

**News**

The Rowing World Championship has just finished at Dorney Lake rowing course in Eton, UK. Congratulations to all winners and medallists!

Rowers from 20 countries got medals. The most successful nations in Olympic boat classes were: Germany (6 medals, 1 gold), Australia (5, 2), New Zealand (4, 1), Great Britain (3, 1).

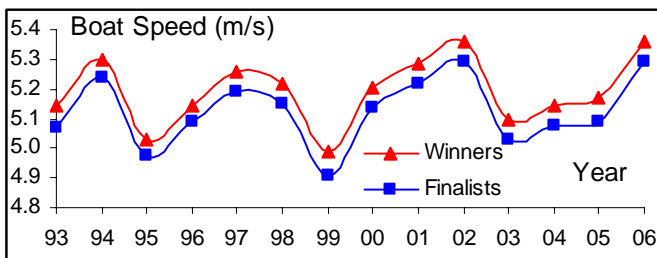
A more comprehensive analysis of the countries standings can be achieved using a system, which counts points down to 7<sup>th</sup> place. The Table below shows 12 best nations using this system:

Place		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	Points	8	6	5	4	3	2	1	Sum
1	GER	1	4	1	1	1	1	3	49
2	AUS	2	1	2	2	0	1	0	42
3	GBR	1	1	1	1	3	2	0	36
4	CHN	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	27
5	NZL	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	26
6	USA	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	26
7	FRA	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	25
8	CAN	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	24
9	POL	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	17
10	ITA	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	16
11	CZE	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	15
12	RUS	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	13

The most impressive progress was shown by the Chinese team, which has won two gold medals in Olympic boat classes and is obviously going to move further in Beijing-2008 Olympics.

**Facts. Did you know that...**

...it was the second fastest Worlds in the history. Strong tail wind helped to achieve very fast boat speed in spite of moderate temperature of the air and water (18-20° C) and quite rough water at the end of the course. The graph below shows dynamics of the average boat speed in 14 Olympic boat types in the winners and finalists.



During the last Worlds the average boat speed of the winners in Olympic boats was 5.337m/s, which is just a little bit slower than during the fastest Championship in Seville-2002 (5.340m/s).

Four World Best Times were set in Eton altogether; two of them in Olympic boat types.

In men's singles Mahe Drysdale from New Zealand has shown 6:35.40 and beaten by 0.91s the previous best time shown in 2002 by Marcel Hacker from Germany, who came second in this final. It was a very dramatic race. Marcel was leading during for most of the race, but was overtaken at the last 100m. He was so exhausted that fainted after the race and couldn't attend the medal presentation.

W8+ of USA made 5:55.50 and improved by 1.05s the record of the same country shown in Athens-2004.

Australian W4- made 6:25.35 and very narrowly (by 0.12s) improved the 15-years old record.

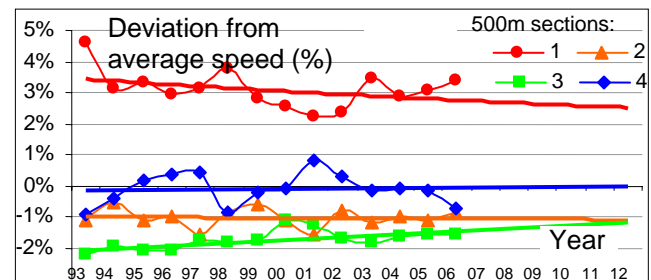
British LM1x Zac Purchase showed 6:47.82 and beat by 0.15s the previous 7-years old record.

...prognostic Gold Times for 2008 were corrected in some boat types since we published them in RBN 2005/5? The Table below shows **average growth of the boat speed per year** based on 1993-2006 results and **prognostic Gold Times for 2008**:

W1x	M1x	W2-	M2-	W2x	M2x	M4-
0.70%	0.56%	0.90%	0.33%	-0.13%	0.86%	1.18%
7:11.7	6:35.2	6:52.8	6:16.5	6:45.3	6:04.4	5:41.4
LW2x	LM2x	LM4-	W4x	M4x	W8+	M8+
0.44%	2.00%	1.09%	0.85%	1.09%	2.67%	1.23%
6:51.9	6:04.9	5:46.6	6:09.8	5:35.8	5:52.7	5:21.5

The highest growth was found in W8+, LM2x and M8+. The only negative trend was found in W2x and the next lowest growth was in M2- and LW2x. It is interesting that if the current trends persist, then in 2008 the speeds in M2x and LM2x will be nearly equal.

...average pattern of the race strategy of the winners has marginally deviated from the previous years trend. The winners were faster at the start section (+3.36% compare to +3.05% in 2005) and slower at the finish (-0.73% compare to -0.14% in 2005):



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**Trends of results of the winners of Worlds Championships and Olympic Games during 1993-2006**

