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Dear Members of CISM:

I am writing to share my thoughts and reflections on the 2023 edition of the Military World Games, which were held in the beautiful city of Catania, Italy, from 4 to 11 December. This event was a testament to the spirit of international sportsmanship and the resilience of the human spirit, amidst the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Games were not only a success in terms of sporting achievements but also a celebration of unity and cooperation among nations.

From the opening ceremony to the closing ceremonies, the Games were marked by a sense of camaraderie and mutual respect among the participating athletes. The events showcased the true spirit of CISM, where athletes from different nations come together to compete in a spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship.

I would like to extend my gratitude to all the participants, organizers, and volunteers who contributed to the success of the Games. The dedication and hard work of everyone involved were instrumental in making the event a resounding success.

As we look forward to the future, I am confident that CISM will continue to grow and evolve, with a strong focus on inclusivity, diversity, and sustainability. I am committed to ensuring that CISM remains a relevant and respected organization that promotes the values of sportsmanship, respect, and integrity.

In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest appreciation for the hard work and dedication of all those involved in the Games. I am proud to be a part of this organization and look forward to seeing what the future holds for CISM.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

President of CISM
Third Military World Games in Catania

An Ode to Peace, Sport and Fair-Play

When Italian sprinter Alessandro Cavallo eventually lit the flame of the Third Military World Games in this dull late-afternoon weather of a December day in 2003, many of the CISM members who were present in Catania’s Massimo Stadium must have remembered the incredible misadventures that nearly spelled doom for the event before it even started. Indeed, it took quite a bit of steadfastness to keep faith in the success of the Games. Not that the City of Catania—having organised the Universiads—looked the solidly required to organise and host such a big event, but the succession of mishaps that had many a member of our organisation very worried indeed must have flashed before their eyes. Let bygones be bygones, as they say, but when the decision was taken to postpone the Games—initially scheduled to be held in September—to December, many wondered about the mess they had got themselves into.

So it was with immense satisfaction that the 84 different nations represented at the foot of the Etna, whose summit was lost in the clouds, marched past under the eyes of a number of major Italian public figures including Gianfranco Fino, Vice-President of the Italian Council, Antonio Martino, Minister of Defence, Salvatore Cuffaro, President of the Region of Sicily, Umberto Scapagnini, Mayor of Catania and Monsignor Salvatore Chireli, Archbishop of Catania.

The Opening Ceremony was very dignified, reflecting the event’s solemnity and symbolism. It started with the delegations marching past, as usual, led by one of our new member nations, Afghanistan, which has decided—despite emerging from the throes of war only recently, and facing prolonged insecurity—to take the trip to Catania just like any other Armed Forces, to celebrate peace and friendship through sport. Indeed, how could such an enjoyable and astonishing mosaic of colourful uniforms belonging to so many different Armed Forces parading and assembling on a football field possibly be explained other than in reference to a particular sense of purpose.

The other usual acts—of this and any textbook Opening Ceremony—included speeches by personalities focusing on the messages of peace to be delivered in Catania, the Italian and CISM anthems being played and the torch bearer who eventually lit the flame of the Military World Games entering the arena.

As for the cultural part of the event, it was provided by the choir of the Massimo Bellini Theater and a live performance by Lucio Dalla, one of the island’s most famous representatives—who only had to walk down the slopes of the volcano from his uphill villa to perform. The magnificent fire-
The works display that officially concluded the evening was followed by several encores by Lucio Dalia, who was happy to oblige.

But the centrepiece of this Sicilian week was sport, of course. Sport with its moments of joy, sadness and disappointment, extraordinary performances and medals. Admittedly, the Games were being held in December—a slightly incongruous time for any Games—so the main concern of many athletes was simply to be there, participate and enjoy themselves. On the other hand, it would be wrong to claim that victory was far from the athletes' mind. Actually, some of the sporting pots were very tough and most of the champions in attendance did perform to expectations. A few new CISM records were even set and overall performances can even be said to have reached unexpectedly high levels at a time of year when athletes could arguably have been more interested in buying season's presents.

Despite the unseasoned competitive spirit that is the hallmark of any top-notch athlete worthy of his or her status, Catania was bathed in a relaxed atmosphere, with fair-play and friendship in evidence everywhere, as though the little organizational hiccups—which were quite unavoidable in view of the very short preparation time—simply could not affect the athletes' good mood. They were happy to meet in Catania and they showed it to audiences whose size varied across events and sites. The athletes were available and their attitude was beyond reproach despite weather conditions that were at times anything short of incompatible with the practice of some sports. Our athletes put up a great show and made a preponderant contribution to the success of the Military World Games. No words are strong enough to thank them properly.

There was a sense of conclusion at times, but the organizing committee, with its plethora of technical commissioners, drivers, Italian officers, soldiers and civilian voluntary workers almost always made up for it with typical Sicilian good mood, goodwill and a remarkable sense of hospitality. All participants discovered an island that is open-minded, warm and welcoming. They were treated to beautiful landscapes, well-covered a vast culture and had a taste of the region's tasty cuisine.

When the week of competitions ended with a slightly unorthodox Closing Ceremony, CISM could at last heave a huge collective sigh of relief, having met its main objective, which was to consolidate the Military World Games—this was only the third edition, after all—and provide a sound basis for the Fourth edition to be held in Hyderabad in 2007. The event also succeeded beyond our organization's widest dreams in delivering its message of peace, solidarity and friendship among the peoples of the world and in demonstrating that fair-play is a value that works together especially well with high-level sport.
A FIELD THAT GIVES FULL PLAY TO THE BEST ELEMENTS

Introducing a new generation of synthetic turf pitches: Mondoturf system, the first synthetic turf with all the benefits and feel of natural grass.

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Third Military World Games in Catania

Solidarity and the Olympic Truce

Solidarity is one of CISM’s two pillars. In recent years, our organisation has pledged to provide renewed impetus for its programmes in this field, on the one hand by developing strong ties with the variety of institutions that have made this a specific area of action, including Olympic Solidarity, the UN, Olav Koiv’s “Right to Play” foundation and the Council of Europe’s “Red Balloons” project.

On the other hand, in addition to technical assistance and the organisation of clinics and study days, the principle of joint military fights to ferry athletes to competitions has developed in parallel. It consists in providing seats for additional teams on planes that ferry CISM member delegations. It was the case in Catania with the flight “offered” by the Belgian Armed Forces, which enabled many delegations to reach Sicily from Brussels. Since the objective was to allow as many delegations as possible to send athletes to Catania, the cost was split in almost equal parts—with CISM obviously shouldering a comparatively lesser share of the burden—between our organisation’s and the IOC’s respective solidarity budgets, thereby helping many countries cover part of their travel expenses. Recipients included Gabon, Uzbekistan, Jamaica, Albania, Yemen, Estonia, Barbados, Argentina and Colombia as well as ECALO, ECA and LOWA-CISM liaison offices that shared available support among their respective member nations.

In addition, at the gala dinner organised in Catania as part of the Military World Games, the President of CISM, its Secretary General, the members of the Board and the Chair of Mission signed in a private capacity a document whereby their vow to adhere to the values promoted by the International Olympic Truce Foundation, at which it is worth recalling that Colonel Gianni Gola is a member in his capacity as President of CISM.
They Defied the Weather!

Track & field

Turnout was high for the track and field events held in Catania's nice municipal stadium. 566 athletes came from 64 different countries to compete for military titles in substandard weather conditions. That December is not normally a time for athletics competitions is quite obvious; and it is definitively not the best time of the year to beat records. But when in addition, a freezing rain drenches the stadium, sprinters, high jumpers, triple jumpers and javelin throwers alike are not exactly having the time of their life. So we can but take our hats off to the many military athletes who, deprived of any opportunity to beat the clock, defied the weather nonetheless. And we know what we are talking about, sitting in the driving rain a few meters from a jumping track that was as slippery as a skating rink, nothing in the world could have forced us to swap places with the two jumpers who were fighting for victory. It took each and every one of our athletes a lot of stamina just to compete to the end in the many events that took place in positively horrible weather conditions.

Despite all, quite a few world-class athletes did show up and staked their claims as shown by the presence of some of the best representatives of Kenya—and hence global-middle-distance running, including Joseph Mutua (800m), Samuel Kipteter and Benjamin Limo (5,000m), as well as Joseph Korir (10,000m). Led by talented javelin thrower Alexander Ivanov, and including notably Gatsulin (long jump), Sergeiy (triple jump) and Pavlov (pole vault), the Russian team dominated the field. With the previous Italian Legionnaire running in the beautiful city of Palermo in front of thousands of spectators, a title that completed the string of gold medals assembled by Diego Fortunato (discus throw), A. Gandolfini (walking) and the 4x100m team. But let us be honest; not all the best military athletes did take the trip to Catania, not by a long shot, and some of those who did decided to make do with "adequate" performances. Well, this provided less famous athletes with an opportunity to make a name for themselves by prevailing in a major international competition. This was for example the case of Brazil's Fascheco (100m), Greece's Papadopoulos (200m), Poland's Kostek (110m hurdles), Bahrain's Yagod Johwar (3000m steeple), Slovakia's Habkorn (shot put) and Konopka (hammer throw) and the Ukraine's Kimarenko (high jump), as well as Morocco's El Hadjic (1,500m), who admirably belonged in the category of expected winners.

As for our ladies, they undeniably showed gender-neutral courage, and definite talent too, as they set three new CISIM records. In absolute terms, China's hammer thrower Zhang assuredly produced the most commendable performance with 68m90. But the 151050m of Romania's Miaela Botez—setting a new personal best this season—was more than respectable too, as were Nikolaeva's 2211m90 in the 5km walk. Apart from those terrific performances, Russia's Chichereva stayed well clear of the 2m200 height she cleared this year, at 15198, and along with sprinter Timofeeva (100m and 200m), long jumper Tar-Merserov and the above-mentioned Nikolaeva, she did allow her country to finish the track and field week with the best results overall in the women's events. With Tahmors Ben Hassine and Morocco's Hamrouni (400m and 800m), the Maghreb countries featured prominently, along with Latvia's Zauram (400m hurdles), Romania's Niculae (triple jump), Belarus's Bulocius (1,500m) and the usual North Korean double act (Jo and S. in the marathon). These ladies—and more generally all military athletes present in Catania, for that matter—show our respect and admiration for defying decidedly dreadful weather conditions with incredible panache!

Participating Countries (64): Afghanistan, South Africa, Albania, Algeria, Angola, (Argentina, Austria, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Republic of Congo, Chile, China, Russia, Colombia, Republic of Korea, People's Democratic Republic of Korea, Cuba, United Arab Emirates, Spain, United States, (Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, The Netherlands, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Serbia, and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Syria, Tanzania, Chad, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Vietnam (female participation)

CISIM Official Representative: Colonel Hamad Mistemik Khaluba (Cameroon)

President TC: Colonel Jos Larus (Belgium)

566 athletes: 95 women, 471 men

Results

Men

100m
1. B. Pacheco (BRA) / 10.53
2. E. Papadopoulos (GRE) / 10.76
3. V. Khunee (KEN) / 10.89 4th place: C. Eustache (GES)

200m
1. B. Pacheco (BRA) / 21.77
2. M. Smail (SO) / 21.88
3. R. Nukap (ANG) / 22.44

400m
1. B. Pacheco (BRA) / 46th place: E. Eustache (GES)

800m
1. M. N. Khunee (KEN) / 1.541
2. A. Raschid (MAR) / 1.561
3. S. Kipteter (KEN) / 1.593 4th place: M. M. Khunee (KEN)

1500m
1. E. Leyon (ENG) / 3.591
2. R. Loth (BEN) / 3.593
3. D. Eni (RUS) / 3.609 4th place: S. Kipteter (KEN)

5000m
1. A. Korosil (POL) / 14.12
2. A. Kachim (POL) / 14.14
3. M. Smail (SO) / 14.16

110m hurdles
1. S. A. Mady (POL) / 14.12
2. A. Kachim (POL) / 14.14
3. M. Smail (SO) / 14.16

400m hurdles
1. A. Kachim (POL) / 51.12
2. M. Smail (SO) / 51.28

3000m steeple
1. A. Yagodyzh (POL) / 8.421
2. R. Arapuj (BRA) / 8.437

For the full results, see page 12.

Cont'd page 12
### Results (cont'd)

#### Men

- **Long jump:**
  1. R. Gatulin (RUS) - 7.98m
  2. H. Al-Saleh (KSA) - 7.81m
  3. F. Semenov (ITA) - 7.80m

- **Triple jump:**
  1. A. Sargsyan (RUS) - 16.43m
  2. H. Al-Saleh (KSA) - 16.42m
  3. D. Brink (RUS) - 16.07m

- **High jump:**
  1. A. Karanovskiy (KAZ) - 2.01m
  2. I. Poddub (RUS) - 5.01m
  3. V. Volodymyrovsky (UKR) - 5.00m

- **Pole vault:**
  1. M. Vidor (SWE) - 19.65m
  2. C. Fontana (ITA) - 19.30m
  3. A. Levchenko (UKR) - 19.01m

- **Shot put:**
  1. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 17.10m
  2. A. Kononov (RUS) - 16.72m
  3. V. Podkolzin (UKR) - 16.19m

- **Discus:**
  1. A. Kononov (RUS) - 17.10m
  2. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 16.72m
  3. V. Podkolzin (UKR) - 16.19m

- **Javelin:**
  1. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 80.00m
  2. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 79.00m
  3. V. Podkolzin (UKR) - 78.88m

- **Hammer:**
  1. M. Konopelko (RUS) - 75.49m
  2. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 74.59m
  3. V. Podkolzin (UKR) - 74.59m

- **4 x 100m:**
  1. I. Lebed, D. Genish, S. Medved, I. Tushak - 41.73s
  2. K. Kuznetsov, V. Kirienko, V. Prokhorov, S. Nikitin - 41.79s
  3. A. Babarzhin, I. Konopelko, S. Babanov, M. Usmanov - 41.94s

- **4 x 400m:**
  2. K. Kuznetsov, V. Kirienko, V. Prokhorov, S. Nikitin - 3:17.47
  3. A. Babarzhin, I. Konopelko, S. Babanov, M. Usmanov - 3:17.92

- **Marathon:**
  1. F. Poggioli (ITA) - 2:09:51
  2. V. Konstantinov (UKR) - 2:11:07

- **10 km walk:**
  1. A. Kharitonov (RUS) - 33:35:16
  2. T. Tushak (RUS) - 35:44:99

#### Women

- **100m:**
  1. J. Tione (RUS) - 12.11s
  2. J. Silva (POR) - 12.31s
  3. L. Abramov (RUS) - 12.32s

- **200m:**
  1. J. Tione (RUS) - 24.70s
  2. L. Abramov (RUS) - 25.00s
  3. L. Konopelko (RUS) - 25.05s

- **400m:**
  1. J. Barthan (FRA) - 54.37s
  2. L. Abramov (RUS) - 54.40s
  3. L. Konopelko (RUS) - 54.54s

- **800m:**
  1. L. Konopelko (RUS) - 2:00.09
  2. M. Konopelko (RUS) - 2:00.12
  3. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 2:00.14

- **1500m:**
  1. T. Tushak (RUS) - 4:27.67
  2. L. Abramov (RUS) - 4:27.70
  3. L. Konopelko (RUS) - 4:27.72

- **5000m:**
  1. M. Konopelko (RUS) - 15:17.96
  2. Z. El Khidri (MAR) - 15:18.41
  3. T. Konopelko (RUS) - 15:19.33

- **4x100m relay:**
  1. J. Zorne (LUX) - 57.78s
  2. E. Gripon (RUS) - 57.87s
  3. T. Coia (ITA) - 58.59s

- **Cont'd page 14**
A n unlooked initial match won by a very small margin against a very aggressive Russian team was just what it took to get the Italian team going. Renato Pasquali's men then methodically crushed everything that was thrown at them: excellent under the backboard, alternating fast breaks down the floor and position play with equal success, the young Italians with Di Bella, Catanì, Giovannini, Bargnani, Bencaster and Riva, were merciless with every team they played. The score of the final—128:69 against a Korean Republic team which they had utterly destroyed by the end of the first period—provides an indication of the superiority of a self-confident Italian team. It is true that, except for the three-point shots that Sang Hyun Cho, Hyo Sup Lee and Jae Hyun Lee delivered with machine-gun speed and accuracy, the South Korean team had too many deficiencies in the defense and under the hoop to be able to succeed against Italy.

All in all, it was a very good tournament, despite the last minute withdrawals of the Republic of Congo and Kazakhstan. It was also a great show, namely in the second set of qualifiers, with a group gathering both Korea, the US and Russia, holding the promise of highly emotional and symbolic matches.

The defining moment in this group happened in 07 December when both Koreans met on the floor for a face-off that the South Koreans won at the end of a genuine thriller. There was solace for the losers, who went on to defeat the US 105-101 the next day, a win whose shockwaves must have carried right through to Pyongyang. The Americans' defeat came at the hands of a 2m34 phenomenon—some sources even have him as tall as 2m43—by the name of Ri Myong Hun, who lined up 41 points (86% of successful shots). Trail 71-80 at the beginning of last period, the team of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea placed its giant scorer inside, thereby forcing the US defenders to commit numerous fouls. Two of them were ejected four personal fouls while three more finished with four. So, what was the key to success for the DPR of Korea's other opponents, then? Well, forcing Ri Myong Hun to run and cut him for his suppliers. And it must be said that he was anything but spared by the defenders of the subsequent teams who played him: some of them made up for their—comparative—size deficit with behaviour that bordered on aggression. However, Russia and the Republic of Korea both successfully applied this principle, with immediate results. This group was spectacular and undecided to the very last. All this to provide the winner with a wonderful opportunity to get to know the Italian team better!
Results

1st round:

Pool A:
1. Italy - Latvia: 115-81
2. Italy - Latvia: 115-81

Pool B:
1. Croatia - DPR Korea: 83-82
2. Belgium - Rwanda: 64-63
3. DPR Korea - Rwanda: 59-54
4. Croatia - Belgium: 67-64

Pool C:
1. USA - Lithuania: 77-70
2. Lithuania - Canada: 60-62
3. USA - Canada: 63-63
4. Lithuania - Canada: 64-64

Pool D:
1. DPR Korea - Syria: 119-83
2. The Netherlands - DPR Korea: 88-82
3. The Netherlands - DPR Korea: 87-78

2nd round:

Place 1:
1 Italy - USA: 108-97
2. Italy - Rwanda: 86-82
3. USA - USA: 107-109
4. USA - USA: 99-99

Place 2:
1. Croatia - Syria: 102-81
2. Italy - Lithuania: 106-72
3. Syria - Lithuania: 95-78
4. Syria - Italy: 98-79

Place 3-4:
1. Italy - Syria: 102-81
2. Syria - Italy: 98-79
3. Syria - Lithuania: 95-78
4. Syria - Italy: 98-79

Place 5-14:
1. DPR Korea - Syria: 87-59
2. The Netherlands - DPR Korea: 75-95
3. The Netherlands - USA: 72-82
4. USA - The Netherlands: 80-87

Cont'd page 18
The least we can write is that boxing is still a hit in CISM. There is nothing new here: all military events, whether global, continental or regional, systematically attract impressive participation. And Catania was no exception, as Viagrande’s Palazzetto dello Sport, packed to the rafters with boxing amateurs, resounded for a full week with the usual background noise composed of loud cheering and bell ringing as well as the dull thud of connecting gloves.

Equally traditional was Russia’s iron grip on military boxing competitions. The Russian representatives of the noble art once more demonstrated the full extent of their talent, following in this the example set by heavyweight championship finalist Alexander Alexandrov, who pounced the way for very eager teammates. Eleven titles were up for grabs in Catania, so went to the Russian boxers, who also bagged four silver medals. It is as simple as that: the only podium from which the Russians were completely absent was the flyweights. As for the Cup that rewards the best team, it went to the Russian too, of course.

Also worthy of note besides the Russians’ performance was the remarkable achievement of the Uzbek team which, under the impulse of Husanov Sherzod, world welterweight championship runner-up and designated best boxer in Catania, left for Tashkent with a suitcase full of metallic symbols of honour, as many as two gold, one silver and six bronze medals had to be cleared through customs!

If one sport has become international, boxing is it; many different regions of the world were rewarded with medals in the Catania tournaments; local athlete Valentino Domencio prevailed in the featherweights while the Asian continent was also represented at the top with both Koreas: Kim Won Ok (North Korea) and Hong Maa Won (South Korea), the latter prevailing against northern neighbour Kim Chol San.

The other steps of the different podiums were occupied by boxers from the Mediterranean (Tunisia and Algeria), the Caucasus (Georgian and Armenian), the Arab world (Jordan and Syria; Central Europe and Asia. In short, boxing was fit as a fiddle in Catania, though some athletes would be well advised to remember to bring their compulsory medical fitness certificates when they wish to enter competitions, as fourteen of them found out when they were—quite properly—denied entry in the tournaments after travelling thousands of kilometres. Indeed, the physical fitness committee never handles such situations with kid-gloves!

Participating Countries (38) : Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, South Africa, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, DDR, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Finland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordania, Kenya, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Namibia, The Netherlands, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, People’s Democratic Republic of Korea, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Turkey, Ukraine.

CISM Official Representative : Colonel Mohamed Metwali (Algeria)
President TC : Commandant James Hunt (Ireland) and RADM Eric Green (South Africa)
285 participants, 167 athletes
Results

**Light Fly:**
1. Hong Moo Won (KOR)
2. Kim Chol Sex (PRK)
3. Bekki Kilgo Tery (NZL) and Naimiyov Ozbak (UZB)
4. Rowo Jhyh La (AUS) and Bajram Subashi (ALB)
5. Ashique Usmanov (UZB) and Mi Yutong (CHN)
6. Yarbu Shikun (SVK) and Mama (AUS)
7. Mdyaq Yandar (AUX) and Jang Haeklong (MAL)
8. Mohammad Amin Robby (IRI) and Kern Oubrousse (FRA)
9. Fayed Wardisse (TUN) and Donatus Bienok (LIT)

**Fly:**
1. Alexander Abass (RUS)
2. Zakhourkay Namy (UKR)
3. Maxim Sokol (RUS)
4. Kiwon Kim (KOR)
5. Kyle Tshekho (RSA)
6. Waliou Abd Alaa (SYR)

**Bantam:**
1. Kiwon Gye (PRK)
2. Koren Tshende (RSA)
3. Waliou Abd Alaa (SYR)

**Feather:**
1. Valentino Domenico (ITA)
2. Alih Werkk (FRG)

**Light-welter:**
1. Dzikho Machizuko (ZIM)
2. Ghey Konnessson (NOR)
3. Bashir Seraf (RUS)

**Welter:**
1. Husnief Sherwood (UZB)
2. Besheev Seraz (RUS)

**Middle weight:**
1. Nusaj Kodzib (AUS)
2. Abdurakhmon Sherzod (UZB)
3. Andreas Di Lucia (ITA) and Mahomed Saboteo (TUN)
4. Nacc Oulhes (LBN) and Chris Brown (ENG)

**Light-heavy:**
1. Dzarev Abakev (RUS)
2. Vugor Aksiboro (AUS)

**Heavy:**
1. Abazrev Jabeo (LIT)
2. Jorasov Jere (LIT)
3. Ordog Gavino (AM) and Asgari Rokkam (UZB)

**Super-heavy:**
1. Islam Timurzob (RUS)
2. Anhad Watar (SYR)
3. Jiranowicz (LUS) and Igor Bilic (CRO)

**Champion Cup:**
Russia
**F.I.A. Cup:**
Uzbekistan
**Best-blow Cup:**
Machimiko Sherzod (UZB)
A Czech and a Slovak: The Pair is Back!

A chance had it; the cyclists who prevailed in Sicily are citizens of two countries that were united until December 1990. This can be interpreted as a sign that when a sport superpower is divided into two separate countries, ten years are not enough to erase established traditions and long-standing know-how.

Slovakia and the Czech Republic have even performed in ice-hockey at a higher level they did when the two countries were still united. The time trials and in-line race of these 5th Military World Games demonstrated that this does not necessarily apply in all sports, but is at least also true in military cycling.

It was in the small town of Motta Santa Anastasia, nestled in the hills a few wheel turns from Catania that 19 countries competed for the two gold medals that were up for grabs, respectively in the time trial and in-line events on the programme of the Military World Games. Participants Covered the same course in both races.

But different days meant different weather conditions! While the time trials were held under the shining sun, the in-line race took place under a downpour that drenched the military cyclists who were bold enough to enter only three days later.

Two Slovaks—Matej Jurco, the impressive winner, and fellow countryman Miro Kovac (4th)—, Belarus’s Svetlana (2nd) and Russia’s Elmikim (3rd) finished in the top four, which confirms that the Central and Eastern European time trial school is still very solid indeed.

In the individual race, a Czech, Jan Kuna, outprinted Frenchman Eric Macret and two Russian—Pupov (3rd) and Elmikim (4th)—while a Slovenian and two Poles also managed to finish in the top ten. Proof again that amateur cycling is still flamboyant to the East of Germany.

This should not overshadow the excellent performances produced by the Columbian, Qatari, Chinese and Sri Lankan teams, who reminded us of the ongoing internationalization of cycling, which has truly become a favourite on all continents!

Participating Countries (19) : Belgium, Belarus, China, Colombia, France, Greece, India, Italy, Libya, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Qatar, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Czech Republic
CISM Official Representative : Colonel Peter Jenoure ( Switzerland)
President TC : Lt-Colonel Jonas Oussoeren ( The Netherlands)
178 participants, 111 athletes
Twenty-seven nations crossed swords in Catania's fine and capacious Palanesima hall. In view of the many Olympic, World and European titles Italy bags with clockwork regularity, it looked like the one nation to beat, especially as it also enjoyed the advantage of performing on the home strips. Well, while the local team, led namely by women's foil legend Valentina Vezzali—who added a world military title to a sumptuous, univalued record—were definitely up to initial expectations, they eventually had to bow to the Russian team whose excellent women's team and very homogeneous men's team produced slightly better performances overall.

The final table of team results illustrates the Russian domination overall: gold in the men's, gold in the women's and gold in the combined rankings. With four titles, Russia finished ahead of Italy (three gold medals), the Ukraine (two) and Estonia and Romania (one each).

The names of medalists provide ample evidence of the high level of performance achieved in Catania. To provide specialists with but one example, entries in the women's foil tournament included four of the world's current top six foilwomen. A look at the results is enlightening too, as it includes the names of many winners of top international events. But of course, we've long known that military fencing is fit as a fiddle and is indeed one of CISM's jewels.

Participating Countries (27) : Argentina (*), Belgium, Belarus (*), Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Republic of Korea, Spain, Estonia, Finland, France (*), Hungary (*), Italy (*), Norway, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania (*), Russia (*), Switzerland, Sweden (*), Czech Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine.

CISM Official Representative: Brigadier General Ildore Popowycz (Canada)
President TC: Lt Colonel Joao Quadros (Portugal)
186 participants, 166 athletes: 41 women, 125 men
### Results

#### Women
- **Sword:**
  1. A. Siolova (RUS)
  2. D. Aleksieva (EST)
  3. S. Tel (ND)
- **Foils:**
  1. C. Scarpas (ITA)
  2. E. Moleina (RUS)
  3. Romania
- **Sabers:**
  1. M. Rubic (HRV)
  2. Romania
  3. France
- **Team Gen. Class.:**
  1. Russia : 153 pts
  2. Italy : 143 pts
  3. Romania : 135 pts

#### Men
- **Sword:**
  1. V. Zakharov (RUS)
  2. I. Ryzhin (Kaz)
  3. Ukraine
- **Foils:**
  1. N. Rzyskin (RUS)
  2. G. Rossi (ITA)
  3. Romania
- **Sabers:**
  1. V. Lukashevich (UKR)
  2. C. Busetto (ITA)
  3. Ukraine
- **Team Gen. Class.:**
  1. Russia : 106 pts
  2. Italy : 104 pts
  3. Romania : 103 pts
- **Nations Cup:**
  1. Russia : 225 pts
  2. Italy : 200 pts
  3. Romania : 177 pts
North Korea had admittedly made quite an impression at the last World Military Football Tournament in Cairo in 2001 with its quick, inspired play. It finished a well-deserved third behind the Egyptian and Greek big names both. But there was quite a margin between good performances in 2001 and gold at the Military World Games, and it was a gap we did not think they would bridge.

Indeed, the final tournament in Catania, decapitated as it was by the last-minute withdrawals of Ethiopia and Syria, looked like it was already in the bag for either the local team or the Egyptians, who have been present at the top like clockwork for the last ten years. Having prevailed in their respective qualifier group matches, both teams looked like they were set to reach the final.

The first upset came in the semi-finals when the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea defeated—by virtue of a golden goal in extra time—an Italian team that was its usual tough self and will keep—in addition to the bronze medal—the enviable title of top yellow and red card recipients.

Now, since Egypt had reached the final with a flawless record (not a single goal was scored against them) and had literally crushed the DPR of Korea in the qualifiers by an irresistible 3-0, many observers thought that the final would be like a walk in the park for the Pharaohs.

The Egyptians adopted a tactical set up that enabled them to dominate the beginning of the match while keeping several players in a defensive position, which served to prove that they drenched the Korean counterattacks and the speed of their strikers. Unfortunately, there is a big difference between briefings and practice, which Yong exploited 20 minutes into the match by crossing the midfield line and mystifying the Egyptian defence to toe the goalkeeper in style. Bassyony, who was the most prominent player of the 2001 world military championship bugged his team, levelled the score soon afterwards. Egypt even took the lead early in the second half by Ragab Abdal. They probably thought they were most of the way home by then. But in this they underestimated the North Korean’s doggedness and especially Song Chol Nam, a talented player who scored the equaliser before striking again to deliver victory for his team with just two minutes to spare. He sent his team to heaven and gave his country its first major international football title.

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**Participating Countries (6):**
- Barbados, People’s Democratic Republic of Korea, Egypt, Guinea, Italy, Lithuania

**CISM Official Representative:** Colonel Léon De Wulf (Belgium)

**President TC:** Colonel Nevzat Yard (Turkey)

163 participants: 117 athletes
Results

Group A: Guinea - Lithuania: 0-2, Italy - Guinea: 1-1
Class: 1. Italy, 2. Lithuania, 3. Guinea, 4. DPR Korea

Group B: DPR Korea - Barbados: 2-1, Egypt - DPR Korea: 3-0
Class: 1. Egypt, 2. DPR Korea, 3. Barbados, 4. Lithuania

Semi-Finals: DPR Korea - Italy: 2-1, Egypt - Lithuania: 2-0
Final: DPR Korea - Egypt: 3-2
3rd place: Lithuania - Barbados: 3-2
A Great Show!

A few kilometres to the north of Catania, the charming town of Aci Castello’s Palazzino sports hall welcomed 285 judokas from 41 different countries. The organisation of these competitions was textbook perfect and all athletes enjoyed ideal conditions to put up a great show of their skills. Skills that were in evidence right from the start as the assembled collection of talents was on a par with top international tournaments: many Olympic champions and medallists as well as world and continental champions, including Mark Hukstein, Giuseppe Maddaloni, Yuri Scopin and Alexander Mikhailin, were present on the Sicilian tatami.

Much like other disciplines that used to come under the thorough domination of a small number of flagship nations, judo has become more international recently. In terms of both participation and podiums. And this phenomenon applied to military judo in Catania too.

Admittedly, with four out of 16 titles in the bag, Russia once more took the lion’s share of gold medals. Admittedly again, with three titles and many other medals, the Italian team set the pace on fire, much to the delight of an audience that was thoroughly won over to begin with. Finally, the Republic of Korea’s men admittedly performed to their usual best. But a closer look at the table of medals shows that in addition to the countries above, medals have gone to athletes from as many different countries as China, Romania, Slovenia, Hungary, North Korea, Belarus, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Slovakia, Belgium, Finland and The Netherlands. To cut a long story short; the usual military judo hierarchy emerged somewhat shaken from these tournaments and, although major judo nations pulled it off again, the martial art has definitely taken an international turn.

As a form of conclusion—and in order to provide an indication of the level of performance in these joints—let us simply point out that Olympic champion Giuseppe Maddaloni was interrupted in his quest for gold a step short of the top step of the podium and that a number of other top athletes were sent packing empty-handed. Magnificent fights, major upsets, a warm audience, a very high level of performance overall and international podiums: Catania undoubtedly provided military judo with the most wonderful of promotional opportunities.

Results

**Women**

-48kg: 1. F. Ge (CHN)
  2. G. Tuta (ROM)
  3. Y. Leontsina (RUS) and A. Demirov (ROM)

-57kg: 1. L. Bogdanova (RUS)
  2. L. Petrakova (RUS)
  3. J. Sambaty (PAK)

-63kg: 1. H. Choong (PAK)
  2. Z. Sandal (HUN)
  3. U. Zonne (BUL)

-70kg: 1. V. Sapin (RUS)
  2. D. Liu (CHN)
  3. Q. Jang (KOR)

-78kg: 1. V. Macra (ITA)
  2. L. Doan (HAI)
  3. T. Dongpuzhan (CHN)

-81kg: 1. S. Yan (CHN)

**Men**

-60kg: 1. T. Inoue (JPN)
  2. D. Kim (KOR)
  3. M. Halmi (HUN)

-66kg: 1. M. Inoue (JPN)
  2. B. Ozyar (TUR)
  3. M. Doan (HAI)

-73kg: 1. T. Inoue (JPN)
  2. D. Kim (KOR)
  3. M. Halmi (HUN)

-78kg: 1. T. Inoue (JPN)
  2. D. Kim (KOR)
  3. M. Halmi (HUN)

**Mixed**

1. F. Ge (CHN) and L. Bogdanova (RUS)
2. G. Tuta (ROM) and A. Demirov (ROM)
3. J. Sambaty (PAK) and Z. Sandal (HUN)
3. Q. Jang (KOR) and B. Ozyar (TUR)

Catania 2003

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Results

Men
-80kg: 1. Chul Jae Lee (KOR)
-73kg: 1. U. Madisev (RUS)
-66kg: 1. C. Nam-Soon (KOR)
-60kg: 1. R. Mecone (ITA)
-55kg: 1. M. Hwang (KOR)
-50kg: 1. M. Mozgovoi (RUS)
-45kg: 1. A. Windsor (RUS)
+100kg: 1. A. Vakhoin (RUS)

2. Ou Ro Xue (KOR)
2. S. Huyet (TUR)
2. M. Lommri (FRA)
2. G. Madalinos (ITA)
2. Seong Ho Cho (KOR)
2. G. Ikeda (JPN)
2. A. Hernandez (BRA)
2. Yubing Jia (CHN) and J. Senzendo (BEL)
2. M. Matsuzaki (JPN) and G. Abe (JPN)
3. D. Brod (BLR) and K. Zhelezniak (RUS)
3. O. Oganiko (RUS) and Kun-Sik Min (KOR)
3. S. Serrill (ITA) and G. Goddar (AZE)
3. G. Gracenjka (ITA) and Ju Run-Bae (KOR)
3. N. Skopirov (BUL) and P. Bianches (ITA)
Fabulous Chinese Grand Slam!

They deservedly got all the attention! The Chinese national anthem filled the Nissima swimming pool a total of nineteen times! Twice to celebrate Chinese success in a men's races, and seventeen times for their female counterparts! What is more, the Chinese lady won every single one of the gold medals, setting six new military world records in the process. While performances generally remained measurably above civilian world records, it should be said that December is not exactly the best time of the year to expect high-level performances in the 50m pool.

The Chinese team was led by Hui Qi, a 19-year-old prodigy of 1m75 and 62 kg from Shanghal, who is the owner of the 200m breaststroke world record (2:26/29). In Catania, the resident of Shanghai Naval College bagged four individual titles (50m, 100m and 200m breaststroke, and 200m medley) as well as a relay title. But her teammate Jari Cheng did even better with seven gold medals (50m, 100m and 200m back crawl, 50m and 100m freestyle, as well as the 4x100m freestyle and medley relays) so she can legitimately claim the title of Queen of the Third Military World Games.

Take the talent of these two young ladies and toss in that of Yang Zhou (50m and 100m butterfly and 200m freestyle)—complemented with style by substitute Li Cui in the 200m butterfly—and long-distance swimmer Xue Li, and you have assembled all the ingredients of a grand slam that will go down in military sport history!

Greetings from Russia!

With seven out of 19 titles, the Russian team's harvest is more than satisfactory. Balkachev, Ivanovskiy, Gorstalov, Smirnov and their teammates did not exactly produce extraordinary time performances, but the gold medals were all that mattered in midwinter.

Behind Russia in the order of merit, the Ukrainian neighbours led by Sardnov—one of the world's best butterfly style specialists—managed to lay their hands on four gold medals. As for Italy, it was thought that it would do better than the two titles bagged individually by Formentini in the 1,500m and collectively with his relay teammates in the 4x100m freestyle. With gold in the 200m back crawl and medley, Zhou sent his best regards to his colleagues of the women's team and further demonstrated that in China, there are male swimmers too. Slovenian back crawler Kranec, Serbian breaststroker Tepavcovic, Latvia's Miklosavkis and Ramani's versatile stylist Badita confirmed that men's competitions in Catania were essentially dominated by Eastern Europe.

Participating Countries (26): Austria (*), Belarus (*), Belgium (*), Brazil, Canada (*), China (*), Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Cyprus, United States, Greece (*), Hungary, India, Italy (*), Latvia (*), Luxembourg, The Netherlands (*), Romania (*), Russia (*), Slovakia (*), Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro, Sweden, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Ukraine (*), female participation

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Jan Peterka (Slovakia)

President TC: Major Elisabeth Vezina (Canada) ad interim

307 Participants, 261 athletes, 82 women, 179 men

Results

Women

50m butterfly: 1. Y. Zhou (CHN) : 28.93 (CISM rec)
100m butterfly: 1. Y. Zhou (CHN) : 59.32 (CISM rec)
200m butterfly: 1. L. Cui (CHN) : 2:12.14 (CISM rec)
50m back: 1. J. Cheng (CHN) : 29.06 (CISM rec)
100m back: 1. J. Cheng (CHN) : 1:52.32
200m back: 1. J. Cheng (CHN) : 2:14.97 (CISM rec)
50m breast: 1. Y. Zhou (CHN) : 32.41
100m breast: 1. Y. Zhou (CHN) : 1:10.30
200m breast: 1. Y. Zhou (CHN) : 2:20.34
50m fly: 1. J. Cheng (CHN) : 28.96

2. N. Soudigourina (RUS) : 27.71
2. N. Soudigourina (RUS) : 58.86
3. N. Soudigourina (RUS) : 2:14.99
3. S. Yang (CHN) : 2.11.71
3. S. Yang (CHN) : 1:02.97
3. S. Yang (CHN) : 2:15.92
3. S. Bondarenko (UKR) : 1:16.88
3. S. Bondarenko (UKR) : 1:11.39
3. S. Bondarenko (UKR) : 2:29.36
3. J. Leng (CHN) : 28.74
### Swimming

#### Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100m Free</td>
<td>J. Cheng (CHN)</td>
<td>51.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200m Free</td>
<td>Y. Zhou (CHN)</td>
<td>2:01.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400m Free</td>
<td>Xue Li (CHN)</td>
<td>4:15.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50m Back</td>
<td>Sun Li (CHN)</td>
<td>34.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100m Medley</td>
<td>Hui Di (CHN)</td>
<td>1:41.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4x100m Free</td>
<td>China 3:47.24 (CSM)</td>
<td>3:47.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4x100m Medley</td>
<td>China 4:11.04 (CSM)</td>
<td>4:11.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Men**

- **50m Butterfly**: S. Boss (URS) - 24.35
- **100m Butterfly**: A. Gardiner (AUS) - 53.98
- **200m Butterfly**: M. Ayala (URS) - 2:02.17
- **50m Back**: J. Kocz (SWE) - 26.27
- **100m Back**: D. Sherov (RUS) - 59.12
- **200m Back**: Y. Zhou (CHN) - 2:22.03
- **200m Breast**: V. Kulikov (RUS) - 2:16.19
- **200m IM**: V. Kulikov (RUS) - 2:02.17
- **400m IM**: V. Kulikov (RUS) - 4:16.46
- **800m Freestyle**: V. Kulikov (RUS) - 8:05.90
- **1500m Freestyle**: S. Kopec (SWE) - 16:53.82

**Women**

- **50m Breast**: A. Komor (POL) - 30.51
- **100m Breast**: A. Smirnova (RUS) - 1:01.11
- **200m Breast**: A. Komor (POL) - 2:10.53
- **50m Back**: A. Popova (RUS) - 28.64
- **100m Back**: A. Popova (RUS) - 1:04.98
- **200m Back**: A. Popova (RUS) - 2:08.11

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### Catania 2003
The athletes from twelve countries who took part in the lifesaving competitions of the 3rd Military World Games did manage quite a few stunning performances. Admittedly, the Italian lifesaving team included a few top world performers; Mauro Locchi, literally unbeatable in the 100m, Germano Proietti, who performed brilliantly in the 100m with fins, and Federico Masciarelli. Worthy of a special mention in the women's events are the excellent performances of the Chinese lifesavers, most prominent amongst whom was Linying Zheng, who set a very fine time in the 100m with fins. Italy with seven titles and China with four gold medals were the main winners of the lifesaving competitions, as only Canada's Hailey John managed to snatch a gold medal from under their collective noses!

Results

Women
50m manikin carry : 1. H. John (CAN) : 47.41 2. L. Zhang (CHN) : 47.48
100m manikin carry with fins : 1. L. Zhang (CHN) : 50.11 2. Z. Wang (CHN) : 50.15
100m manikin tow with fins : 1. G. Song (CHN) : 1:07.91 2. G. Song (CHN) : 1:07.91
100m rescue medley : 1. D. Song (CHN) : 1:22.21 2. S. Jorda (AUS) : 1:24.25
3. K. Toh (CHN) : 1:24.25
3. D. Song (CHN) : 1:24.25
3. H. John (CAN) : 1:24.25
3. M. Locchi (ITA) : 1:24.25

Men
100m manikin carry with fins : 1. G. Pratelli (ITA) : 51.03 2. Z. Li (CHN) : 52.43
100m manikin tow with fins : 1. F. Mastrototaro (ITA) : 1:08.29 2. F. Mastrototaro (ITA) : 1:08.29
3. M. Rigamonti (ITA) : 1:13.81
3. N. Tschernikow (GER) : 1:13.81
3. Z. Li (CHN) : 1:13.81
3. S. Vasiliev (RUS) : 1:13.81
4. disqualified

3. F. Mastrototaro (ITA) : 2.21.99

Relay (men, women):
4x50m obstacle relay : 1. Italy : 1:46.76 2. Russia : 1:47.26
4x50m medley : 1. Italy : 1:59.57 2. Russia : 1:59.57
3. Austria : 1:59.57
3. Sweden : 1:57.98
4. Germany : 1:57.98

Russia and China Flying High

Two Russian Olympic champions, Dmitri Sautin—the legend who accumulated countless world and European titles—and Igor Lukashin, Tesi in China's Bo Peng, second of the world championship and you have an indication of the level of performance attained in the diving competitions, dominated by China and Russia. Not enough data to understand it all! Suffice to say that Dmitri Sautin, the monument of world diving, failed to bid a single title in Catania.

Actually, Mister Bo Peng decided to upset the hierarchy by winning two titles (on the 1m and 3m springboards) on his own and adding another one in the synchronized 3m event. Luckily for the Russian men's honour, Mister Lukashin snatched the gold medal hanging from the 10m platform. In the women's events, China's Zhang and Russia's Umaryakova respectively mastered the 1m and 3m springboards.

Results

Women
1m:
1. J. Zhang (CHN): 256.90pts
2. Y. Yang (CHN): 277.70pts
3. T. Cognata (ITA): 274.30pts

2m:
1. N. Umaryakova (RUS): 578.60pts
2. Y. Yang (CHN): 585.70pts
3. Z. Zhang (CHN): 590.30pts

Men
1m:
1. B. Peng (CHN): 443.30pts
2. Z. Liu (CHN): 423.40pts
3. G. Galperin (RUS): 392.90pts

2m:
1. B. Peng (CHN): 742.60pts
2. D. Sautin (RUS): 716.10pts
3. Z. Liu (CHN): 718.30pts

10m:
1. I. Lukashin (RUS): 860.70pts
2. G. Galperin (RUS): 803.20pts
3. M. Choe (PRK): 804.30pts

Synchrono 3m:
1. B. Peng & Z. Liu (CHN): 341.90pts
2. D. Sautin & Babakin (RUS): 339.20pts
3. W. Marcon & M. Marcon (ITA): 311.10pts
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Technogym® has many years experience delivering Strength, Cardiovascular and Rehabilitation products to many armed services. We also specialise in supporting many of the world's top sports. Indeed our selection at 2004 ATHENS OLYMPICS and the 2000 SYDNEY OLYMPICS as the "Official Sole Supplier of Strength & Cardiovascular Equipment" is testament to the sports our products help produce world class performances.

Participating nations (28) : Belarus (*), Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China (*), Republic of Korea, Estonia, United States (*), Greece, Hungary (*), Italy (*), Kazakhstan, (*), Latvia (*), Lithuania, Poland, Russia (*), Czech Republic, Slovakia, Sweden (*), Switzerland, Ukraine (*). (*) female participation

CISM Official Representative : Lt Col Rinette Hulte (Namibia)
President TC : Colonel Jurgen Wehrli (Switzerland)
82 athletes : 22 women, 60 men
## Results

### Women

**Individual:**
- L. Dong (CHN) - 5064pts
- T. Gordeik (RUS) - 5334pts
- L. Shambaev (KAZ) - 5320pts

**Team:**
1. Russia (T. Gordeik, S. Kizhekov, M. Vashchenkov) - 16330pts
2. Hungary (K. Fej, M. Yi, B. Simon) - 15980pts
3. Kazakhstan (I. Jalibekov, L. Shambaev, N. Umerov) - 15670pts

**Relay:**
- Belarus (H. Atypikas, A. Barzunich, M. Uzukin) - 5500pts
- Hungary (K. Fej, M. Yi, B. Simon) - 4755pts
- Kazakhstan (I. Jalibekov, L. Shambaev, N. Umerov) - 4334pts

### Men

**Individual:**
- E. Dell’Amico (ITA) - 5570pts
- A. Kako (HUN) - 5502pts
- L. Capalbi (ITA) - 5540pts

**Team:**
1. United States (C. Senior, E. Brehm, S. Christe) - 5562pts
2. Italy (F. Ermolai, E. Valmiron, E. Dell’Amico) - 5531pts
3. Ukraine (S. Shevchenko, W. Yachuk, Y. Burov) - 5506pts

**Relay:**
- Italy (F. Ermolai, G. Liu, E. Dell’Amico) - 5417pts
- Czech Republic (C. Knepl, P. Lazi, B. Sudova) - 5400pts
- Russia (A. Khvorost, A. Savchenko, Y. Yuskin) - 5346pts
Volleyball

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Out of This World

The audience of Palace of Culture, a hall that is as small as it atmosphere is warm, gave them a standing ovation that lasted several minutes: standing in the middle of the field like comedians in an encore, the gracious North Korean ladies burst into tears out of surprise at applause that was, after all, only fair compensation after such a masterful performance. They had just stormed through their final against Greece, as they had outclassed all opposition in previous matches of this global tournament. Served with surgical precision by S.H. Jong, their outstanding passer—and incidentally the best athlete of the tournament—and coached by their Iron Lady, trainer S. Ok Kang, they won the Sicilian crowds over with their fast, varied and aerial style. Equipped with perfect technical skills, remarkable suppleness and speed as well as undeniable creativeness and variation, not only did the ladies of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea perform in a league of there own, they also had the good taste of adding panache to efficiency. The runner-up, Greece, and Italy, third, could only stand and watch as S.H. Jong, C. Jong Pak, Sin Yong and their teammates tied down the law from above.

Results

Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>3-1</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class</td>
<td>DPR</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>0-3</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-finals</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>DPR-Korea</td>
<td>3-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>DPR-Korea</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>0-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st place</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd place</td>
<td>DPR-Canada</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd place</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participating Countries (16): Belgium, Brazil, Canada*, China, Cameroon, Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cyprus, United States*, Italy*, Greece*, Morocco, The Netherlands*, Pakistan, Romania

CISM Official Representative: Colonel André Thierry (Belgium)
President TC: Major Bernard Cyr (Canada) ad interim for Lt Colonel Di Caro (Italy)
317 participants, 228 athletes: 72 women, 156 men
It is not insulting to the Chinese—who did win a set against the Italians in the final of the men's tournament—to state that what should have been the final was played out between Italy and the Republic of Korea in the semi-finals group match. Out of 13 teams originally entering the tournament, eight had previously emerged from the four qualifying groups. They then played in two pools of four, with the winning team of each group going on to the final. It so happened that the strongest two teams in the championship ended up in the same pool. And the least we can write is that the Republic of Korea deserved a set in the final at least as much as the team that eventually defeated them. Bresten three sets to two, Chol Sam Hoan's men will always remember with a pinch of sourness the turn of events at the end of the second set of their pool match against Italy. Indeed, having won the first set, the Koreans looked like they were going to bag the second one as well, when a streak of questionable decisions by the umpires deprived them of a two-set advantage that the Italians would likely have found very difficult to challenge afterwards. So, instead of 2-0, the stand was one set all and despite prevailing in the third set, the Koreans eventually had to yield in the tiebreak.

This was of course very much to the liking of the large Italian crowd who did not have to put up too much of a cheering show during the final to support the home team to a three sets to one victory. The Chinese team did include Fan Xiao Guang—elected best player of the tournament—but their block was no match against Michel Lasko. Italy's formidable left-hander, whose power in the offense was decisive throughout the tournament.

Let us conclude with a word on the very international nature of this tournament. Indeed, at the foot of a podium composed of Italy, China and the Republic of Korea in that order, Cameroon and Brazil also fought valiantly for a place in the final until the very last semi-final group match. Cameroon finished with the same number of points as China and was only declared fifth overall because it has scored a miserable three points fewer than the latter in group matches!

Results

Men

Group A:
- Rep. Korea-Belgium: 3-0, USA-Morocco: 3-0, Rep. Korea-USA: 3-0, Belgium-Morocco: 3-0
- Belgium-USA: 1-3

Class:
- 1. Rep. Korea
- 2. Morocco
- 3. USA
- 4. Belgium

Group B:
- China-Palestine: 3-2, China-Cameroon: 3-1, Pakistan-Canada: 3-0

Class:
- 1. China
- 2. Pakistan
- 3. Cameroon
- 4. Canada

Group C:
- Italy-The Netherlands: 3-1, Italy-Cameroun: 3-1, The Netherlands-Cameroon: 3-0

Class:
- 1. Italy
- 2. Cameroon
- 3. The Netherlands
- 4. Canada

Group D:
- Brazil-Romania: 3-2, Brazil-Cyprus: 3-1, Romania-Cyprus: 3-4

Class:
- 1. Brazil
- 2. Romania
- 3. Cyprus

1-8th Place:

Group E:
- Rep. Korea-Pakistan: 3-0, Italy-Romania: 3-1, Romania-Pakistan: 3-0, Italy-Rep. Korea: 3-2, Pakistan-Italy: 0-3, Rep. Korea-Romania: 3-0

Class:
- 1. Italy
- 3. Romania
- 4. Pakistan

Group F:
- Morocco-China: 3-0, Cameroon-Brazil: 3-2, China-Brazil: 3-0, Cameroon-Morocco: 3-0, China-Cameroon: 3-1, Morocco-Brazil: 0-3

Class:
- 1. China
- 2. Morocco
- 3. Cameroon
- 4. Brazil
- 5. Africa
- 6. Morocco

Conf'd page 51
The small, picturesque port of Riposto, bathed by the waters of the Ionian Sea on the eastern coast of Sicily 20km to the north of Catania, was home to the Military World Games’ Sailing competitions. Crews from 20 nations contends during a week for the gold medal of this third edition. Eight regattas were scheduled, with each team’s best six results eventually being taken into account. Now, in mid-December, the weather is often unpredictable and this time was no exception. Either there was no wind at all or it was fierce enough to discourage our military—helmet or no helmet—from pacing the decks of the impressive 25-foot Laser Giro 35 boats provided by the organisers.

While crews drew and raced different boats each time, it can be said—without standing to be accused of unfairness—that the organizing country was at a double advantage as it both selected the type of boat it made available to the other crews and had an opportunity to train on location in advance of the actual regattas.

Adding to this the Italian team’s reputation as world-class competitors, the victory of the host country’s team—consisted of Luigi Raveoli, Sergio Garana, Fabio Montefusco, Romolo Emiliani, Andrea Cigali and Vittorio Luigi Russo—came as anything but a major surprise. With four wins and a fourth and a fifth place as their best six results, Italy had a near-impeccable hold on first place. This being said, the local team’s path to victory was not exactly an easy ride either; its domination did not become final until the very last regatta. Until the very end, France and Russia still had their fate in their own hands and could have prevailed. But the Italians eventually won the last regatta and bagged the title, with Russia second—and third overall—while France managed to finish fourth, which was enough to preserve the silver medal by a hair.

Results

1. Italy: 13 pts
2. France: 17 pts
3. Russia: 19 pts
10. Sweden: 52 pts.

Participating Countries (20): South Africa, Argentina, Canada (*), Croatia, Denmark, Spain, United States (*), Finland, France, India, Italy, Norway (*), The Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Bengt Nylander (Sweden)
President TC: Lt-Col Diana Hope (Canada)
152 participants, 129 athletes: 3 women, 126 men
Russia finished on top of the medals table with 52 of the 84 participating nations winning at least one medal.

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Other activities
The Secretary General Reports

As I explained at great length in the last two reports describing the activities of the General Secretariat, my policy throughout the term you gave me at the Algiers General Assembly in 2001 has been geared toward five main objectives. As the essence of those is known to you by now, I think it is unnecessary to repeat them. Suffice to say that they are unchanged and influence our activities decisively last year.

The major renovation works undertaken in 2002 in the House of CISM have proved extremely useful as it now provides a prestigious showcase to welcome in worthy fashion both the members of our organisation and top international sports figures. Proof of this was provided by the tremendous CISM meetings held there, including those of the Commissions for Sport and Finance as well as the meeting I had with the Presidents of the Technical Committees.

Last year we also inaugurated a new room—the "Chevalier Raoul Meller" room—in a ceremony chaired by IOC President Comte Jacques Rogge and attended by military personalities, Olympic athletes and representatives of sports federations. It was undeniably a major success for CISM, which contributed measurably to our international visibility.

Last year, the General Secretariat’s human resources were also considerably strengthened. However, as the budget I am allocated is presently quite tight, this increase—which enabled us to further improve the quality of the services and support we provide to CISM as a community—could only be obtained thanks to the reinforcements supplied by the Belgian and Guinean delegations. Three new people joined our staff and rendered invaluable, essential services throughout the year. Clearly, these initiatives are also fully compatible with my commitment to scrupulously work within the limits of the budget adopted by the General Assembly.

We also worked to further develop our cooperation with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and other international institutions including the United Nations. In practice, these activities notably included the provision of transport for many athletes to and from the Military World Games as part of synergies developed with Olympic Solidarity.

About the Military World Games, I have to underscore that we met all the objectives we had set ourselves. Others before me have given over the peculiar conditions that prevailed over their organisation. In advance of the Cavallino rendezvous, our aim was to gather as many athletes from as many different countries as possible for high-standard sports competitions in order to perpetuate and consolidate the Military World Games. Thanks to the many people who selflessly contributed to their organisation or took part in them, we can say that the mission was accomplished better than adequately.

So 2003 ended on a more than promising note. All the more reason for me to turn resolutely to 2004, a year that promises to be both busy and fascinating. Of course, "busy" means "work". And forecasts point at a significant increase in the General Secretariat’s activities, though it has not exactly been sparing its efforts. But as the 2004 budget does not include additional resources and it will therefore not be possible to recruit more staff, I called upon our Delegations to improve our staffing levels. Negotiations are well under way so I can
be optimistic about our future—while adhering to the budget for 2004, which I am committed to managing with unchanged rigour.

Many long-term projects are in the pipeline. It is for instance urgent to strengthen our cooperation and visibility with international sports federations. Indeed, while contacts already exist at the level of the General Secretariat and Technical Committees, these need to be better structured and enhanced. The organisation of the Military World Games has shown once again that cooperation with international sports federations is absolutely essential and that we cannot afford to exist in complete isolation.

The organisation of the Tunis Symposium is another important project that will keep us busy next year. It has been almost three years since we last held a symposium on some key sport-related issue or other. If we intend to succeed in this undertaking, it will need both to effectively serve CISM’s best interest by contributing substantial added value and to demonstrate that associating our name with a symposium is a guarantee of reliability, rigour and credibility vis-à-vis the outside world.

Another objective we have set ourselves for 2004 is to place the emphasis on CISM’s continental and regional activities. Indeed, you know as well as I do that while our world championships are one of our organisation’s most prominent activities, defending and supporting our ideals also requires that attention be paid to the events that our Member Armed Forces organise at continental level.

These activities contribute to CISM’s visibility on a daily basis and in some regions of the world, our organisation is actually known exclusively through these non-global events. They are an essential part of our visibility and we must never forget that.

This is the reason why we have decided to intensify the exchange of Information on, and the development of initiatives associating the General Secretariat, the Sports and Communication Section and Liaisons Offices as well as our continental Vice Presidents, Liaison officers and Presidents of Technical Committees.

This policy fits perfectly within the management plan we developed for years to come. Our Continental Development Centres Project is another example of this strategic vision.

In 2004, we will also focus our energy on preparing the 4th Military World Games to be held in Hyderabad, India, in 2007. For the first time in the history of CISM, we have a full four years at our disposal in which to organise those Games and we fully intend to take advantage of this opportunity which, added to the expertise accumulated in previous editions, augurs well for the future.

What else is there to say? Maybe insist once again on my commitment to always work with the best interest of CISM and its ideals in mind. The team of the General Secretariat is fully available to answer your questions and meet your requirements as well as to help CISM achieve all its objectives.

In 2004 as always, the doors of the House of CISM will be open wide to welcome you in the spirit of friendship that governs all our activities and underpins our ideal of Peace.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Colonel Dottore
Gianni Gola
(Italy)

Secretary General
Colonel
Robert Eggermont
(Belgium)

Vice-Presidents
Colonel L. De Wulf
(Belgium)
Vice-President for Europe

Colonel M. Kalkata
(Cameroon)
Vice-President for Africa

Brig. Gen. L. Popowynt
(Canada)
Vice-President for America

General Dr. S. Khoury
(Lebanon)
Vice-President for Asia

Other members of the Board of Directors
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(Bootsana)

Colonel H. Troelt (Bahrain)
President of the Finances Commission

Navy Capt. B. Hylander
(Sweden)
President of the Sports Commission

Colonel M. O. Metref
(Africa)

Other Presidents of Commissions
Colonel P. Jencur (Slovakia)
President of the Sport Medicine Commission

Lt-Colonel S. Rosso
(USA)
President of the Regulations Commission

Brig. General Albert Jensen
(RSA)
President of the Planning Commission

Major R. Holme
(NAM)
President of the Commission "Women in DSM"
Board of Directors Meeting in New Delhi

India Expresses Interest in 2007

Military World Games

Conforming to a longstanding tradition, the Board took its
pilgrim's stick again and put
down its bags in New Delhi,
India's vibrant capital. Let us
start, as is fitting, with the
opening ceremony, whose
popularity and diversity (with
parachute jumping and
motorbike acrobatics shows)
exhusted general enthusiasm.
One surprise often leads to
another, or to the saying
goes, and Vice-Admiral Da
Silva, Deputy Chief of the
Indian Navy, certainly did
deliver a sizeable revelation during his speech: right in the middle of his address,
he officially announced that the Indian Armed Forces hoped to organise the
Fourth Military World Games in 2007. Air Marshal Mahalak, Head of the Indian
dellegation, reiterated this intention a few hours later in front of the Board as part
of his detailed report on Indian military sport and its current expansion resting on
under-utilised military and civilian infrastructure. The Indian delegation's stated
desire to accommodate a Liaison or Regional Office and to play a prominent role
in the region—putting out feelers to prospective new member nations—shows
that the organisation of this Board meeting was only the first manifestation of the
country's willingness to consolidate its contribution to the development and
growth of our organisation and its activities. This increased role heralds ambina

tions that are definitely justified in
view of the country's large popula
tion (one billion inhabitants) and
sizeable Armed Forces.

One of the most important decisions
taken during this Board meeting was
certainly the confirmation of Dubai
as the venue for CISM's May 2003
General Assembly, despite existing
tensions on the international scene.
This decision resulted from assur-
rances provided by the Delegation of
the United Arab Emirates that
steady progress was being made in
organisational terms, that the
General Assembly would run
smoothly and that the safety and
security of all Delegations would be ensured. Based on this reassurance, the Board decided to
renew its confidence in the organising Delegation and gave CISM President Colonel Gola a
mandate to review this decision should the turn of events on the international scene warrant it.
CISM's 2003 budget, its marketing policy—and in particular the announcement of a new part-
nership being signed shortly, with two more in the pipeline—and latest developments regarding
the Military World Games featured prominently among the many points addressed by a Board
meeting that spared no effort to further our organisation's interests.

It was only fair that Board Members should be rewarded for their labour: And they were, during
the cultural day, as they were treated to a visit of one of the modern world's seven wonders,
the Taj Mahal, whose reputation is anything but inflated and whose sudden appearance in
the scenery erased in a few seconds any trace of the weakness accumulated during the several
hours spent in a coach on Indian countryside roads.

So, having held its previous meeting in South Africa—whose delegation too, expressed an
interest in organising the Fourth Military World Games, which is a remarkable development—and,
the Board of Directors spent a few very fruitful days in India indeed.

The S.G. and the Indian Olympic Committee President, Suresh
Kalmadi

Colonel G. Gola, Vice-Admiral Da Silva and Air Marshal Mathadki

Wreath laying
58th General Assembly and Congress in Dubai

Four New CISM Members:
Eritrea, Afghanistan, Serbia-Montenegro and Jamaica

Opening Ceremony

It was the first time that CISM held a General Assembly and Congress in the Persian Gulf. When the delegation of the United Arab Emirates offered to organise the event, CISM had not been present in the region since 2001 and the organisation of the world military parachuting championship in Abu Dhabi, another of the country's Emirates. Seventy-six delegations attended this General Assembly, which proves that holding the event despite its proximity in both time and space to the conflict in Iraq was definitely the right decision. To this number must be added the delegations of the four new Member countries, as well as Egypt, considered an observer on this occasion as it was represented by its military attaché instead of its full delegation, which did not come to Dubai. The Gulf media showed remarkable interest in this event, which was a first in the region. The Opening Ceremony, attended by many representatives of the government, Armed Forces, the National Olympic Committee and various sports federations, was broadcast live on national television. Daily coverage of the event in local newspapers was simply great. The opening press conference and the daily media updates attracted many reporters.

The highlight of this General Meeting was the entry of four new member nations—Jamaica, Eritrea, Afghanistan and Serbia-Montenegro—three of which we recently involved in painful armed conflicts. Now 127 members strong, CISM also contemplated the reinstatement of Iraq to full membership. The General Assembly also provided a delegation of the city of Catania with an opportunity to present the Third Military Games while Italian company Mondo made its official appearance as CISM's new partner.

Important statutory elections (to positions carrying four-year terms) also took place during this General Assembly. Colonel Léon De Wulf (Belgium), Brigadier General Izzy Popowycz (Canada) and Major General Souhail Khoury (Lebanon) were re-elected, respectively as Vice-Presidents for Europe, the Americas and Asia. Colonel Lesego A. Modishwedi (Botswana) was re-elected to the board of Directors while Brigadier General Johann Pucher (Austria), Colonel Ivan Petrov (Bulgaria), Lieutenant General Richard Bower (USA) and Air Marshal R.C. Mahbodi (India) were elected to the same body. Colonel André Thierry (Belgium) was re-elected to the post of Treasurer General.

Since the Opatija General Assembly, during which the event successfully premiered last year, CISM has its own Congress, held immediately before the General Assembly itself. The Congress is twofold: the first part is dedicated to international issues and the second to internal matters. This set-up provides all CISM members with opportunities both to take the floor and listen to prominent international keynote speakers and share opinions and ideas with them.

This year, for the session dedicated to international issues, CISM had the privilege of welcoming Mrs Katerina Panagopoulou, Greek Ambassador to the Council of Europe for Sport, Tolerance and Fair-Play. Her speech on “Fair Play: An Old Principle, A New Approach” was delivered to a riveted audience who did not spare their contributions afterwards.
CISM Board of Directors Meeting in Ouagadougou

CISM Feels at Home in Burkina Faso

CISM’s Board of Directors had its last 2003 meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. They were the guests of the country’s delegation, whose Head and Board Member Colonel Honoré Traoré is one of the most senior members of CISM. Since 1995, Ouagadougou has been home to LAWO, the Liaison Office for West Africa, whose highly developed and well-structured activities make a vital contribution to the promotion of CISM in the entire region.

The biggest news coming out of this meeting is most definitely the official announcement of the board’s decision to entrust the Indian delegation and the City of Hyderabad with the organisation of the 4th Military World Games, to be held in 2007 (probably in October). Hyderabad successfully organised the Afro-Asian Games, which ensures that it offers all the guarantees required to efficiently face the challenge of organising the 4th Military World Games.

Another important decision taken by the Board was to temporarily lift the suspension of Iraq as a Member nation. The country will have until 10 March 2003 to comply with the conditions set by CISM. Many other issues were addressed during this Board meeting and its members definitely had no time to idle around, but official reports are drafted to provide a detailed account of all discussions and decisions and our readership will certainly refer to those for additional information.

CISM’s Board of Directors wishes to commend the delegation of Burkina Faso as well as the Liaison Office for West Africa on the quality of the organisation of this meeting. It was also delighted with the opportunity to meet with most of the country’s top political, military and sport authorities. Finally, how could we conclude this account without underscoring the phenominal media coverage (TV, radio and newspapers) that surrounded this event? It is true that, in Africa, CISM’s visibility is on a par with the welcome it received: hospitable and warm, in pure African tradition! CISM definitely felt at home in Ouagadougou.

Colonel Gida and the Prime Minister Ernest Yorfi

Colonel Gida visited the President of the National Assembly, Mr. Rock Kabaré, with the Chief of the Delegation of Burkina-Faso, Colonel H. Traoré.
On 20 October 2003 in Brussels, IOC President Earl Jacques Rogge visited the House of CISM (International Military Sports Council) where he inaugurated the "Chevalier Raoul Mollet Room". Were namely present at this ceremony: CISM President Colonel Gianfranco Cappelli, CISM Secretary General Colonel Robert Eggimont, many representatives of COIB (the Belgian Olympic and Interfederal Committees) and of the Belgian Defence Staff, and several former Belgian sport figures including Olympic Champions Gaston Routiers and Robert Van de Walle, as well as Roger Moens and Edgard Savé. Addressing the widow of Chevalier Raoul Mollet, who was CISM Secretary General between 1954 and 1986 and also CIO President, Dr Rogge said: "Those present here all owe Chevalier Mollet a lot. Without him, CISM would likely not be the major international sports organisation it has become, and I would likewise probably not have become President of the International Olympic Committee. He was a great man of sport; my predecessor, Mr Juan Antonio Samaranch, said that Chevalier Mollet was the master who had really taught him what sport was all about."
cross-country
50th World Military Cross-country Championship

Surprising Fiftieth!

It was in Saint-A Ist, a town at the head of one of France’s most reputed gastronomic regions, that CISM celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the world military cross-country championship under the watchful eyes of both Dries Mazzoud—1,500m bronze medallist at the World championships in Edmonton and reigning indoor world champion—and Graham Lakker, third of the 3,000m at the Sydney Olympics.

Last year, we ended our account of the cross-country championship on a special word of praise for the Moroccan delegation, which had simply won all individual and team titles. This year however, visa problems and a last-minute trip proved to be too much for Moroccans who finally arrived at two o’clock in the morning on the crucial day and eventually pronounced themselves happy with just one title—team gold in the short cross.

But their misfortunes on the way in cannot possibly explain everything. Actually, the value of the athletes lined up by the other nations is also worth a special mention. Tuba Jelina Prokopczuk, for example. She beat Morocco’s Zohra El Kharit fair and square. Consequently, the latter will unfortunately not be adding a fifth consecutive military world title to her impressive list of military achievements. But Jelina, the 20-year-old Latvian, is not exactly a new kid on the block either. A bronze medallist of the semi-marathon world championship, she was considered one of the world’s best 5,000m specialists (14:47.71) in 2000, before graduating to longer-distance running and making it to number ten in the world list of best performances in the 10,000m (31:17.75) in 2002. As for El Kharit, she will undoubtedly find solace in her silver medal.

In the men’s events, the short cross was a Persian Gulf affair: Bahrain’s Mohammed Abdullahe the best Qatar’s Younis Al Ahrar in the spirit while last year’s winner, Morocco’s Abdellahad Hachchi, had to make do with individual bronze—but he did earn his fellow countrymen to the team title.

As for the long cross, the Moroccans set a fast pace to begin with, but only until an impressive Rwandan team broke away from the pack—pretty much destroying it in the process, for that matter—and sent young Dis Dutum to orbit. He won the race in his rookie year, besting Qatar’s Abdellahdi Abdallahman and Italy’s Daniele Camed, with the latter also bagging team gold with his mates.

Participants Countries (32): Algeria, Germany (*), Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium (*), Brunei, Canada (*), United Arab Emirates, Spain (*), United States (*), France (*), Greece, Sweden (*), Ireland, Italy, (*), Jordan, Latvia, (*), Libya, Lithuania (*), Luxembourg, Morocco (*), Pakistan, Poland, Portugal (*), Qatar, Rwanda, Sweden (*), Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey (*). (*) female participation

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Robert Eggemont (Belgium)
President TC: Colonel Jos Lenaers (Belgium)
430 participants, 316 athletes: 51 women, 265 men

Results

Women
Team: 1. Germany, 2. Morocco, 3. Italy

Men
Team: 1. Morocco, 2. Italy, 3. Bahrain
Team: 1. Italy, 2. Qatar, 3. France
Italy and France Ski on Gold

It is in the heart of Lapland, in a town white with succession of two- and snow-covered, and that the world's finest military skiers unpacked their bags to take part in the 45th World Military Ski Championship. Twenty-two delegations—with Austria as the one remarkable absentee—were once again treated to textbook perfect conditions.

On the first day of competitions, Alpine and cross-country skiing provided the Italian team with an opportunity to offer a spectacular one-delegation show. Defending world champion Michela Guffu repeated last year's win in Kramsja Gora while fellow countrymen Peter Fill and Alessandro Robertboeg second and third respectively to complete an all-Italian podium. In the women's events, Karen Putzer—Olympic medallist in Salt Lake City and second in the first World Cup rankings this year—won the women's giant slalom while teammates Denise Karbon and Monica Goga—the defending champion—finished second and third in that order.

Italian 30km Olympic champion Gabriele Parischi proved that she was a worthy successor to compatriot Stefania Belmondo by winning the 30km cross-country skiing event. With a lucky number 130, the 23 years-old Italian, third overall in the World Cup, beat Germany's Olympic champion Claudia Kuenzi, in the 4x7.5km relay. The final hours of the second women's giant slalom while teammates Denise Karbon and Monica Goga the defending champion finished second and third in that order.

The Championship's individual sprint biathlon events were on the programme of day two. They were slightly devoid of atmosphere, which turned the shooting range into a noisy propensity. The Italian team prevailed nonetheless, once again. Rome Cattanei may be a relative, old-timer but he managed perfectly in the shooting range—good memories that brought back—dealt with Mario Rizzo Gossi and himself to finish ahead of the day's Canadian surprise: Robin Craig. In the women's events, France's Romana Borello was lucky enough to perform again to the standard she set last year. Luckily because her performance was the only thing that prevented Italy from producing another major upset: she eventually relegated Michela Porono and Rakia Sarin to the second and third steps of the podium.

The last day was eagerly awaited. It featured the patrol races, which both French teams dominated with top-quality athletes. Finland bagged bronze in the men's patrol race, so the honour may be savvied. As for the Nations Cup, it logically went to Italy, with France second.

Results

Women

Gial/ Silver: 1. K. Putzer (ITA) 20130 3. Z. D. Karbon (ITA) 20135 5. N. Gung (ITA) 20149
Team: 1. Italy 2. Germany 3. Ukraine
Team: 1. Italy 2. Germany 3. France
Bulldon (sprint): 1. F. Borello-Robert (ITA) 25330 (5) 2. M. Porono (ITA) 25491 (1) 3. S. Sarin (ITA) 26191 (3)
Team: 1. France 2. Romania 3. Slovenia

Participating Countries (22): Germany, Italy, Austria, United States, Finland, France, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Ukraine

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Leon De Wolff (Belgium)
President TC: Colonel Geert Di Pauli von Treubheim (Italy)
375 participants, 241 athletes: 56 women, 175 men

Cont'd page 77
ski

Results

Men
- Giant Slalom: 1. M. Gutfan (ITA) - 155.43, 2. F. Fill (ITA) - 155.80, 3. A. Roberto (ITA) - 156.18
- Team: 1. Italy, 2. Switzerland, 3. Sweden
- Team: 1. Germany, 2. Finland, 3. France
- Biathlon (4 per team): 1. P. Cavanero (ITA) - 20:47.1 (8), 2. P. Green (GER) - 20:47.6 (8), 3. R. Clegg (CAN) - 20:47.6 (8)
- Team: 1. Germany, 2. Norway, 3. Italy
- Relay: 1. France (V. Vittot, F. Fontana, A. Rassan, L. Destenay) - 1:10:06.7 (7), 2. Norway (L. Blom, T. Byrum, G. Gjeldberg, L. Berger) - 1:10:44.9 (9), 3. Finland (T. Puskahinen, T. Antilla, M. Kiljunen, V. Kukkula) - 1:10:47.7 (9)
- Nations Cup: 1. Italy, 2. France, 3. Germany
Sami Sorri Story

This is the story of a Finn whose talent and perfectionism earned him his first world title at the Second Military World Games in Zagreb before he literally set all counters on fire in Tuza, a few miles from Istanbul, at the 2001 World Championship with a total of 6,252 points, he bagged the world title and set a new, almost unapproachable standard in the process. And for those who would still doubt his superiority, let it be known that Sami recently came back from Spain a confirmed master. After a sabbatical—the 2002 world championship never happened for want of organising—he humbled his adversaries again this year, answering it for tap to anything his opponents could throw at him. Check this out: utility swimming number one, third in the seamanship event and obstacle race and fourth in the ambuscade cross. His versatility earned him a safety margin that was worth more than the 95-point lead he built against his nearest opponent. Sweden's Jonas Witosdoti. His grand total of 6,136 points is quite remarkable, though his counter stopped 116 points short of the best overall performance he set two years ago.

On four different occasions in the last decade (1993, 1996, 1999 and 2002), Germany practically had the team title in the bag and yet they allowed it to slip away every single time. The German naval pentathlon school probably found solace in the three silver and one bronze medals they got instead. But with the fearsome tournee led by Christian Noetzel (individual bronze) and further composed of Torben Moellken, experienced Lars Agitz and Christian Schwartz, the Germans at last won team gold ahead of Finland and Norway.

No Molly Solanes, no B. Stamp Ruiz, no M. Bohn and no R. Zegers; no Russian athletes were on the start line of the women's championship; no more Kritian Fauske—she retired from high level competition some time ago. With Sweden's Sara Norman, Finland's Tarja Pyhulta and Norway's Victoria Solberg in that order, the woman's podium was decisively original. As was the team event's, with Sweden climbing to the top step of the rostrum.

Participating Countries (15): South Africa ( ), Germany ( ), Argentina ( ), Denmark ( ), Spain ( ), United States ( ), Finland ( ), Italy ( ), Norway ( ), Pakistan ( ), The Netherlands ( ), Poland ( ), Russia ( ), Sweden ( ), Turkey ( )

Observing countries (2): Saudi Arabia and Portugal

CISM Official Representative: Air Commodore Hub Th. Van Dijken (The Netherlands)

President TC: Capitaine Unne Rossmoessely (Germany)

155 participants, 94 athletes: 23 women, 71 men

Results

**Women**

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<tr>
<td>V. Solberg (NOR)</td>
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<td>T. Pyhulta (FIN)</td>
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<td>M. Bohn (GER)</td>
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| U.S. | 1,005 |
| U.S. | 1,005 |

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<td>J. Witosdoti (SWE)</td>
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**Men**

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<tr>
<td>T. Mueller (GER)</td>
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<tr>
<td>K. Voss (GER)</td>
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<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>T. Mueller (GER)</td>
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<td>K. Voss (GER)</td>
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20-28 May, 2003

Marin Spain
Belgium, Spain and Carlson for a third title

Ten miles or so outside the magnificent University City of Salamanca, Spain, Matalacan Air Force Base provided the setting for the 47th World Military Aeronautical Pentathlon Championship. Having already hosted the 1999 championship, Matalacan welcomed competitors from ten countries this time. The Official CISM representative, Lieutenant-Colonel Renette Hulme (NAM), used the opportunity to present the case for women’s participation in future aeronautical pentathlon events.

Let us start our account of competitions with Belgium’s victory in the Spanish airspace thanks to H. de Fally, who won the competition with 3,700 pts. As usual, the aeronautical pentathlon championship was spectacular. World Champion in 1998 and 2000, P. Carlson (SWE) built a comfortable lead early on thanks to his marksmanship skills, winning the shooting event and then finishing second in the fencing competition. He then capitalized upon his initial lead to shape an advantage that was to prove insurmountable for his opponents as he went on to win his third individual title. At 36, the Swede leveraged his longstanding experience to bag a third title and the country’s 38th individual title in the history of the aeronautical pentathlon. Spain’s Cuencas beat Printens’ Rosserend to silver. A traditional individual position, it was, with representatives of all three of the combined sports’ traditional top nations. The same applied to the team podium, where the only surprise—but a major upset it was—came from Sweden’s second place. Used to the top step of the team rostrum, the Swedes had to make way for the local team. The Spaniards admitted they had the advantage of competing on their home turf, but they also benefited from Niklas Isaksson’s slightly sub-standard performance—the outgoing world champion cost his national team a great many points. Finland finished third, besting the up-and-coming Turkish team who will definitely be waiting for the opposition when its turn comes to host the world championship next year.

Lieutenant-Colonel Markku Viltala (FIN), former aeronautical pentathlon world champion and recently appointed President of the discipline’s Technical Committee, had every reason to be satisfied with the course of this championship, which both provided the opportunity for a memorable historical visit to Salamanca and set the scene for crafty sporting plots indeed.

Participating Countries (10): Belgium, Brazil, Spain, Finland, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Sweden (*).  

Observing countries (1): Italy  

CISM Official Representative: Lt-Colonel Renette Hulme (Namibia)  

President TC: Lt-Colonel Markku Viltala (Finland)  

92 participants, 59 athletes

Results

Shooting:
1. P. Carlson (SWE): 11560pts  
2. P. Melters (FIN): 10950pts  
3. Y. Kondracki (TUR): 9950pts

Swimming:
1. M. Lopez-Lago (ESP): 11020pts  
2. M. Vonk-Wesp (NED): 9640pts  
3. E. Cuencas (ESP): 9020pts

Fencing:
1. F. Torres (ESP): 10040pts  
2. J. P. Carlsson (SWE): 10960pts  
3. J. Marzo (ESP): 10100pts

Basketball:
1. C. Coo (TUR): 10020pts  
2. J. Marzo (ESP): 10180pts  
3. A. Alonzo (FIN): 9150pts

Equestrian:
1. J. Rothier (BEA): 18560pts  
2. J. E. Rosendorf (FIN): 10760pts  
3. M. Pull (FIN): 9160pts

Final Classification:
1. P. Carlson (SWE): 47770pts  
2. E. Cuencas (ESP): 47420pts  
3. J. V. Rosendorf (FIN): 46930pts

Team:
1. Sweden (P. Carlson, J. E. Rosendorf)  
2. Netherlands (F. Torres, M. Lopez-Lago)  
3. Poland (J. Rothier, M. Vonk-Wesp),  
4. Finland (J. Marzo)

Flying center:
1. Belgium: 37050pts  
2. Spain: 26450pts  
3. Czech Republic: 56350pts
equestrian
15th World Military Equestrian Championship

Europe’s Revenge

It is in a quiet Flemish spot that the best military riders and their horses, coming from no fewer than 12 nations met to take part in the 15th World Military Horse Riding Championship. Organised alongside another major international event—the “Rural Riders European Cup”—the competitions took place in splendid installations and we organised with impressive efficiency.

The three-day event was first on the programme and local rider Bart Hermans had every reason to be satisfied with his flawless cross-country and showjumping performances. Despite a slightly less convincing dressage run, he bagged a magnificent third place overall. But winners first! The three-day event went to France’s Fabrice Lucas, with Germany’s Matteo Dornm finishing second. The Frenchman was especially euphoric as he also led his national team to victory in the team event, beating Italy and Germany in the process.

The show jumping event (a two-star CIC event), offered the audience an opportunity to discover very talented riders, as several play-off rounds were required to break the tie in the final standings. Completely unknown at the start of the competition, Andrei stepanenko and Yairi Mandel of Belarus made quite an impression, bagging gold and bronze respectively. O’Brien, a member of the Irish national team that finished second last year in Chile, bagged silver, barring the Belgian team from total hegemony in so doing. The team jumping event, called the Cup of Nations, went to Germany, followed by Belarus and France. Also worth mentioning is the slightly disappointing performance of the South Americans—and in particular of the Argentine team—whose delegations had bagged countless titles and medals at the previous championship in Chile. Part of the explanation for their poor performances is probably to be found in their having to rent mounts in Europe because of the long distance they had to travel. But even this explanation applies to a lesser extent to the Argentine team, to whom excellent horses were made available free of charge by Francois Matthy, the famous Belgian horse breeder whose horse farm enjoys a fine reputation indeed among the international showjumping community.

Participating Countries (12) : Germany, Argentina, Belgium, Belarus, Brazil, France, Ireland, Italy (*), Lebanon, Luxembourg (*), Morocco, The Netherlands (*), (*) female participation

CISM Official Representative : Brigadier General Shauli Khoury (Lebanon)

President TC : Lt-Colonel Giulio Serafini (Italy)

57 athletes : 3 women, 54 men.

Results

Three days event : Final points:

Three days event team :

Jumping :

Nations Cup :
1. Germany (M. Dornm on Chatte note, C. Belus on Luril), A. Castelli (Diado, M. Pink on Avanto) 5ths. 2. Belgium (A. Lisa on Ganaru, D. Brandia on Lina, Y. Mandel on Martini).
China Back In Charge

While the flagship nation of military pentathlon has been China for a decade—it dominates as no nation has dominated before—the golden jubilee of the combined sport celebrated last year on Dutch ground and the individual title bagged by Austria's Palma could have seemed like signs that Europe was bouncing back.

The least we can write is that in Toledo, the Chinese team tightened their firm grip on the discipline and did so with style: Feng, Cai and Zhu monopolised to men's podium and bagged team gold. The Chinese women, Wang, Tian and Xu did likewise. Toss in the women's relay title and a new world record set by Xu in the throwing event for good measure and the picture of our Chinese friends' overwhelming domination is only complete. “And the rest?”, you may well ask. “Columns, scraps, leftovers”, is our answer. But nice leftovers they were, like the men's relay title, which went to Venezuela, like the new world record set in the shooting range by Kudzin of Belarus and Bagiltrim's Von de Coot, or like the two events won by Norwegians and one by a Dane and a Lutheran.

As for the Austrian team, so competent last year with world champion Palma and a silver medal in the team event, it was less shiny this year. It was replaced on the second step of the team podium by the Germans, the praise for whose renaissance should certainly go to Menster, its legendary trainer and former master of the combined discipline. Russia, third overall, has made substantial progress. In the women's team event, Norway and Russia finish in that order behind inaccessible Chinese pentathletes, who also made it to the top step of the relay podium, with the same Russians and friendly Latvians in tow.

Participating Countries (26): South Africa, Germany, Austria, Belarus, Belgium (*), Brazil, Chile, China (*), Denmark (*), Ecuador, Spain (*), Estonia, Finland (*), Italy (*), Latvia (*), Norway (*), Uzbekistan, Papua New Guinea (*), Romania, Russia (*), Slovenia, Sweden (*), Switzerland, Syria, Czech Republic (*), Thailand, Turkey (*), Venezuela.

Observing countries (20): Morocco, Poland.

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Christian Kriem (Germany)

President: General Fabian Podl (Austria)

306 participants, 185 athletes: 35 women, 147 men.

Results

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Throwing:</td>
<td>1. W. Wang (CHN): 201g</td>
<td>2. E. Barron (KOR): 195g</td>
<td>3. L. Ting (CHN): 194g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Relay | 1. China | 2. Russia | 3. Latvia |

|     | Throwing:   | 1. B. Gervais (FRA): 201g | 2. O. Stransky (RUS): 205g | 3. B. Van De Coot (BEL): 207g |
| Relay | 1. Venezuela | 2. China | 3. Turkey |
Little Slam for France

No major revolution in military triathlon, as this year’s championship was—as usual—dominated by the French, whose school is arguably one of the best in the world. Proof of this was provided yet again by the “cockrelens” who bagged the individual men’s and women’s titles (respectively with Dusaraz—who confirmed last year’s title—and Pellegrin) as well as gold in the men’s and mixed team events. Only China managed to soften the French greed by winning the women’s team title, thereby repeating last year’s feat.

A revelation of the last world championship in Estonia—where he finished a step short of the podium—Estonia’s Albert delivered on all the promises he was said to hold by finishing a—12 second—breath behind unapproachable Dusaraz, who emerged in the final race to win the men’s competition while Germany’s D. Delmar finished third. Team gold went to France followed by Germany and Austria.

Frenchwoman Delphine Pellegrin won her very first military world title in Drontera with a comfortable 37-second lead over China’s Lin while Austria’s Brambock, defending military world champion, finished third. China won the team award, beating France and the U.S.

Also worth noting is that for the first time, a veteran’s race was included in the championship programme. Denis Pierrat of France beat Latvia’s Anatoly Leves and fellow countryman Jean-Luc Merli to the top stop of the podium.

The military triathlon panorama did not change much in Drontera, as all the usual big names rose to the challenge.

Participating Countries (22) : South Africa, Germany, Austria (*), Belarus, Belgium (*), Brazil, Canada, China (*), People’s Democratic Republic of Korea, Croatia, Estonia (*), United States (*), France (*), Hungary (*), Italy (*), Latvia (*), The Netherlands (*), Slovakia, Slovenia (*), Sweden (*), Czech Republic, Turkey

CISM Official Representative : Colonel Robert Eggemont (Belgium)
President TC : Colonel Michel Saint-Bonnet (France)
245 participants, 155 athletes; 43 women, 107 men

Women

Men

Mixed teams

Masters
Turkish Strong!

It was predictable! After all, wrestling is a national sport in Turkey and it was inevitable that, hosting the 22nd World Military Wrestling Championship, Turkey would take the lion's share of medals. But while the absence of the world's best military wrestling nation—Russia, whose hold on the discipline has long been unshakeable—may have helped tip the scales, the best of oracles could not possibly have predicted that the Turkish domination would turn into a genuine show.

But as they say, “the absent are always in the wrong” and there is no choice but to recognise the Turkish talent in both Greco-Roman and all-in wrestling. Their record is instructive indeed: under the new weight category structure, a total of seven individual titles were up for grabs in each style. The Turks won four in the all-in version (plus two silver and a bronze medal) and took gold whereas in the Greco-Roman style, they performed only marginally less well with four individual gold and a bronze medal, plus the team title. Of course, overall, the home team crushed the opposition to win the combined rankings, Mission accomplished, and more.

“...And the rest?” you might ask. Well, they had to be content with the remains of the gargantuan Turkish feast. With two individual titles in all-in and Greco-Roman wrestling respectively, the US and Azerbaijan come immediately after the home team in the table of honours, followed by the Republic of Korea and Germany. Yet one individual gold medal each.

Despite the absence of Russia, overall performances were of a very high standard. The Turkish team included many athletes who have performed at the top both in global and continental championships and in World Cup events, following the example of Nazmi Avsic—1959 civilian world champion and gold medallist at the Universités. And while wrestlers from other nations also boasted excellent resumes, they proved inadequate to counter the assaults of the local athletes who were decidedly too strong!

Participating Countries (21):
- Germany
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Canada
- China
- Republic of Korea
- Estonia
- United States
- Finland
- Greece
- Italy
- Lithuania
- Uzbekistan
- Poland
- Qatar
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Syria
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Ukraine

Observing country (1):
- Bosnia-Herzegovina

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Lesego Motshathid (Botswana)
President TC: Lt Colonel Abdullah Smail (Tunisia)

428 participants, 327 athletes

Results

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Weight Class</th>
<th>Gold</th>
<th>Silver</th>
<th>Bronze</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65 kg</td>
<td>1. Bayram Onder (TUR)</td>
<td>2. D. Kouchereiko (GER)</td>
<td>3. Malherbe (FRA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>74 kg</td>
<td>1. Tsvet Kudakov (BUL)</td>
<td>2. S. Sebok (TUR)</td>
<td>3. V. N. Rodina (RUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>86 kg</td>
<td>1. Khadzhiyev (ROU)</td>
<td>2. A. Shvedov (BLR)</td>
<td>3. M. T. Kuznetsov (RUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>105 kg</td>
<td>1. Erasme Yemata Gei (TUR)</td>
<td>2. A. Wronko (POL)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Cont’d page 91
wrestling

Results

Freestyle

65 kg:
1. Hye Sub Kim (KOR)
2. Jason Kutz (USA)
3. Marinus Verhoog (NED)

74 kg:
1. Takahiro Nogi (JPN)
2. Miltiadis Tzirakis (GRE)
3. Oscar Yanes (ESP)

86 kg:
1. Hakan Koc (TUR)
2. Darnell Black (USA)
3. Mutsou Takeshi (JPN)

99 kg:
1. Turkey: 110pts
2. Germany: 90pts
3. Poland: 66pts

Combined class:
1. Turkey: 110pts
2. Germany: 90pts
3. Azerbaijan: 82pts
4. Turkey: 76pts
5. China: 74pts
6. USA: 71pts
7. France: 68pts
8. Japan: 67pts
9. Georgia: 62pts
10. Canada: 60pts
11. Russia: 51pts
12. Italy: 49pts
13. Ukraine: 47pts
14. Argentina: 46pts
15. India: 42pts
16. Mexico: 40pts
17. Iran: 39pts
18. Korea: 36pts
20. Sweden: 34pts
21. Poland: 33pts
22. China: 32pts
The Same Old Asian Script

Things do not change much from one year to another in military taekwondo circles and the least we can say about the military world championship held in the Croatian capital is that the winds of change again failed to blow on the discipline, at least as far as the names of prevailing countries are concerned.

With four individual titles out of eight, the team title in the men’s tournament and another two gold medals in the women’s weight categories, the Republic of Korea triumphed once more on this occasion of those military joutes. There is one name that stands out: Tomislav Miciancuk, who bagged the flyweight title for Croatia—a gold medal that rewards his dedication for both his and the country’s organisation. Also worthy of note in the men’s tournaments are Iran’s excellent results: with five medals, one of which—at the often the most precious metal—went to Y Kimi, Turkey also stood out under the impetus of its new heavyweight world champion, A. Cen.

As usual, the Chinese ladies outnumbered the opposition, winning four gold medals and the team title for their country. The Republic of Korea—two gold and two bronze medals—was the other two countries to have bagged women’s titles while the US and Lesotho also showed themselves in a good light. For the record, it must be said that, unlike in the men’s or the women’s weight categories, only Rui Jing of China managed to confirm the title she won last year. Reference taekwondo nations may not have changed but the faces of our world champions certainly have.

Results

Women

Light fly: 1. J. Wu (CHN)
Fly: 1. M. Jiwang (CHN)
Bantam: 1. L. Zhu (CHN)
Feather: 1. D. Moldove (AZE)
Light: 1. R. Khanova (RUS)
Welter: 1. L. Zhang (CHN)
Middle: 1. J. Yong (KOR)
Heavy: 1. Rui Jing (CHN)
Team: 1. China

Men

Light fly: 1. D. J. Wou (CHN)
Fly: 1. T. Masanur (KOR)
Bantam: 1. E. Kim (KOR)
Feather: 1. A. Akhavan (IRI)
Light: 1. E. Kim (KOR)
Welter: 1. K. Eun (KOR)
Middle: 1. H. Narim (IRI)
Heavy: 1. A. Green (TUR)
Team: 1. Republic of Korea

Participating Countries (22): Germany (*), Austria (*), Azerbaijan (*), Brazil (*), Canada (*), China (*), Cyprus (*), Republic of Korea (*), Croatia, United Arab Emirates, United States (*), Greece (*), Iran, Italy (*), Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco (*), Russia (*), Sri Lanka (*), Syria, Turkey

(*): female participation

Observing countries (2): The Netherlands, Serbia and Montenegro

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Homme Trace (Burkina Faso)

President TC: Brigadier General Robert Martineau (Canada)

262 participants; 176 athletes; 45 women, 131 men
The East Does Not Lose Its Bearings!

