



## 40<sup>th</sup> FIG Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships

**23 – 27 August 2023 – Valencia (ESP)**

### 1. Program of the Competitions

Individual and Group Competitions with:

Qualification and Team Ranking

All-Around Final

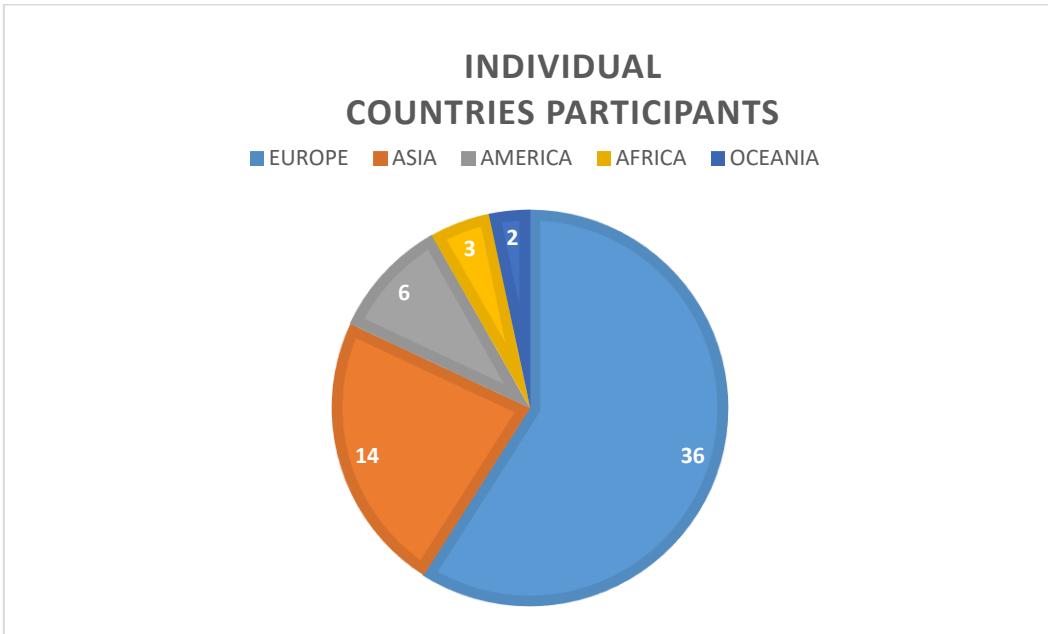
Individual Apparatus Finals

Group All-Around Ranking

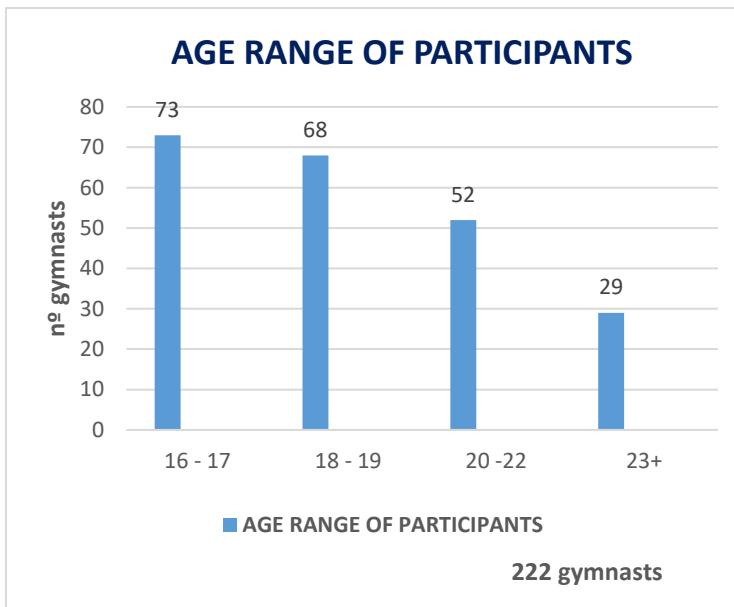
Groups Finals

Summary of Main aspects of the World Championships:

- Total of 62 NFs (RGI 88 Gymnasts, RGG 24 qualified from Sofia WCH 2022).
- All quota places were used for RGI and RGG and first time for LAO to participate in a WCH.
- Participated gymnasts showed high level of preparation and variety in the compositions. RGG had shown a huge progress from different continents and countries.
- Very intense WCH as it's the major qualification event for OG RGI and RGG and also for WCUP 2024 participation rights.
- Public was amazing, cheering for all teams and all gymnasts. They truly love RG and we had never witnessed such a full arena during all days of the events even in Qualifications.
- RG TC remarks the high level brought from all continents, a huge investment from NFS was shown during the event into their athletes, specially EG and PAGU.

