



2nd Junior FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships

08-10 July 2023 – Cluj Napoca (ROU)



1. Program of the Competitions

Individual and Group Competitions with:

- Qualification and Team Ranking
- Individual Apparatus Finals
- Group All-Around Ranking
- Groups Finals

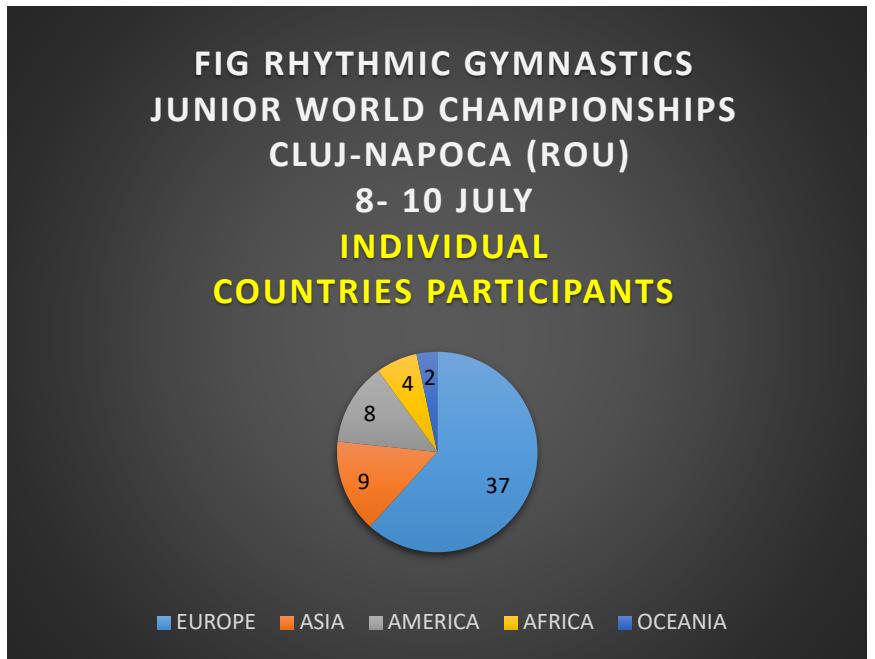
Competition Format

This competition format received a positive response from the NFs, gymnasts and coaches (RGI gymnasts) are not under severe pressure as senior programme, national federations are preparing them slowly and exposing more gymnasts to the world-wide event without strong pressure.

Due to increase interest of NFs and more countries, additional days would be required for the current competition format.

Summary of Main aspects of the World Championships:

- RGI 60 NFs + 1 out of competition and RGG 36 NFs + 1 out of competition (More than 355 gymnasts took part in the event)
- Participated gymnasts showed high level of preparation and variety in the compositions. RGG had shown a huge progress in Junior Programme.
- New countries have come to Junior WCH RGI (CHI, KUW, TOG and TUN), RGG (AND, CHI, CYP, MEX, ROU, RSA, TUR).

