Is it going to be an Indoor-Summer for the Tennis players at the GSSE 2013?

Last week the Groundskeepers still needed to wear rain boots to pull off the Court covers. Currently the weather is holding.

Fingers crossed that St Peter is a team player.



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# Let's go for gold Luxembourg



Lots of supporters and friends of the Women's Basketball Team supported the team with banners and spirit. The atmosphere was

boiling and the 1500 spectators did their utmost to support their team. The victory against Cyprus (65 - 48 ) didn't come easily

and our female players had to give their best and had to use an efficient Zone-Defense to overcome their opponents. The

victory of our ladies was a good omen for their male-counterparts who beat Andorra 82 - 74.

# GSSE PEOPLE

## Luxembourg's oldest and youngest volunteers



At 87 **Jean-Christian Samida** may be the oldest volunteer at the 2013 Games of the Small States of Europe but that doesn't mean he

gets off lightly.

The former driving instructor and sports referee has signed up as a driver for the entire week, driving delegates between locations and sharing his wry humour.

"When I drove one of the physios to the hotel I played a little joke telling him that I normally drive for Monaco's Prince Albert," he explained with a grin.

Mr Samida volunteered after a lifetime involved in sport. "I used

to play football and basketball when I was younger and more handsome," he told GSSE news, adding that as an accomplished sporting referee he has refereed 3,000 basketball games, including the Luxembourg women's finals, 80 handball matches and 1,500 football matches. "I couldn't skate so well in ice hockey so I only refereed 20 games there," he joked.

The veteran referee says he enjoys speaking with the athletes and, though fluent in at least five languages, he regrets that English is not one of them.

If, however, he is unable to communicate with his passengers, he says he speaks with his fingers, "like the Italians do!"



At the other end of the age spectrum among the volunteers is ten-year-old **Julie Erpelding**, who is a ball girl for the beach volleyball and volleyball. "I play volleyball myself so I know the rules which are necessary for me to help," she said. The youngster signed up after he parents got involved as volunteers. "It's a lot of fun to help and it also gives me a chance to meet my idol: Annalena Mach, from Luxembourg."

## An international metropolis where sport meets culture

Organize the entire life of over one hundred thousand people from 160 different nationalities in a city plus one hundred thousand daily border workers: this is the challenge of the City of Luxembourg in the global competitive environment of major metropolises.

In addition to the business, shopping malls and general entertainment districts, Luxembourg presents its residents and guests a wide cultural and sportive offer. People meet in 145 sport clubs, about one hundred cultural clubs in a large mixing between natural areas, greenery and urbanism.

For decades Luxembourg-City has developed his skills and offered important cultural events.

Two public theaters provide own productions and host opera performances and invited internationally renowned theater, several private theaters provide parts production worthy of a great variety of the best venues abroad.

Interesting great symphonic concerts as music of all kinds are offered in two concert halls. Seven museums have collections



of historical as well as modern and avant-garde art, a host of galleries exhibit works from around the world.

The Cinémathèque, Cinéma Utopia and Cinéma Utopolis, not far from the Coque, have all kinds of best international movies.

Dear guests, enjoy the Games, feel well among us, visit, if You have the opportunity, the City and our Country, ask what's going on here and come back shortly to deepen friendship.

E.H.



Emile Hermes, a sportsman at heart, was involved in athletics in his younger years and focused on racing.

I was an all-round-athlete without ever achieving spectacular results. As such I played also football and did cycling.

Now that I am retired, I do sports activities each day from cycling to jogging and golf. "Nowadays I am more of a sports administrator" is Emile's common joke. I am part of the Cycling Federation and the CSL, where I accepted the position of President 5 years ago.

Another of his key positions was member of the Central Committee of the FLA, coach at the CAL and the CSL and Spora. "I was a founding member of the Committee, but had to stop the function to assume the position of Assistant Director of the Lycée Technique du Centre in Luxembourg.

Later on I was promoted to Director.