

# *Cuban judokas will seek points in the Kazakhstan Grand Slam*

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Havana, May 9 (JIT).- Seven Cubans will participate from May 10 to the 12th in the Qazaqstan Barysy 2024 Judo Grand Slam, in Kazakhstan.

They arrive with two fundamental objectives: accumulate points for the Olympic ranking and prepare for the world championship in Abu Dhabi, which will take place a week after this event concludes.

Regarding the first parameter, the rise experienced by Jonathan Charón (60 kg), Orlando Polanco (66 kg) and Alianny Carbonell (52 kg) stands out.

The Las Tunas Carbonell, with only four scoring competitions, is located less than 200 units behind the continental quota held by the Indonesian Maryam March Maharani.

Maharani will not be in this tournament like any of the others before her, and she will compete in the world championship, as will the South African Charne Giesel, so this is her opportunity to beat both of them.

Charón and Polanco have exceeded the points that would give them the continental quota, but each Olympic committee can benefit from only one and this is occupied by Magdiel Estrada.

He will no longer compete, by personal decision, so they have to try to achieve direct classification, in both cases closer in points than those accumulated by Estrada.

We will have to look very closely at the performance of Maylín del Toro (63 kg), not because her athletic form raises doubts, but because she occupies the last direct qualifying position in her division, just a tick behind the Chinese Jing Tang, who also will participate in this event.

She is also separated by a few from the Croatian Iva Orberán, third seed in the Kazakh tournament, so she will have to add at least the same amount as her opponents in order to maintain her position.

Losing him would not represent the biggest problem for the woman from Santiago, who would occupy one of the continental quotas by far, but this would leave her teammate Carbonell without options to aspire to an invitation spot.

The rest of the members of both Cuban armies arrive more comfortable: in the women's Idalys Ortiz (+78 kg) she leads the closest candidate to climb the Olympic ranks by more than 400 points and in the men's Andy Granda (100 kg) and Iván Silva (90 kg) virtually has his qualifications for Paris 2024.

The Tashkent 2022 world champion is fourth in the Olympic rankings, just six points behind the second place shared by the French star Teddy Riner and the Tajik Temur Rakhimov, Granda's main rival in Astana.

Silva is sixth with more than 4 thousand points, as many as it is no longer possible for the rest of his pursuers to accumulate, understanding that there are only two competitions left before the Olympic Games.

For them, this event will be the last test before the world championship of the discipline, and also, if necessary, to improve their positions and deserve less complex paths in the Parisian summer event.

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