

3rd WUKO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Eighteen federations taking part to it, more than to the one in Fortaleza, less compared to the one of Valencia. The participation of the athletes was biased by the fear of the swine flu and by the high travelling expenses costs: the participants were 246. An Italy of 40 athletes strong, dominated, but Mexico and Argentina were fierce competitors. Very good notes also for the Denmark of Soren Helsted, winner of the medals-athletes ratio cup. In the kata team, the Italian delegations of master Sei Iwasa were too strong for the opponents on the ground. The Shito athletes referring to Shihan Ogasahara wan as much as possible. The three-times World Female Champion Veronica Massaro conquered the gold medal before Arianna Pirovano and Roberta Annunziata. This is true also in the category Men, where Cantiron, Ragno and Bianco dominated, but the biggest surprise came from the team kata Shotokan Men, where Mexico conquered a deserved gold medal clearly beating the Italians. The Mexican one is a great team: Israel Perez Martinez, Carlos Gomez Tagle, David Gutierrez Cervantes are justly World Champions, congratulations to their trainer Alejandro Donato. In the category Women there was Italy another time, but in the category Men it took the great Francesco Dellai to beat the unbridled Mexicans. In the Category Master the Danish Soren Helsted was excellent and was second only to a great Juan Antonio De Leon: the unsu of the Panamanian in the final was fantastic. In the Shito the gold medal went to Yoshio Ietsune, this was the first medal for Japan. Very well also the Argentinian Delirio Sotelo, who beat the Japanese Maasaki Shizawa in the Shito.

In the kumite these were the best. Among women, the same wonderful Serena Dragoni, three-times World Champion, the other Italian Giada Tinucci and the Argentinian Carina Aressi. Among men Matteo Bertucco, Angelo Scutari, Leonardo Inglese and the Argentinian Cesar Infantini were roaring but also Julio and Javier Hernaez, the American Paul Danos, the Mexican Juan Franco Morales and the Danish Brix Anderson must be quoted.

The referees, masterfully headed by Pierre Perez, were really good: the Chief Referees Roy Fox, Enzo Ferri, Romolo Manicone, Gianni Matuozzo, Darryl Williams, Antonio Rollo, Delirio Sotelo, Dereck Pollock and Guadalupe Rodriguez, the Referees Julio Hernaez and Enrique Daniel Welcker and the Judges, Erick Linas Diaz, Wayne Gayadeen, Roberto Eserman and Erecino Perez worked hard but were always excellent: there were no protests nor objections against the verdicts. Above all Andrea Lotti, a real Top Competition Director.

Dida: