

The Athletes honoured the first edition of the Winter Military World Games

Razzoli and Chamelar, Karbon and Theaux, Vittoz and Korostelava, Gjedrem and Palka, China in the short track and Slovenia in the climbing are part of the Games protagonist.

(Aosta Valley, 25th March, 2010).

1ST day of competition: Sunday, 21st March

At Flassin Saint Oyen, **Manfred Reichegger** and **Dannis Brunod (Army Sport Club)** were awarded with the first title of the event, winners at the finish line of Foyer de Fond descending the long downhill to the finish line peacefully. A little less than 10' to cover 1500m of height difference and the arrive at Foyer de Fond of Flassin completely alone: 1h 34' 38" the timing of the two military athletes. The women competition reward goes to the German couple **Beate Soyer** and **Simone Kaltenecker**. These are the first gold medals for the Winter Military World Games. The French couple **Tony Sbalbi** and **Yann Gachet**, and the Norwegian one **Ola Berger** and **Ove Erik Tronvoll** completed the podium respectively with the silver and the bronze medals.

In the men competition of Giant Slalom in Pila the victory went to the French **Adrien Theaux**, who with the national title just achieved, gained the first gold medal in the discipline. It was a good race for the Italian athletes ranking second with **Manfred Moelgg ("Fiamme Gialle")** with a gap of 75" from the winner and third **Max Biardone ("Fiamme Gialle")**. Forth place for **Alexander Ploner ("Carabinieri")**. Team title goes to **Italy**, second **Germany** and third **Austria**.

Second day of competition: Monday, 22nd March

In Giant Alpine Skiing of Grassoney Saint-Jean great success of the Italian team with the victory of **Denise Karbon ("Fiamme Gialle")** 2'20"23 and silver medal for **Irene Curtoni ("Military Sport Club)** 2'20"25.

Bronze medal for Germany with **Fanny Chamelar** timing of 2'20"56. Unfortunately **Federica Brignone ("Carabinieri")** wins the first run and gets eliminated at the latest gates.

In the biathlon race which took place in the track of Trois Villages in Brusson, the best was **Hans Martin Gjedrem** who with a time of 29' 27" 7, despite two penalties at the shooting range; Estonian Roland Lessing was just after him, with a gap of 6" 8, without any missed targets and the bronze medal went to Carabinieri **Christian Martinelli**, 20" 2 behind and with two penalties. As far as men patrol ranks are concerned, first place for Italy, second for Norway and third Finland.

In the women ranks, Polish **Krystyna Palka**, with no penalties at the shooting range, obtained the time of 22' 59" 3, ahead of Chinese **Chun Li Wang**, behind of 16" 2 and a penalty at the shooting range; very good performance for **Roberta Fiandino** (Army) from Cuneo, (Army) third, with 22' 2 and perfect at the shooting range. Also as far as patrol are concerned, victory went to Poland, China ranked second and Norway was third. The dominating country in Courmayeur for Sport climbing was Slovenia, with the whole sport arena crowded with an audience amazed by a discipline with Flavio Crespi (Fiamme Gialle). Very good performance for Slovenia with the great Vidmar Maja, gold medal, and Martina Cufar, silver medal. Third was the French Marion Poitevin.

Third day of competition: Tuesday, 23rd March

This was the big day for Giuliano Razzoli, gold medal in this discipline at the Olympic Games of Vancouver. The champion from Emilia Romagna doubled the Canadian victory with a new fabulous performance. In the race "Razzo" realized a total time in the two manches of 1.39.36 and won the first place ahead of Austrian Matthias Toppelreither with 1.41.21 and the German Stefan Kogler with 1.41.78, after the victory of the first manche with a time of 48.01, with a gap of more 2 seconds and 20 hundreds of a second, ahead of Toppelreither. Unfortunately, Massimiliano Bardone who, ranked third in the first manche, did not reach the podium for 8 hundreds of second (1.41.86).

The men sky orienteering podium is completely foreign. The new world military champions of the discipline are the Russian Eduard Khrennikov, the Norwegian Eivind Tonna, and another Russian Vasily Glukharev; the French Christelle Gros, honor place for the Russian Natalia Naumova, third place for the French Elodie Bourgeois Pin. All the titles were given in Cogne on the S. Orso snow tracks.

In Courmayeur two Chinese won the Short Track in the 500 mt with Xie Nie and Liang Cui and the Italian Roberto Serra obtained the bronze medal. In the women race, another two Chinese won the first two medals, Shuai Ma and Huizhu Sun and the Austrian Veronica Windish ranked third.

Fourth day of competition: Wednesday, 24th March

It was a great day for sport in Cogne, with a lot of people, flag and enthusiasm for the two cross country competitions, ten km women freestyle and fifteen km men freestyle. Fifteen kilometres without resting, victory of transalpine **Vincent Vittoz** arrived in 32'18"90 preceding by 19'46 Swiss **Toni Livers**, and by 31'24 the Italian Carabinieri, **George di Centa** arrived third.

For women the winner is **Natalia Korosteleva**, in 28'13"01; the second place is the number 26 not believed to be among the favourite ones, Norwegian Kari Eie Henneseid, with a delay of 30'48, and **Marianna Longa** (Fiamme Gialle) from Lombardy, won the third place with a gap of 32'25.

The team podium are all female with **Italy, France, Norway** and for the men **France, Italy and China**.

The suggestive night race in Gressoney awarded the champion of the Military Special Female Slalom in the world. The German **Fanny Chmler** got the first place overcoming the French couple composed by **Marion Bertrand**, with 1.42.76, and **Tessa Worley** with 1.43.06. The German champion was also rewarded with the "Leo David" tag, which remembers the unforgettable and unlucky athlete in Gressoney. In the team ranking France got the gold medal and Romania the silver one.

This morning took place the last spectacular Biathlon patrol race. The female victory went to **Norway**, second place for **China** and the third one to **Polonia**. Italy gained only the fifth place. In the male race the victory went to **Estonia**, second place for **Switzerland**, and third one to **France**. The Italian athletes gained also this time the fifth position. The suggestive Closing Ceremony will take place at the Sports Palace in Courmayeur, at 6 p.m.

All the results, the lists and the competitions photos are available on the official event site www.cismvda.it

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