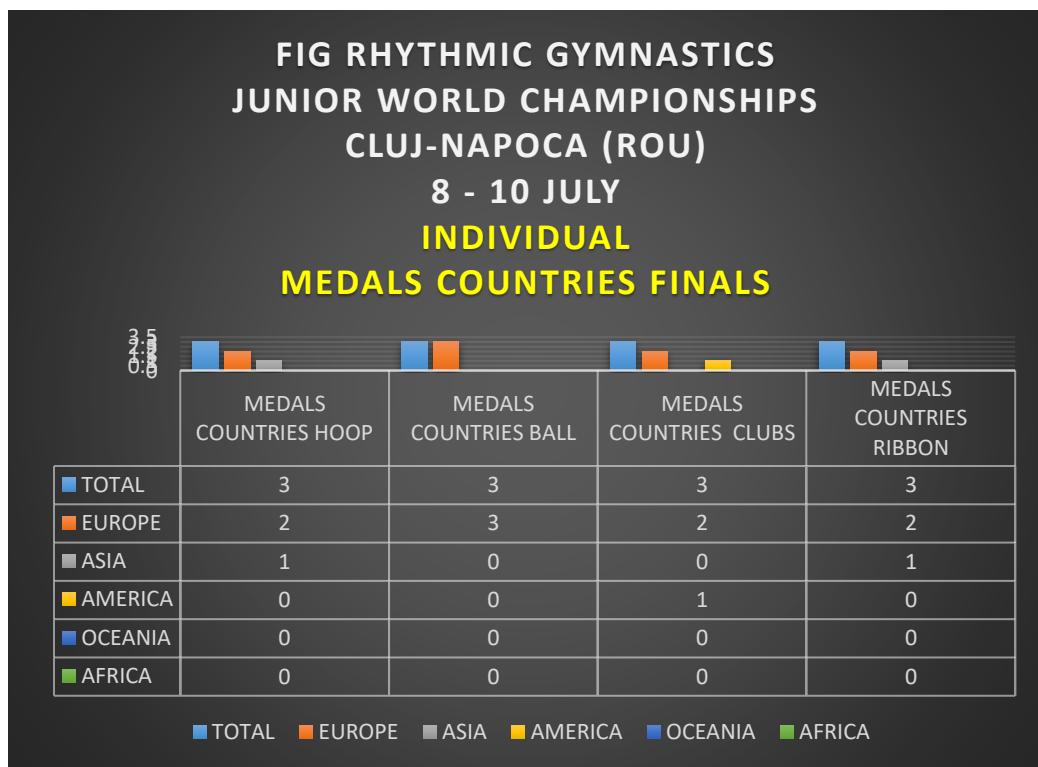


RG TC remarks the high level brought from all continents on Junior Level, a huge investment from NFS was shown during the event into their athletes, specially PAGU and UAG.

Average age competing at the event:

The youngest gymnast was from SLO born 26.12.2010 and the oldest gymnast was from KAZ born 01.01.2008.

2. Medal Distribution

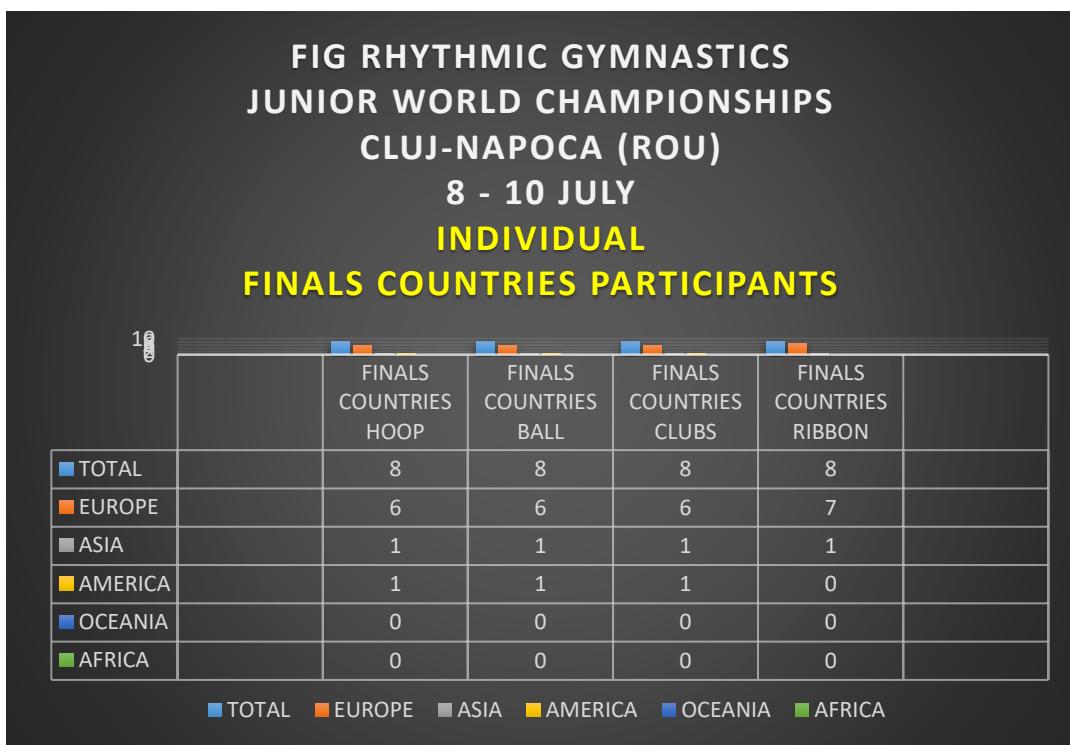


Competition was very high between gymnasts, until the last moment results could not be speculated, which made the arena with its public all motivated for the event. European gymnasts still prevail.

COP had shown a more balanced exercises between all components and having less number of difficulty had given the chance to see creative routines and more Artistic components as required.

Apparatus Finals

Exercises of gymnasts in Qualifications and Finals were dynamic and spectacular due the wider range of variety of different gymnasts from different countries, it made very interesting to see different styles of gymnasts and their unique capabilities.



