

# Olympic medallist Tim Brabants set to defend his European Champion title ahead of Beijing

15<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

Tim Brabants, the Current European and World Champion (500m & 1000m respectively) is ready to defend his title at this weekends Flat Water Racing European Championships in Milan, Italy (15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May). Thirty one year old Doctor Tim holds the worlds fastest qualifying time in 1000m, which he clocked up at the Athens Olympics, he also won a Bronze medal at the Sydney Olympic games. The Men's K1 (kayak single) athlete, has been nominated to the BOA (British Olympic Association) to represent GB at Beijing and will be looking to clinch a Gold medal in Milan to prove his form ahead of the summer games.

The European Championships also double up as a second round Olympic qualification event and will provide an opportunity for GB ( Great Britain ) to secure places in the Beijing Olympic Games.

So far GB have qualified a place in the Men's K1 500m & 1000m events as a result of Tim Brabants' performance in the World Championships last year, but the GB flat water team are hoping to secure a further 8 places in Milan.

At this key event of the season, all countries will be anxious to qualify boats for the summer games and racing will be thrilling.

## The Great Britain Flat Water Racing Team for the European Championships (also an Olympic qualification event)

### Senior European Team

200m	500m	1000m
	MK1 Tim Brabants	MK1 Tim Brabants
WK1 Lucy Wainwright	WK1 Lucy Wainwright	
WK2 R Cawthorn/ H Mason	WK2 J Walker/ A Hemmings	
	MK2 B Brown/ J Schofield	MK2 E McKeever/ P Wycherley
	WK4 J Walker/ A Hemmings/ R Cawthorn / H Mason	MK4 B Farrell/ E Cox/ T Daniels/ A Daniels

### Notes on qualification

The ICF (International Canoe Federation) qualification system is divided into two rounds. The first round (Which is a Global Competition) were the Senior World Championships in 2007. The second round (Which is a Continental Round) takes place in 2008. The continental round is split into five continental groups, Great Britain is in the European pool. The European Championships will take place over the period 15<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2008 in Milan ( Italy ).

The boats GB Canoeing are looking to qualify at the Europeans are:

- K1 Women 500m (kayak single)
- K2 Men 500m (kayak double)
- K2 Men 1000m
- K2 Women 500m

C1 Men 500m (canoe single)  
C1 Men 1000m  
K4 Women 500m (kayak quadruple)  
K4 Men 1000m  
(K1 Men 500m & K1 Men 1000m already qualified).

For results visit [www.idroscaloclub.org/campionati/eng/index.html](http://www.idroscaloclub.org/campionati/eng/index.html)

For in-depth analysis of the selection races visit the BCU World Class Olympic Podium Programmes and go to

Flat Water Racing news -

<http://worldclass-canoeing.org.uk/wcp/2-latest-news-and-res ults.aspx>

For information on the British Canoe Union visit – [www.bcu.org.uk](http://www.bcu.org.uk)

#### **Athlete Profiles**

For profiles of the athletes visit <http://worldclass-canoeing.org.uk/wcp/269-6-flat-water-raci ng.aspx>

#### **Athlete websites**

[www.timbrabants.com](http://www.timbrabants.com)

[www.anna.hemmings.com](http://www.anna.hemmings.com)

[www.jonathanschofield.com](http://www.jonathanschofield.com)

#### **Television Coverage on Eurosports (GMT)**

##### **Saturday 17 May 2008**

09.30 - 11.00: Live coverage of the 1000m Finals

##### **Sunday 18 May 2008**

19.00 - 20.00 Delayed coverage of the 500m Finals

#### **Commentators**

David Goldstrom & Malcolm Johnson