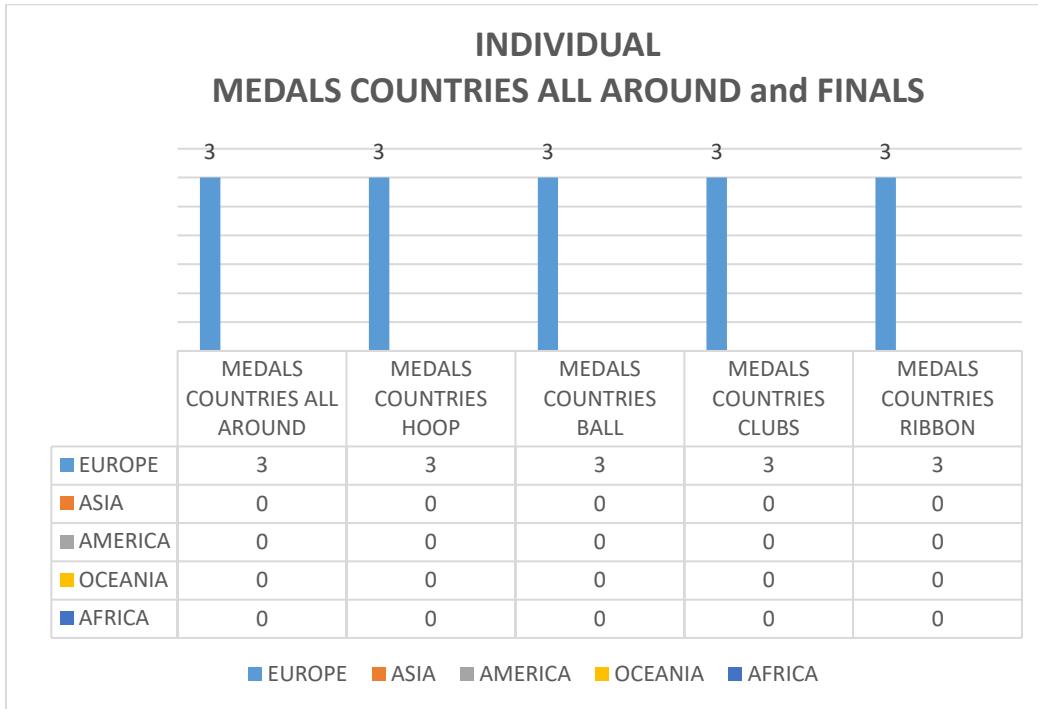


**Average age competing at the event:**



- Over this cycle we could see that the age of gymnasts had increased and that the Code of Points helped them to show their possibilities.

## 2. Medal Distribution



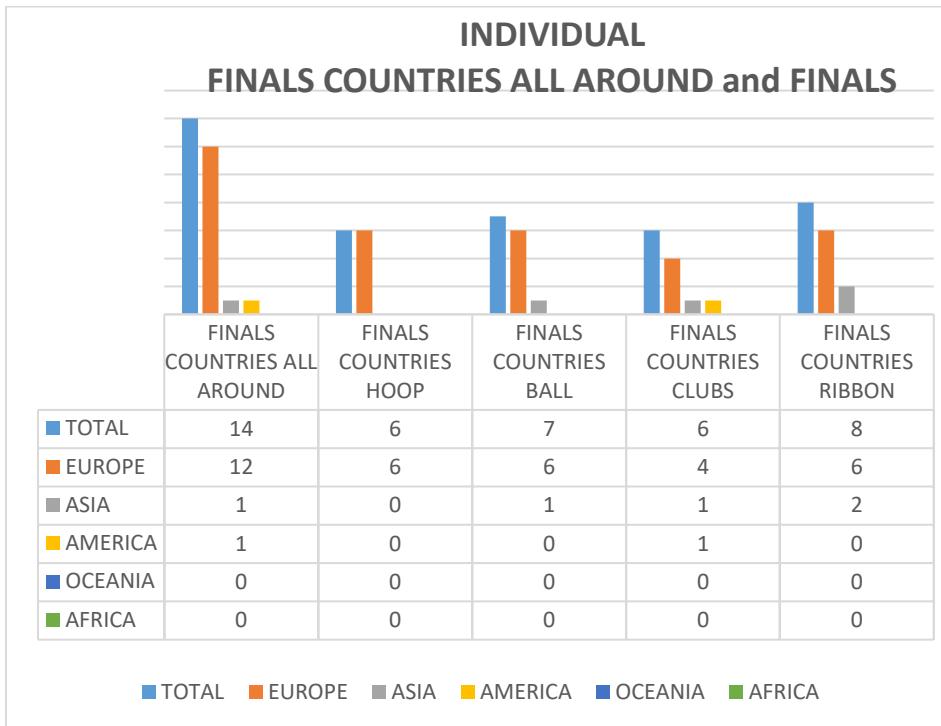
### Individual Qualifications

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 more Artistic components was foreseen in the exercises which could show the beauty of our sport.

