**🏁 Race Report Backwaterman, June 29, 2025 – *The Special One***

The **Backwaterman** in Austria’s **Waldviertel region** once again lived up to its reputation: **diverse, demanding, and unforgettable**. With its unique blend of stunning natural scenery, technical variety, and a friendly atmosphere, it remains a highlight on the SwimRun calendar.

**🌄 New Course Section & Deckerspitz Hotspot**

The 2025 edition featured an exciting new development: a **spectator and support hotspot at Deckerspitz**, where **marathon participants passed five times in different loops**. A fantastic motivational boost for both athletes and their supporters.

The course offered everything a SwimRun heart could desire:

* rocky swim exits,
* open meadows,
* vibrant poppy fields,
* shaded forest trails,
* challenging forest roads,
* a tough 5 km stretch under the blazing sun on dusty sand,
* the loop around the Lichtenfels castle ruins
– **pure nature and unmatched variety**.

**🏊‍♂️ A Hot Start**

The race began at **9:00 a.m.**, with temperatures already reaching **25°C in the shade** and **23°C water temperature**. In addition to the **Marathon distance (32 km with 4,900 m swimming)**, three other distances were offered:

* **Half Marathon** (22 km),
* **Sprint** (15 km), and
* **Trial** (8 km).

**🏆 Strong Performances & Thrilling Competition**

A sporting highlight was the debut of the **team of Gerhard Schiemer and Alexander Krenn**, both former elite athletes. In the first third of the race, they were challenged by **Christian Götz** and the eventual **solo winner Julian Mittermayr**. Unfortunately, Götz had to withdraw halfway due to injury.

Schiemer and Krenn pulled ahead during the longer swim sections and secured a **dominant and well-deserved team victory**.

In the women’s race, **Martina Bolvary** claimed a convincing win. The reigning **My SwimRun World Champion (half)** displayed her class and controlled the race from start to finish.

**⚔️ Special Finisher Ceremony**

A unique tradition at Backwaterman: **All marathon finishers are knighted in a ceremonial celebration**, becoming official Knights or Dames of the Backwaterman – a powerful and memorable moment for all participants.

**📊 Categories & Rankings**

Results are divided into **two age groups**, with rankings for both **solo** and **team** competitors.

Let me know if you'd like this in a shorter version for social media or a newsletter!

<https://raceid.com/de/races/13172/result>