



Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique

FIG 21st Acrobatic World Championships and 5th International Age Group Competition



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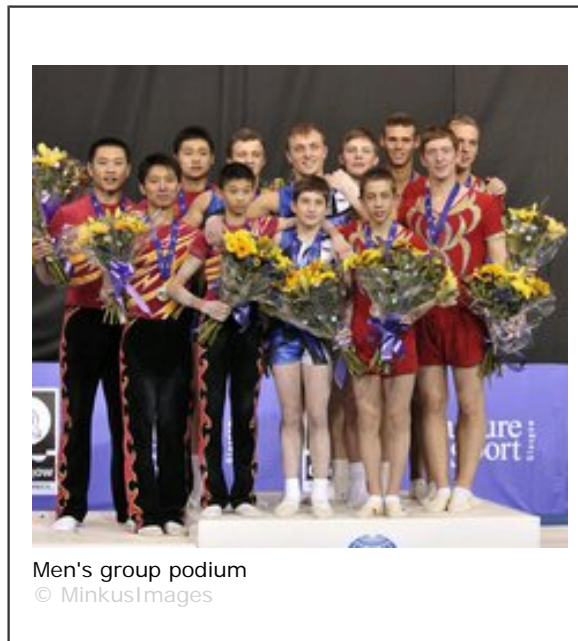
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Review final (Sunday)

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Men's group podium
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Provided by the Media Group of British Gymnastics.

FINALS

Glasgow (GBR) - FIG Office, October 12, 2008





Women's Pairs

Bronze - Russia 1: Khakimova/Plosskova, who qualified in the bronze medal position, opened with straddle to planche to straddle press to handstand and Mexican on bridge. The double pike was slightly pulled over and a step was made in their dismount to wrap, which could cost them in such a close competition. The judges awarded 28.658 for their efforts.

Silver - Belgium: The Belgian Women's pair (Henrist / deVos) who have looked strong contenders for gold since practice early in the week made a great opening with their re-catches and handstand to planche on needle scale, which was lifted in to handstand - a very difficult move to master, and held for the correct 3 seconds require in balance elements - 28.716.

Gold - Belarus: Second World title, following their victory in Coimbra POR in 2006. Yushko and Murashko were the last pair to perform, as they qualified in first place, showed why they were in that place with their elegant a precise routine, which rounded off an extremely clean competition in the Women's Pair's competition - 28.740.

Alina Yushko: 'This title is really very special for us because we had very difficult times between the two Championships. However, we have managed to go through this period of time and to do our best here. We have changed our whole programme since Coimbra - the routine, the difficulty elements, the music and the costumes. We shall remember Glasgow with the joy we experienced here - when you are successful every city seems to you even more beautiful.'

Men's Pair

Bronze - Great Britain: Upcott and Fyson from Great Britain opened with cut through one arm, to flag, pop to hands, with full twist to shoulders, executed brilliantly. The men showed strength in balance as well, with Upcott's perfect planche looking solid. An amazing performance in front of a home crowd who more than showed their full support to the men from Spelthorne Elite Acrobatics - 28.503.

Silver - Russia 1: Pilipchuk and Dudchenko held together their difficult one arm combination, like they have done in qualifications, making tricky work look easier than it is. The Pairs, one arm straddle down on head impressed the audience, as did their

double twisting straight from pitch - 28.609.

Gold - Ukraine - Second World title, after Coimbra'06: The Ukrainian pair, Cherbak and Popov, performed their routine well and had the required height their dynamic elements, which all looked sharp, in what is turning out to be a very tough final - 28.662.

Sergei Popov UKR (Base): 'We had some problems in the first day of the Championships but today we are really happy with our performance. It is a great joy to win the title for the second time with so many strong challengers competing. To work in a partnership is not an easy job and the fact that the two of us are of a similar size and weight makes my job as a base even more difficult. Yes, we are really happy today! The two of us come from Kiev, the capital of Ukraine, our native and home city.'

Mixed Pair

Bronze - Russia 2: The Russian partnership of Gorbatyuk and Barleben started their performance with a rodohclar double overhead to wrap, immediate double tuck overhead to land confidently. Their pull through to Mexican and double pike overhead were also executed brilliantly, scoring them 28.801.

