

RULES OF THE CHALLENGE

26.1.2008

The Challenge is open to all EU citizens. It starts on January 20th, 2008 and ends on May 31st, 2008 and will consist of four different level races. The time line of the races is the following:

Race 1 starts 20 th January 2008	ends 31 st May 2008
Race 2 starts 20 th February 2008	ends 31 st May 2008
Race 3 starts 20 th March 2008	ends 31 st May 2008
Race 4 starts 20 th April 2008	ends 31 st May 2008

Participants can register for the Challenge and complete the races at any time up to 31st May 2008, respecting the starting dates of each leg.

2. Participants shall race in one or two languages different from their native language or languages. The languages of the race are Finnish, Italian, Hungarian and Slovenian.
3. When they register for the race, participants shall declare which languages they are at zero or "beginner" level* and that they will do the race with no help from people who are fluent in their race language (or languages).
4. Each of the races consists of a language test with 30 questions. The maximum time limit for the test is 20 minutes.
5. The best language swimmer of each language will win the participation in the Finals to be held during the European Water Polo Championship in Malaga in July 2008. If a participant is a finalist in two languages, he/she will compete in the language in which he/she scored better.
6. During the final race, a commission of judges will test the four finalists, each in their winning language. The winner will be awarded a trip to the Olympic Games in Beijing.
7. Two more "language swimmers" will be drawn from a "language lottery" (including all participants having completed the four races) and both will win travel and accommodation for the Swim the Language Prize Awarding Ceremony that will take place in Malaga.
8. The judges have the right to disqualify a participant on the basis of unfair play, breaking rules or other disloyal conduct at any stage of the competition. In the case of a draw, the judges' decision is considered final.

*Definition of "beginner" level

"Can understand and use about 30 words or expressions but cannot, even in a simple way, interact using the language."