

Sports News Roundup June 22



Pan-American Games

Cuban First Vice-President Miguel Diaz-Canel handed over to 5-time world champ wrestler Mijain Lopez the Cuban flag that will head the Cuban sports delegation to the *17th Pan-American Games* to be held in Toronto, Canada, from July 10th-26th.

The activity, which took place at the *José Martí Memorial* in this capital, was attended by the 459 Cuban athletes, including 231 women and 228 men who will strive to keep the 2nd place by countries the Island has maintained since *Cali 1971*, with the exception of *Havana 1991* where Cuba closed in 1st place.

Pan-American Volleyball Cup

Cuba finished 4th in the women's *XIV Pan-American Volleyball Cup* based in Lima, Peru, when losing against Argentina 3-0 (25-23, 25-23, 25-20) in 1.17 minutes match for the bronze medal while the US team won the *Cup* by defeating Dominican Republic by 3-0.

According to the website of the contest, Argentina's Emilce Sosa and Cuban Melissa Vargas were the leading scorers of the match with 13 points each, where the South Americans Yamila Nizetich (10) and Florence Busquet (10), and the Caribbean Sulian Matienzo (10) and Daymara Lescay (10) also highlighted for their respective sides.

Canoeing

Cuban Angel Fournier won the silver medal in the *Canoe Slalom World Cup* open category disputed at the aquatic track of the Italian city of Varese.

According to the official website, Fournier ended with 6.46.7 minutes, runner-up of the Kiwi Mahe Drysdale (6.45.220) and ahead of Byelorussian Stanislau Shcharbachenia (6.49.400).

Chess

The *Elite Group of Capablanca Memorial Chess Tournament* underway in Havana is so far with undefeated teams as Russian GM Dmitry Andreikin defeated Chinese GM Yu Yangyi, but the latter remained at the vanguard thanks to 4.5 units of 6.

World Series of Boxing (WSB)

After becoming only the 2nd Franchise in *World Series of Boxing (WSB)* history to win a fixture against Cuba's *Los Domadores* in the 1st leg of the *Season V Finals*, Kazakhstan's *Astana Arlans* perfectly repeated their success in the 2nd leg to claim a 2nd WSB Championship in front of their home supporters in Astana.

A 6-4 aggregate triumph only begins to tell the story of the most dramatic Finals weekend of all time, as both teams produced some of the greatest performances in the history of this competition with so much pressure at stake.

It was Kazakhstan who reigned supreme however, and much praise should be given to their Head Coach Marat Jakiyev who inspired tremendous belief in his fighters, and expertly masterminded the necessary tactics needed to defeat the great Cuban athletes.

Astana Arlans still held an overall advantage on aggregate however, and their lead lengthen in the next contest after one of the greatest performances in WSB history.

Celebrations reverberated not just around the *National Tennis Center*, but all throughout Kazakhstan, and they will continue long into the night.

Baseball

Baseball appears among 8 sports shortlisted to enter the *Olympic Program 2020 Tokyo Games*, organizers announced today in Tokyo.

In addition to that discipline, which has its project with *softball*, the other candidates are *karate*, *skating*, *climbing*, *squash*, *surfing*, *bowling* and *wushu*.

Copa America

Brazil, Peru and Colombia completed the teams qualified for the *quarterfinals* of the *Copa America Chile 2015*, in that order, to take the first 3 seats in *Group C*.



Radio Habana Cuba