### 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.



RGI Gymnasts from 13 countries took part in Apparatus Final Competitions.

Countries by Continent:

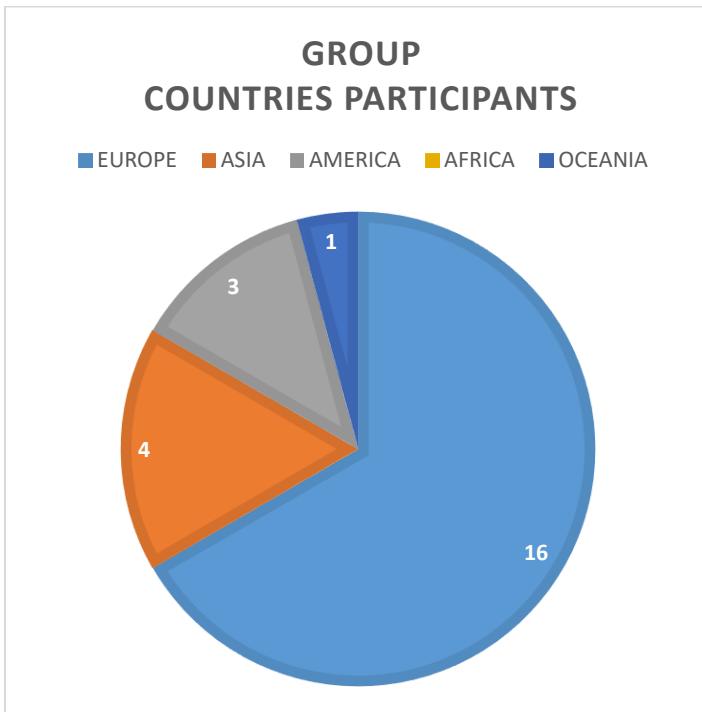
- EG: 9 ( BUL, ESP, GER, GRE, HUN, ISR, ITA ,SLO, and UKR)
- AGU: 3 (CHN, KAZ, UZB)
- PAGU: 1 (BRA)

Gymnasts from 6 countries had won medals (BUL, GER, HUN, ITA, SLO and UKR).

### 3. Group Competitions

#### a. All-Around competition and qualifications for Finals.

- 24 countries participated in Group competitions from 4 Continents.
- Increased interest of NFs for competitions among Groups and Team ranking. Many countries are investing in RGG now and showed a big progress in their level. Competition was very intense for OG qualifications.



### **b. Group Finals**

Groups from 12 countries took part in Final competitions.

Countries by Continent:

- EG: 9 (AZE, BUL, ESP, FRA, ISR, ITA, POL and UKR)
- AGU: 2 (CHN, JPN)
- PAGU: 2 (BRA, MEX)

5 countries had won medals in RGG (CHN, ESP, ISR, ITA, and UKR).

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

### **4. Judging Activities**

All registered RGI and RGG judges took part in judging during World Championship, 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 Vice Presidents of FIG and Jury of Appeal Mr. Ali Al-Hitmi and Mr. Suat Celen and RG Sports Manager Mrs. Sylvie Martinet.



Judge's Oath was presented by Mrs. PANTAZIDOU Efthymia (GRE) during RGI, RGG judges briefing and opening ceremony.



### **Judges' Review Session (Instruction)**

Before WCH:

- More than 2 weeks before WCH 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 was conducted on 6<sup>th</sup> August with practical exercises and anonymous answering through mentimeter, it gave the judges the education and practice with TC.



- One judge logged in to the instructions 1 hour 45 minutes late, she was registered by her NF for RGI. She had missed instructions for RGI and consequently she wasn't allowed to judge. NF RGG judge was in the instructions from the beginning so they had replaced her as she had attended throughout all RGI and RGG instructions.
- 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. It also saved for NF money for RGG judges not to arrive early with RGI.

Recommendation: to allow for next events NF to register an extra judge if courses would be online in case an emergency happens until accreditation, they would still get to have a judge allowed to take part.

During WCH briefings:

- 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 all judges for their hard work and professionalism as it was very intense competition with a lot of pressure but they had showed competence and fairness.