Silver - USA: The American partnership Allen/Rodrigues proved their strength, as the only stateside competitors in the senior competition, holding their one arm combo steady. They performed a high and tight double pike with a good landing to round off an emotive routine to close the Mixed Pair competition - 28.801.

Gold - Russia 1: Russian Mixed Pair Sviridova and Babarykin (RUS1) impressed with their ring handstand on one arm with a bend by the base, which looked solid throughout the transition. Their pull through from splits to needle scale on one arm looked even more impressive this time round - 28.813.

Stanislav Babarykin RUS: 'We felt very well prepared for this competition and knew that the key to success would be how we could manage to hold our nerves together. There were very strong pairs from Russia (2), USA, Belarus, Ukraine and Belgium and we are really happy that we won as debutants in World Championships. We have, so far, won Gold medals only at the World Cup in France, in April.'

His partner Olga Sviridova: 'I was very calm! That was because all the team was so supportive that I didn't feel any unusual pressure... We are both from the city of Orel, not far from Moscow, and our coach is Klaudia Mikhailovna.'

Women's Trio

Bronze - Belarus 1: The trio of Girut, Motuz and Starevich opened with pitch double pike and held their balances excellently, finishing off a clean and very tough Women's Group final, with a score of 28.400, placing them in the bronze position, knocking the GBR trio out of the rostrum just 0.04 off a medal.

Silver- Russia 1: The Russian trio, Chistyakova, Stroynova and Loginova took to the floor, after qualifying in 4th place, opened with a triple pike to cradle which made the audience gasp. The rest of their routine was clean and confident, and showed a solid Russian on shoulders with the top in crocodile, to prove their all round talent to the judges. Their triple tuck to cradle near the end of the routine was also pushed sky high. The judges awarded them, 28.732.

Gold- Russia 2: The second Russian trio (RUS2 - Turlacheva - Borzova - Baranovskaya) opened their combined routine with double pike to cradle to box splits on shoulders and then a platform double pike to wrap, pass to wrap. Their dynamic skills were all fantastically executed and their tepee with Mexican and ring handstand was solid. The judges decided their performance was valued at 28.758 putting them in first position.

Irina Borzova (middle of the RUS 2 Trio): We need time to believe this! This is our first World Championships and we have won it!! Unbelievable! We secretly hoped to be on the rostrum, but winning the Gold, no, we didn't think this would be possible... So far we have won only Bronze medals at the World Cup in France. All the three of us come from Moscow and our coach is Natalia Vladimirovna.

Men's Four

Bronze- Great Britain: Adam McCassey, Adam Buckingham, Alex Uttley and Samuel Sturt representing Great Britain, defending GBR's current World Champion title in the Men's Group, and attempting to add Senior Men's Group Gold to the junior title they won in 2006. The men started their combined exercise with an impressive full twisting triple back from platform. Their first balance skill, a column on bridge with the top, Sturt, performing planche, pike lever back to planche whilst his based change position was also performed well. The synchronisation of the four was fantastic and their final balance, a 2 man based pyramid with straddle lever under croc on neck was held successfully and with style. The crowd went mental for the men, who scored 28.550.

Silver- China 2 (Y.Zhao/Y.Han/S.Fang/W.Xue): The final performance of the competition came from the Chinese Men's Group. The group looked confident and collected as they climbed to their first balance, a four high stack with movement of the

top from handstand to planche, but a stumble on landing could cost them the World title. Their swing combo double pike re-catch, immediate double tuck re-catch with a double tucked dismount to cradle impressed the audience with great height and shapes in the air - 28.720.

Gold - Russia 2 (Cherevatov/Danchenko/Chulkov/Gurgenidze): The winners impressed the audience again with their swing double tuck re-catch, single tuck re-catch to dismount of a double tucked salto to cradle. Their strong choreography and difficult balances including a crocodile on top planche on a two-man based pyramid scored them 28.751 which won the World title - 28.751.

Denis Cherevatov: It is unbelievable when you consider that we started working together, as a Group, only for 9 months. Nobody is happier than us tonight!