Gymnasts from 11 countries took part in Apparatus Final Competitions.

Countries by Continent:

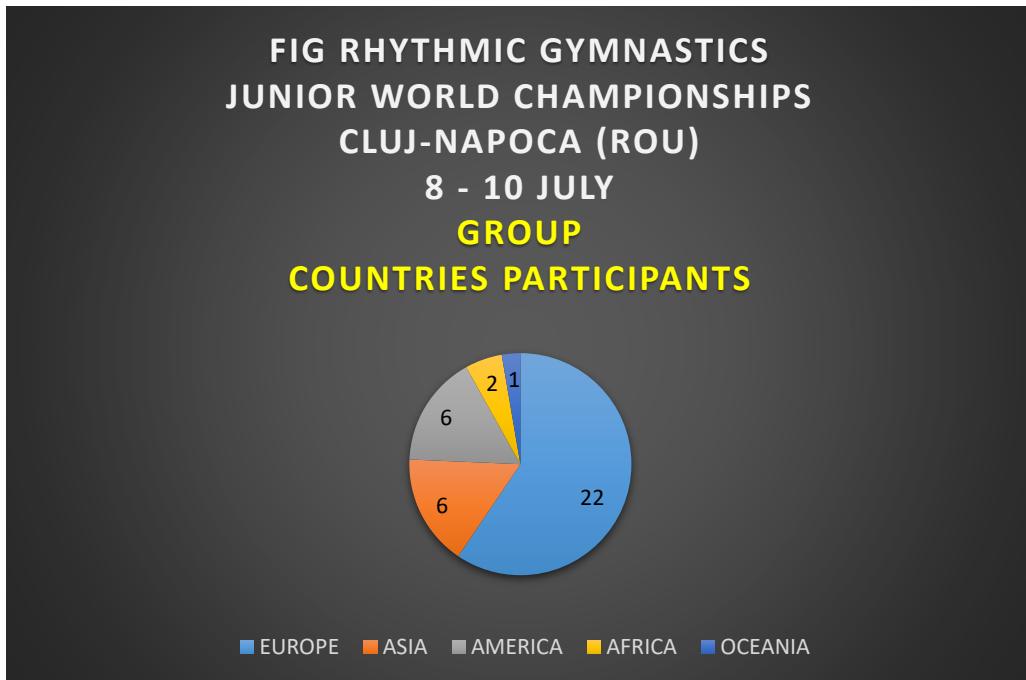
- EG: 9 (BUL, CYP, GER, HUN, ITA, ISR, POL, ROU, UKR)
- AGU: 1 (UZB)
- PAGU: 1 (USA)

Gymnasts from 8 countries had won medals (BUL, GER, ISR, POL, ROU, USA, UKR and UZB).

3. Group Competitions

a. All-Around competition and qualifications for Finals.

- 36 countries participated in Group competitions from 5 Continents.
- It is positive that many new Group teams returned to participate in Group competitions.
- Increased interest of NFs for competitions among Groups and Team ranking. Many countries are developing RGG now.



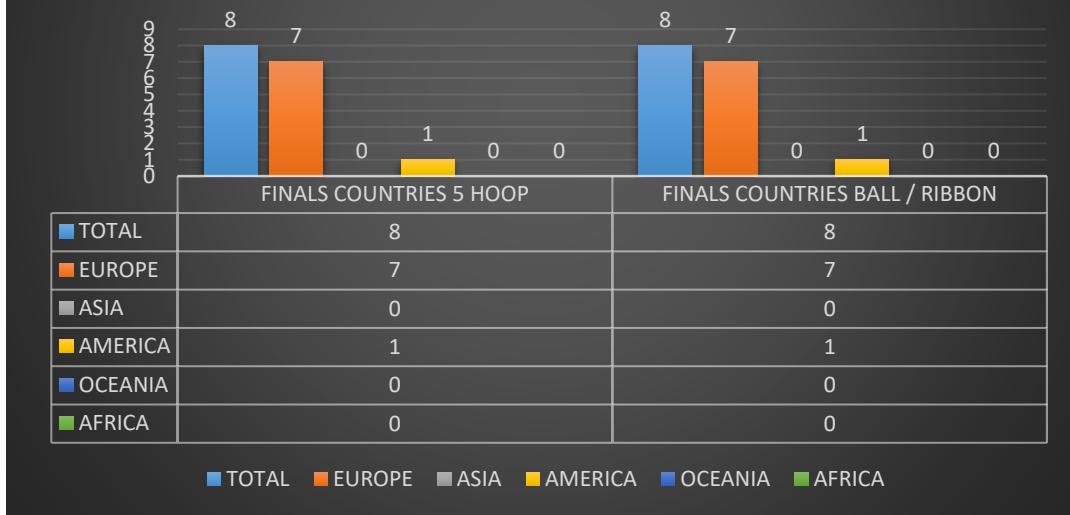
b. Group Finals

Groups from 10 countries took part in Final competitions.

