

VB2010 - The Athletes

A vertical poster for the 2010 Vertical Blue freediving competition. The background is a deep blue underwater scene with a diver visible in the distance. The text is white and blue. At the top, 'VERTICAL BLUE' is written in large, bold, blue letters, with '2010' below it in white. In the center, 'THE SUUNTO DIVE OFF' is written in white. Below that, the location 'DEANS BLUE HOLE LONG ISLAND BAHAMAS' and dates 'APRIL 17-19, 21-23, 25-27' are listed in white. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text and a small notice about dive times.

VERTICAL BLUE
2010

THE SUUNTO DIVE OFF

DEANS BLUE HOLE
LONG ISLAND
BAHAMAS
APRIL 17-19, 21-23, 25-27

The 16 best freedivers in the world are coming to Long Island to battle for the title of World's deepest man. Austrian world record holder Herbert Nitsch will once again take on Bahamian world champion William Trubridge, and ex-world record holder Martin Štěpánek will make his debut appearance at the Blue Hole.

Don't miss the action!
Dives are held each day between 9am-12pm April 17-27 (except 20th & 24th)
Please park before Dean's Blue Hole to leave access clear.

16 athletes from 10 nations will compete at Vertical Blue this year. In alphabetical order they are:

Eric Fattah (1)
Carla-Sue Hanson
Misuzu Hirai
Robert King
Dave Mullins (4)
Guillaume Nery (4)
Herbert Nitsch (28)
Frank Pernet
Niki Roderick
Alfredo Romo
Jared Schmelzer
Ryuzo Shinomiya

Martin Stepanek (13)
Walter Steyn
William Trubridge (8)
William Winram

In case you are wondering what the numbers next to the names are, they are the number of world records set during the athlete's career. A total of 58 records between all the competitors, almost all of whom are national champions in one or more disciplines. This is the strongest field for a Vertical Blue event, or any freediving competition other than AIDA the world championships. The format, the incredible venue and the dizzying depths being reached by some of these athletes all foretell an epic event.

Expect fireworks...

GREAT! - I love to see the top athletes really push each other! - Can we expect some youtube reporting, video really brings the event to life for us over seas! - Guillaume Nery's telephone video's were already fun to watch, but I just love to see you guys go down, swim, and come up from these incredible depths!

by Kars on 2010-03-18 15:06:17

only 3 women?! any WR holder ... poor!!!

by Kurt on 2010-04-12 22:22:37