

PRESS RELEASE

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THE GOLDEN OLYMPIC MEDALIST OF BEIJING GULNARA GALKINA IN GRAND PRIX TSIKLITIRIA OPAP 2009.

The Russian steeple-chase athlete wants to break in Athens the world record she achieved last year in Beijing.

As the day of the big summer meeting, “Tsiklitiria OPAP 2009” is coming closer; the list of the “chosen” ones that are confirming their participation in the magical night of Monday 13 July in Olympic stadium is getting bigger by the minute.

The steeple-chase has an outstanding position in this years’ “Tsiklitiria”, as it will be taking place both for men and women, with the world records being threatened from the specialist of the fascinating sport of long-distance.

This year, in the women run, all lights will be turned on the Olympic winner and record woman, Russian Gulnara Galkiva.

And that is because....

Tsiklitiria fits Galkiva.

She has in her possession the world record of steeple-chase and the golden medal from the Olympic Games in Beijing. What else needs Gulnara Galkina (ex Samitora) to convince that she is the best steeple-chase athlete in the world?

The Greek audience will have the opportunity to enjoy once again the big Russian runner, who has written history in the steeple-chase (and not only) in Athens Grand Prix Tsiklitiria OPAP 2009 on Monday, 13 July in Olympic stadium.

Galkina has developed a special relationship with the biggest Greek track and field's meeting. In Athens Grand Prix Tsiklitiria OPAP, the 31-year old Russian has won three times, one of them being in 2004 when she also did the world record (09.24.59) in the organization which has taken place in Iraklion. She had also won in 2003 with time 09.24.41 and in 2007 with time 09.11.68.

Six of the eleven of the best records of all times in steeple-chase belongs to Galkina while it is worth- mentioning that 2 of them were achieved in Athens Grand Prix Tsiklitiria.

The top moment in her career was of course the win with a world record in Beijing with time 08.58.81, which is a unique record under 9 minutes in the history of this sport.

Galkina also distinguishes in 5000m. She has competed in two finals of Olympic Games (came in 6th in Athens and 12th in Beijing), while she also has in her collection a bronze medal in 1500m from the World Indoor Championship in 2004 in Budapest.

From the Press Office of the Organization.