Countries by Continent:

- EG: 9 (AZE, BUL, ESP, EST, ISR, ITA, ROU, TUR, UKR)
- PAGU: 1 (BRA)

FIG RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS
JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
CLUJ-NAPOCA (ROU)
8 - 10 JULY
GROUP
COUNTRIES PARTICIPANTS FINAL



The level of the performance of all participating Groups was very interesting for the World Championships and competitive.

4. Medals by Countries:

COUNTRY	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
ISR	3	2	1
BUL	3	3	
POL	2		
ROU		1	1
GER		1	
UKR		1	
AZE			3
UZB			2
USA			1

5. Judging Activities

All registered RGI judges took part in judging during the Junior World Championship, only 1 registered RGG judge could not take part in judging as there were more numbers of judges than needed in Qualifications and her team was in finals so she was not able to take part in the panel.

- All draws were done according to TR 2023 by TC member responsible for Judges Mrs. Maria Petrova supported by Mrs. Isabell Sawade and Mrs. Liubou Charkashyna supervised by Jury of Appeal Mr. Suat Celen and Mrs. Maria Fumea and RG Sports Manager Mrs. Sylvie Martinet.



Judges' Review Session (Instruction)

The RG TC members presented new format of education.

Before JWCH:

- 10 Days prior JWCH all instructions (power points materials) for RGI and RGG were posted on STS for judges to have enough time to study and send their questions and for coaches to review as well.
- Online Judges Instructions with practical exercises and anonymous answering through mentimeter, it gave the judges the education and practice with TC.
- This gave ample time for judges to prepare, also they did not take holidays from their work to arrive early with the delegation and for coaches to correct if needed exercises with their judges.

During JWCH:

- All questions received from Judges were answered and all Q/A were posted on STS.
- Every day before the start of the competitions, there were judges' briefings where the most common mistakes that created blocks from all panels were communicated to judges and brief feedback from Judges Evaluation Programme was given to judges.

- I would like to thank Mrs. Isabell Sawade President of SJ RGI and Mrs. Liubou Charkashyna Assistant to SJ RGI for supervising the competition very professional and all TC members for their SJ professionalism.

Assessment of the Judging

RG TC paid special attention that RG COP be applied consistently in all panels and all gymnasts fairly.

In general, the judging at the Junior RG World Championships 2023 was well and judges did their best to judge fairly and accurately. Judges showed competence and objectivity.

The rules for blocking of scores outside the tolerated difference between judges and SJ were applied. Scores outside tolerance were reviewed according to the regulations. I totally agree with Mr. Suat Celen, that the rules for blocking must be reviewed for next cycle as mentioned in Jury of Appeal report.

According to JEP analysis, 1 judge received poor evaluation. For educational purposes rather than punishments or sanctions, a meeting was organized with her and the TC President for her to understand her mistakes.

6. Swiss Timing - IRCOS

On behalf of the RG TC, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the IRCOS and the Swiss Timing teams for their friendly attitude and professional collaboration and for always upgrading the system.

7. Venue and Apparatus Control

Venue:

- Theme of the Venue was “Let the Magic Begin”. It was very cheerful and age targeting.
- RG TC is entirely grateful to the FIG Sports Manager RG Sylvie Martinet and FIG Sports Manager Eunice Lebre for their daily monitoring and assistance before and during the Junior World Championships to prepare the training and competition venue according needed standards.
- Special thanks to the LOC group of specialists who carried out the organization of training and competitions and competition Manager Mrs. Marinela Jipa.

- The presence of Apparatus Commissioners Mr. Julian Heydgen was very important and the RG TC would like to thank him for his cooperation and availability to help always and applying the rules strictly with all teams.
- Gymnova team also had been very helpful, although some carpets had arrived shipped with a stamp but they had cleaned them instantly. Also, it was required to staple all carpets as FOP so they don't move from each other, they have done it. Although they mentioned, they only do it for FOP. This should be added to our rules as a mandatory requirement.
- The air conditioning blow was high, it was needed to be switched off during ropes and ribbons as they were flying in wrong directions from all gymnasts from the air blow.
- Daily inspection of all Halls, carpets and reserve apparatus was done by TC member Mrs. Marcia Aversani and Mr. Julian Heydgen.