### **Assessment of the Judging**

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

The judging at 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.

According to JEP analysis, all judges were doing well and excellent judges will receive a thank you letter.

Competition was run smoothly and with great management from LOC, although some delay specially in RGG All Around competition but that comes back to the amount of blocks and inquiries received.

Total 67 Inquiry	43 RGI	24 RGG
Total 392 Blocks	322 RGI	70 RGG

### **5. 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.

### **6. Venue and Apparatus Control**

#### **Venue:**

- LOC had made a huge effort and increased the bar of organization. They had put the gymnasts in the center of organization and made all the possibilities for them to be comfortable in the same venue.

- 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 event.
- Special thanks to the LOC group of specialists who carried out the organization of training and competitions and competition Management.
- 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 been installed in the opposite directions but they had managed to change the last 4 carpets before FOP to be in the same direction as FOP.
- The air conditioning blow was high, it was needed to be switched off during ribbons. We need to have specs for air-condition air flow as it was very hot with the full arena.
- 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.
- 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 LOC who had arranged training schedules well in advance and were published with the work plan. They had also re-arranged some trainings when NF missed the flight.

## **7. Accommodation and Transportation**

- FIG Family and Judges were accommodated in a very good hotel. All hotels were close to each other.
- TC meetings were very convenient, as TC had the possibility to meet in a meeting room in the hotel or in the arena. It was very comfortable conditions.
- 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. Always snacks, tea and coffee were available all the time.

## **8. Other Activities before / during WCH**

- Safeguarding webinar dedicated for the coaches was held on 6<sup>th</sup> of August with more than 120 participants online and over 400 views of the full presentations in 1 week.  
I would like to thank Donatella Sacchi, Lili Leung and all the members for the beneficial lectures and Mrs. Eunice Lebre and Gerald Bidault for their assistance for this webinar.
- Athlete representative meeting Siyana Vasileva with the athletes was very conductive and with a lot of shared ideas from the athletes side.
- Medical round table was led by Dr. Sirakova. Many countries had shown interest. It was attended by Secretary General and Myself. It was noisy a little bit as it was scheduled during podium training and it was close to the venue so music was hight.
- President round table, many NFs had participated and thanked the president for the meeting and how RG is going in the right direction. Some NFs had asked questions and gave feedback. All was noted and taken into consideration.

## **9. Various**

### **Incidents**

- Misuse of accreditation although it was explained several times during orientation meetings, FIG Secretary General had taken immediate action with those NFs and warning letters were sent.
- Coaches didn't want to respect the flow of the carpets and some wanted to share with other teams. FIG staff and LOC had managed well and taken necessary action to make sure that all teams and gymnasts were in the right carpets.

### **Proposals**

- Additional days must be added to the current format. 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.
- Gymnasts had complained that by reaching All-Around Finals they are already exhausted as they had already competed 4 apparatus qualifications and 4 finals over 2 days.

**Others:**

- Ambassadors this time was different, it was Group Medalists from Rio 2016 which had different roles during the event and was very symbolic for the Spanish public.
- Merchandise was available but was finished after 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the event due to the huge amount of Spectators.

**10. Conclusion**

RG TC congratulates all participating gymnasts and coaches for the very successful 40<sup>th</sup> RG World Championship 2023 in Valencia (ESP).

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

RG TC would like to thank Jury of Appeal Mr. Ali Al-Hitmi and Mr. Suat Celen for their work and efforts during WCH.

RG TC thanks President of Spanish Federation Jesus Carballo for his great support for RG hosting 2023 RG World Championships with raising the standards of organization with Perfection.

A special thanks to Naomi Valenzo as she had dedicated all the knowledge and experience in making this event such a success, looking in every detail and showing our discipline in the best way.

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. Ignacio Marron for consistent professionalism before and during WCH.

The RG TC is entirely grateful to Mr. Oliver Strebel - Head of Marketing and Television and the media team for professional cooperation and always showing our beautiful Sport at its best. It was the 1<sup>st</sup> time to have online broadcasting covering all the world except Japan for the Qualifications and all other events.

I personally thank EC colleagues for their constant support before and during the event as each colleague had given an added value to my experience and guidance to the sport and special thanks to Ehab Amin and Alejandro Peniche for their constant support during WCH.

I warmly thank all RG TC members and RG Athletes' representative for their cooperation and teamwork during the World Championship without any rest during the whole duration of the event and Mrs. Sylvie Martinet RG Sports Manager for her atmosphere dedication to every detail and being available all the time for all NFs and FIG authorities.

FIG RG TC President



Noha Abou Shabana

29/09/2023