

PRESS RELEASE

World Acro 2021: Emotions, outstanding performances ... and spectators on venue!

Geneva - 24 June 2021. More than ever, the spirit of Acrobatic Gymnastics is alive in Geneva, with the city hosting one of its first major elite sport events since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic: the Senior World Championships and the World Age Group Competitions in Acrobatic Gymnastics, taking place from 21 June – 4 July. Seven hundred gymnasts from 26 nations will present their performances combining grace, physical feats and team work at the Vernets sports centre. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, some delegations will be missing. However, the overall level of the event remains very high and the organising committee is excited to welcome delegations from all over the world.

1,000 spectators allowed as of 28 June

"Since the postponement of the World Acro 2020 to 2021, we have gone through many difficult moments and had to deal with many uncertainties, particularly those linked to spectators being allowed or not to attend our event," explained the President of the organising committee, César Salvadori, before adding: the 100 tickets per day available for this week's competitions were sold out in a few minutes. We are therefore delighted to be able to welcome 1,000 people per day as of this Saturday and invite everyone to come and (re) discover Acrobatic Gymnastics. After months of gloom, emotions, music and sporting feats will do good to everyone! "

The Vernets ice has been replaced by the gymnasts' practice boards. "We have been working on this project for almost three years, and have been on site for over three weeks transforming the Vernets. It's fantastic to see our ideas come to fruition," says Jérémy Maillefer, secretary general of the organising committee. Many families were disappointed not to be able to attend the competitions this week, so it's great that the number of spectators allowed has been increased from this Saturday on."

The largest delegations are those from Russia, Israel, Portugal and Great Britain. Switzerland is represented at the Senior World Championships by a mixed pair and in the World Age Group Competitions by four pairs and two groups.

Economic benefits and green practices

The World Acro 2021 represents more than 3,500 overnight stays and over 10,000 meals served. "This should give a little extra boost to the hotel and event sector, which has suffered so much in recent months," hopes César Salvadori. The event also welcomes 800 schoolchildren from Geneva, who get the opportunity to discover the backstage of the event. Moreover, it promotes environmentally friendly habits, with no disposable cups and cutlery being used: all participants have received reusable cutlery for their meals, together with a flask designed specifically for the event, which they will be able to keep as a souvenir and fill with local running water during their stay. In addition, the transport plan is based on the use of public transport. César Salvadori explains: "Using public transport is still rather rare for a large sports event. But that's the future! We are pleased to be able to make our delegations aware of the importance of changing our habits."

Tickets are now available again at www.worldacro2021.com. According to the Federal guidelines of 23 June 2021, masks are mandatory but no COVID passport or negative PCR test is required, as the capacity is limited to 1,000 seats.

For further information, please contact

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