Our very best orienteering specialists had an appointment in the Lithuanian forest, and boy, were they spoiling for a—figurative—fight for the laurels of the 36th World Military Orienteering Championship.

A nice collection of champions took the trip to Lithuania in order to finish the season with a flourish—despite the absence of Russian phenomenon Mamiloe. A few leagues from Vintu, the site chosen by the organizing federation was perfect in all respects and equipped with state-of-the-art technology that further enhanced the flawlessness of the organisation. The wooded terrain and surrounding plains were a real treat for nature lovers and orienteering fans as well as for spectators expecting a nice show. As usual, competitions included a two-stage individual race and a relay—

From day one, the Eastern countries imposed a crushing domination. Only Norway, thanks to champion Wallardt, managed to shake the firm Russian-Lithuanian hold. And the same applied to women’s competitions with the mano a mano between Russian’s Rabkina and Lithuanian’s Sargsyan.

Day two did not change the situation much despite tremendous finishing rushes, Rabkina and Wallardt were still sorry seconds, respectively behind Lithuanian’s Sargsyan and Russia’s Novikov, who prevailed brilliantly. The podiums were completed by Sargsyan of Lithuania and Sukys of Lithuania.

On day three, after a much-deserved rest, the relay did not change much to the established hierarchy either. Led by their brand new world champion, the Lithuanian women climbed to the top step of the podium while Russia had to fight hard to retain silver in the face of the Ukrainian opposition. In the men’s relay, despite the absence of new world champion Novikov, the Russians added a plaque of the most precious metal to their impressive collection, besting astonishing Poles and a Swiss team that was looking for revenge after its setbacks in previous races.

Results

Women:
- Individual: 1. J. Sargsyan (Lith.), 2. L. Rabkina (Rus.), 3. A. Skudra (Lat.)
- Team: 1. Russia (J. Sargsyan, L. Rabkina, T. Timofeev); 2. Lithuania (J. Sargsyan, L. Rabkina, D. Nastviter); 3. Latvia (A. Skudra, M. Sargsyan, A. Paskalev)

Relay: 1. Lithuania (J. Sargsyan, L. Rabkina, T. Timofeev); 2. Russia (T. Timofeev, A. Stolkin, L. Rabkina); 3. Ukraine (M. Spasov, O. Zakharov, N. Plosockiy)

Participating Countries: Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Turkey, Ukraine.

CISM Official Representative: Colonel Leun de Wulf (Belgium)

President TC: Lt Col Harald Destibye (Norway)

292 participants, 217 athletes: 46 women, 171 men
Orienteering

Results

Men:

Individual: 1. V. Novikov (RUS); 2h17'15, 2. B. Valstad (NOR), 2h18'23, 3. D. Kristiansen (NOR), 2h32'19
Team: 1. Russia (V. Novikov, R. Ethio, A. Khramov, E. Faddeev) - 4h15'50
2. Lithuania (P. Bulgas, B. Antanavicius, B. Andrieus, D. Sudeikis) - 4h32'44
3. Norway (B. Valstad, H. Christo, P. Bogstad, O. Kristiansen) - 4h40'39
Relay: 1. Russia (R. Ethio, A. Khramov, E. Faddeev) - 2h03'12
2. Poland (S. Skrzynka, R. Banach, J. Pereg) - 2h11'00
3. Switzerland (D. Hubmann, W. Muller, M. Merz) - 2h14'08
A resounding success

The 1st World Military Golf Championship took place NAS JAX in Jacksonville, Florida, USA from 12-18 October 2003. The fifty-five competitors represented nine countries: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Pakistan, South Africa and USA. The opening ceremony set the pace for the rest of the week - well organized and classy according to all golfers.

The Championship ran smoothly, even though the golf course was under water for the first day of competition. In the team competition, the powerhouse American teams won the gold in the men's and women's divisions. In the men's division, Canada and South Africa earned silver and bronze respectively, while in the women's division, South Africa captured silver and Canada won bronze. The individual honors were fought to the end and required a sudden death playoff for both the men's and women's categories. The men's sudden death playoff pitted USA team members Mark Johnson (+4) and Chad Saladin (+5) against each other, with Johnson earning the victory after he birdied the first extra hole - the bronze went to Stephanie Venter of South Africa. The women's three-way sudden death playoff was between USA teammates Amy Rongey (+36) and Angela Baskette (+36) and Karin Watts (+36) of South Africa, with Amy Rongey winning on the first extra hole to complete the amazing comeback from 10 strokes behind at the start of the final round. Angela Baskette of the USA captured the silver and Karin Watts of South Africa earned the bronze medal. In the senior category (men 46 years or older), the gold went to Tony Stockless from Canada, the silver to James Alger from USA and the bronze to John Kelly from Canada. Of note, the American television station, The Golf Channel, was on hand to cover the final round of play and the awards ceremony and later in the week, excerpts were broadcasted around the world. Also, a new course record (66) was established by Chad Saladin during the second day of competition. The Challenge Cup Don Keus was handed over to the overall winning nation USA.

Participating Countries (9) : South Africa (*), Argentina, Belgium (*), Canada (*), United States (*), Ireland, Italy, Pakistan, The Netherlands (*)

CISM Official Representative : Colonel Michel Saint-Bonnet (France)
President TC : Major Bob Daumais (Canada)
78 participants, 55 athletes : 9 women, 46 men

Women :
Team : 1. USA (A. Rongey, A. Baskette) : 564 2. South Africa (D. Venter) : 563 3. Canada (M. Deeman, D. Duroy) : 503

Men :
Masters : 1. T. Stockless (CA), 2. J. Alger (USA), 3. J. Kelly (USA)
**Presidents Technical Committee**

**Track and Field & Cross Country**
Colonel J. LENAERS (BEL)

**Basketball**
Major G. BUSSE (NED)

**Boxing**
Commandant J. HUNT (IRL)

**Cycling**
Lt-Colonel Jaco OUSSOREN (NED)

**Equestrian Sports**
Lt-Colonel G. SERAFINI (ITA)

**Fencing**
Lt-Colonel Joao QUAIAHUSS (POR)

**Football**
Colonel Nevzat VAROL (TUR)

**Golf**
Major Bob DAUNAIS (CAN)

**Handball**
Colonel H. BLOOTACKER (BEL)

**Judo**
Colonel Dr. R. KALINA (POL)

**Wrestling**
Lt-Colonel A. SMATI (TUN)

**Swimming**
Real Admiral G. INVERNIZZI (ITA)

**Orienteering**
Lt-Colonel H. GOSTBYE (NOR)

**Parachuting**
Lt-Colonel J. DEREMINE (FRA)

**Aerobatic Pentathlon**
Lt-Colonel Markku VIITALA (FIN)

**Military Pentathlon**
Général de Brigade J. PUCHER (AUT)

**Modern Pentathlon**
Colonel I Gst J. WÄFFLER (SUI)

**Naval Pentathlon**
Commerader Uwe ROSSMESSL (GER)

**Skiing**
Colonel Georg Di Pauli von TREUHEIM (ITA)

**Taekwondo**
Lt-Colonel Seong Sup LIN (KOR)

**Shooting**
Colonel Joseph FISHLIN (SUI)

**Triathlon**
Colonel Michel SAINT-BONNET (FRA)

**Sailing**
Lt-Colonel Diana HOPE (CAN)

**Volleyball**
Lt-Colonel Pietro De CANIO (ITA)
### Statistics Catania 2003

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<th>Sport</th>
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### Statistics Championships 2003

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### List of the elected athletes

**Track & Field and Cross-Country**
- Lieutenant Stefan KAPA (TUR)
- Sergeant Miroslav WOUTERS (BEL)
- Captain Carel Groeneveld (NED)
- Major Tommy HIRST (NZL)
- 1st Lieutenant Mustafa ALTUZI (TUR)
- Lieutenant Debono GRAVENSTIJN (NED)
- Engineer Giorgio DEGIO (ITA)
- Major Wilma GROENEVLD (NED)
- Sergeant Luiz VERSTRIPPEN (BRA)
- Lieutenant Officer Omar MALEH (QAT)
- Senior Officer Officier ERIK MAGDEN (DEN)
- Lieutenant Colonel Debono GRAVENSTIJN (NED)
- Sergeant Majoha GEORGE KAPLA (KEN)
- Sergeant Majoha GEORGE KAPLA (KEN)
- Acting Captain Giuseppe LUCCHI (ITA)
- Captain Sahib CURRAN (NZL)
- Captain Sahib CURRAN (NZL)

**Swimming**
- Captain Saab CHAIK (THA)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

**Equestrian**
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

**Military Pentathlon**
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

**Orienteering**
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

**Basketball**
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

**Track & Field**
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)
- Captain Tanveer ULHAQ (PAK)

### World Events 2004

#### Date | World Championship (Edition) | Organiser
---|-----------------------------|------------------
01/3-05/3 | Cross-country (51) | Beryuth (Lebanon)
15/3-20/3 | Ski (46) | Ostersund (Sweden)
18/4-25/4 | Equestrian (16) | Rabat (Morocco)
27/5-06/6 | Football Women (2) | Fort Eustatius (NAUSA)
26/5-07/6 | Sailing (36) | Marin (Spain)
04/6-06/7 | Triathlon (11) | Belfort (France)
09/6-20/6 | Volleyball (26) | Kingston (Canada)
11/6-20/6 | Handball (15) | Riga (Latvia)
01/7-04/7 | Cycling (road) | Trench (Greece)
10/7-20/7 | Shooting (39) | Ankara (Turkey)
18/7-27/7 | Basketball (46) | Zagreb (Croatia)
09/8-20/8 | Parachuting (32) | Krams (Austria)
14/9-23/8 | Aeronautical Pentathlon (48) | Istanbul (Turkey)
30/8-05/9 | Orienteering (37) | Harskamp (The Netherlands)
02/9-11/9 | Judo (90) | Baku (Azerbaijan)
19/9-26/9 | Modern Pentathlon (36) | Skueskehever (Hungary)
4/10-13/10 | Taekwondo (16) | Warendorf (Germany)
22/10-31/10 | Boxing (48) | Fort Huachuca (AZUSA)
11/11-21/11 | Military Pentathlon (52) | Santiago (Chile)
26/11-29/11 | Cyclo-cross (18) | Liberec (Czech Republic)
2004 | Football (41) preliminary round | in the different continents

| Date | Meeting | Organiser
---|---------|------------------
10/3-15/3 | 1st Meeting of the BoD | Sofia (Bulgaria)
08/5-16/5 | General Assembly and Congress | Conakry (Guinea)
03/11-20/11 | 3rd Meeting of the BoD | Gabon (Gabon)

### Symposium
- 14/9-20/9 | Topic: High Level Sports in the Military | Tunis (Tunisia)
128 member nations

At its 66th birthday, CISM counts 128 member nations. We publish hereby a computer graphic which illustrates the geographical spreading of its nations.

AFRICA (45)
South Africa
Algeria, R.P.D.
Angola, R.
Benin, R.
Botswana, R.
Burkina Faso
Burundi, R.
Cameroon, R.
Cape Verde, R.
Central African, R.
Congo, D.R.
Congo, R.
Côte d’Ivoire
Egypt, Arab R.
Eritrea
Eswatini
Ethiopia
Gabon, R.
Gambia, R.
Ghana, R.
Guinea, R.
Guinea-Bissau, R.
Equatorial Guinea, R.
Guinea, R.
Kenya
Lesotho
Libya, Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar, R.
Malawi
Malawi
Morocco, Kingdom
Mauritania, Islamic R.
Namibia
Niger, R.
Nigeria, R.F.
Uganda, R.
Rwanda, R.
Senegal, R.
Sierra Leone, R.
Sudan, R.
Swaziland, R.
Tanzania, R. Union
Chad, R.
Togo, R.
Tunisia, R.
Zambia, R.
Zimbabwe, R.

AMERICA (20)
Argentina, R.
Bolivia, R.
Brazil, R.
Canada
Chile, R.
Colombia
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
United States of America
Guatemala, R.
Haiti, R.
Jamaica
Panama, R.
Paraguay, R.
Peru, R.
Suriname, R.
Trinidad and Tobago
Uruguay, Eastern R.
Venezuela, R.

ASIA (28)
Afghanistan
Saudi Arabia, Kingdom
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Bahrain, Kingdom
China, P.R.
D.P.R. Korea
Korea, R.
United Arab Emirates
India
Iraq, R. (Suspended)
Iran, Islamic R.
Jordan, Hashemite
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Kuwait, State
Lebanon, R.
Mongolia
Oman, Sultanate
Uzbekistan
Pakistan, Islamic R.
Philippines
Qatar, State
Sri Lanka
Syria, Arab R.
Thailand, Kingdom
Vietnam, R.
Yemen, R.

EUROPE (35)
Albania, R.
Germany, F.R.
Austria, R.
Belgium, Kingdom
Bulgaria, R.
Cyprus, R.
Croatia, R.
Denmark, Kingdom
Spain, Kingdom
Estonia, R.
Finland, R.
France, R.
Georgia
Greece, R.
Hungary, R.
Ireland
Italy, R.
Latvia
Lithuania, R.
Luxembourg, Grand-Duché
Norway, Kingdom
the Netherlands, Kingdom
Poland, R.
Portugal, R.
Romania
Russia, Federation
Serbia and Montenegro
Slovakia, R.
Slovenia
Sweden, Kingdom
Switzerland, Confederation
Czech Rep.
Turkey, R.
Ukraine