Apparatus Control:

- On the day of the podium training, the check of all hand apparatuses 30% random check (Individuals and Groups) was carried out according to FIG Rules.
(Only 1 RGG, their balls didn't match the regulations and they had purchased new balls for the entire gymnasts)
- All finalists RGI and RGG had their hand apparatus checked as well.

Podium Training: was well-organized and took place according to the Work Plan with a strict control on timing as mentioned in the work plan. Thanks to TC member Mrs. Natalya Bulanova who had prepared this schedule following all rules and fitting all NFs on 1 day.

Additional day for podium training is highly needed as schedule is very tight to suit RGI and RGG together on 1 day.

8. Accommodation and Transportation

- FIG Family and Judges were accommodated in Radisson hotel, an excellent hotel and located 2 minutes walk from competition arena.
- All TC meetings before and after the competition were held in the hotel, during competition they were held in the arena.

- A wide variety of Hotel categories were offered for delegations which was very convenient.
- Lunch was served in competition arena for FIG Family and working Judges. Dinner was served at the hotel. Meals were very good.

9. Other Activities in preparation for WCH

- Road to Cluj Napoca Webinar presenting main topics needed for athletes with around 450 participants giving them important information about Safeguarding and 10 Golden Rules, nutrition and hand apparatus check. Motivational message from TC president and Senior Gymnasts from around the world to encourage the Junior



Athletes with moto "Proud of you, you can do it"

10. Various

Incidents

- Medical detailed report was presented by Dr. Sirakova, some injuries/health issues before competition for some gymnasts occurred but all was under control and well-treated from medical staff.
- A judge had fainted during 2nd day of RGI Qualifications event, she was transferred to take the necessary care.
- Wrong gymnast called by the speaker, which caused the gymnast panic and stress to perform in wrong start order.

Proposals

- Additional 2 days must be added to the current format, 1 day for podium training and another day for competition of RGG. The competition is very

long for everyone, judges, coaches, staff, LOC and as we care for health of athletes we must also care for the health of everyone working in the event.

- Communication devices is COMPULSORY between all staff of LOC and Sports Manager/ Competition Manager to avoid any miscommunication or mistakes during the event.
- We always encourage gymnasts to be in Mixed Zone to talk with the Media to promote our sport better, unfortunately, mixed zone was empty from media and gymnasts took selfies for themselves or NF photographers.
- Checking apparatus suppliers that all floor carpets must be fixed and not only FOP carpet.

11. Special Awards

During 2nd RG Junior WCH Special Awards have been awarded according to the criteria listed Highest Artistry, Highest Execution, Fan's Favorite and Best Synchronized.

The bands awarded were designed matching the theme color of the event and LOC had upgraded the awards by giving Tiaras to the gymnasts to be "RG Princesses".

The Awards had given the gymnasts a lot of interests and motivating them to be better. Also, the fan's favorite was voted electronically which was received for POR RGG by more than 600 votes. This means they managed to motivate their community to vote for them which raised more awareness for our sport and the event. Surprisingly, the next runner for fan's favorite was the RGI gymnast from Kuwait with more than 500 votes, this had spread in a country with different cultures / traditions for women in sports.



12. Conclusion

RG TC congratulates all participating gymnasts and coaches for the very successful 2nd Junior RG World Championship 2023 in Cluj Napoca (ROU).

FIG President Mr. Morinari Watanabe attendance of the finals, NOC President, Mayor of the city had given a lot of weight to the event and support to the sport in ROU.

The RG TC is grateful for attention, constant support and feedback of the FIG Secretary General Mr. Nicolas Buompane.

The RG TC would like to thanks Jury of Appeal Mr. Suat Celen and Mrs. Maria Fumea for their work and efforts during JWCH.

The RG TC thanks Mrs. Irina Deleanu RG Roumanian Federation President for her great support for RG hosting 2023 RG Junior World Championships with raising the standards of organization with Perfection.

Thanks to all local staff and volunteers for their hospitality and their dedication to a very successful event. Everyone fulfilled their responsibilities in a friendly manner and were ready to assist when needed. Specially Mr. Mircea Dumitru Apolzan for consistent professionalism before and during JWCH.

The RG TC is entirely grateful to Mr. Oliver Streb - Head of Marketing and Television and the media team for profession cooperation and always showing our beautiful Sport at its best.

I warmly thank all RG TC members and RG Athletes' representative for their cooperation and teamwork during the Junior World Championship without any rest during the whole duration of the event.

FIG RG TC President



Noha Abou Shabana

03/08/2023