

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE GYMNASTIQUE



13thAcrobatic Gymnastics World Age Group Competitions (WAGC)

1st FIG Junior ACRO World Championship

29th Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships - Guimarães (POR) 2024

Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee “Report”

By Ms Nikolina Hristova, BUL, Vice President Acro TC
and Ms Rosy Taeymans, BEL, President FIG Acro Technical Committee

ORGANIZATION

In November 2023, the FIG Executive Committee decided not to organize the 2024 World Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships and the World Age Group Competitions in Holon (ISR) due to the current situation.

Consequently, the bidding procedure for the 2024 event was reopened to all national federations.

After the Portuguese Gymnastics Federation submitted its bid, the FIG EC allocated the 2024 Acrobatic Gymnastics World Championships and World Age Group Competitions to Portugal (Guimarães) in September 2024.

On behalf of TC FIG ACRO, after all the uncertainties, we were so happy to welcome you to Guimarães, Portugal, in September 2024. Guimarães, with its historical charm, was a beautiful and fitting setting for the championships.

We want to thank the Portuguese Gymnastics Federation for turning this event into a celebration of our beautiful discipline.

They did the impossible in just six months, organizing this event perfectly and welcoming all lovers of acrobatic gymnastics to the beautiful city of Guimaraes. Thank you so much.

1. WORLD AGE GROUP COMPETITION 12 - 15 September 2024



PARTICIPATION

At the 13th WAGC were 521 participants from 32 National Federations

Participation by Continents and number of gymnasts

1. Age group 12-18

	Continents	Number of NFs	Number of Gymnasts		
			Men	Women	Total
1	AGU	3	8	16	24
2	EG	23	47	164	211
3	OGU	1	1	11	12
4	PAGU	3	4	23	27
5	UAG	1	-	6	6
	TOTAL:	31	60	220	280

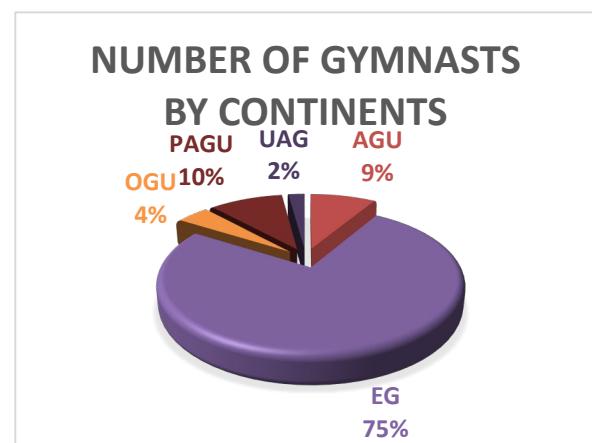
NUMBER OF GYMNASTS

BY CONTINENTS

PAGU 10% UAG 2% AGU 9%

OGU 4%

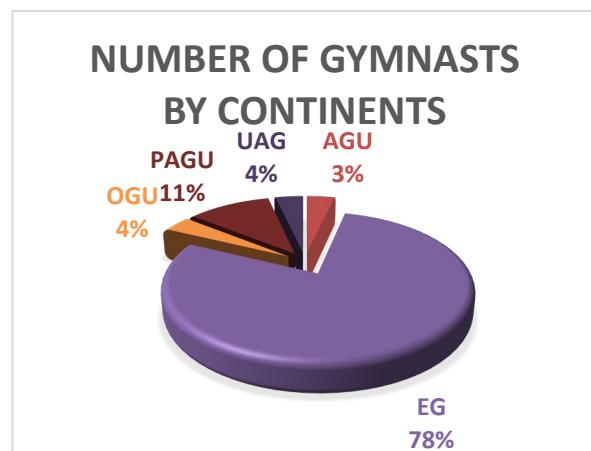
EG 75%





2. Age group 13-19

Continents	Number of NFs	Number of Gymnasts		
		Men	Women	Total
AGU	1	7	3	10
EG	22	57	141	198
OGU	1	1	9	10
PAGU	3	3	17	20
UAG	1		3	3
TOTAL:	28	68	173	241



RESULTS

Medal distribution for finals by participating Federations

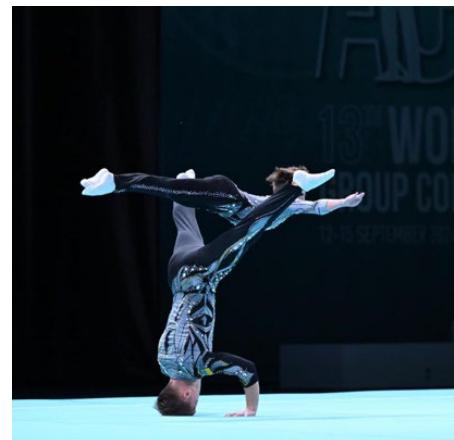
Medals AG 12-18					
	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	ISR	4	1		5
2	KAZ	1			1
3	USA		1	2	3
4	BUL		1	1	2
5	GRE		1	1	2
6	GBR		1		1
7	UKR			1	1

Medals Juniors 13-19					
	NOC	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total:
1	USA	3			3
2	ISR	1	1		2
3	AZE	1			1
4	GBR		2	1	3
5	BEL		1	1	2
6	KAZ		1		1
6	ITA			1	1
8	POR			2	2

JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

An “FIG Acrobatic Gymnastics Junior World Championships” (JWCH) was conducted as a trial event during these WAGC, as it was approved by the FIG EC in May 2023. Finalists were selected from the older WAGC age groups, 13 - 19. The top five All-Around competitors from each Acro’s five categories — Men’s Pair, Women’s Pair, Mixed Pair, Women’s Group, and Men’s Group — earned their spot to participate in the Junior World finals. THE JWCH was a big success.

The final of this event was very attractive and exciting, delivering a spectacular show for everyone in attendance. Participants from 28 countries from all five continental unions took part as follows:





Junior WCH Medallists: 9 Different NF



Discipline Medals	Women's Pair	Men's Pair	Mixed Pair	Women's Group(3)	Men's Group(4)
GOLD	ISR	USA	ITA	AZE	ISR
SILVER	POR	KAZ	USA	ISR	GBR
BRONZE	GBR	BEL	GBR	POR	UKR

SCORING SYSTEM and JUDGING

Thanks to Mr AL-TABBAA Mouhammed Youssef, EC member, for acting as Jury of appeal.

During the WAGC, the scoring system provider was "ACRO COMPANION." The judging was working with them in all aspects:

1. **Difficulty** : - the 'Difficulty' judges used the electronic system during competitions, which prevents calculation errors and rule violations.

2. **E-judging** – "Real-time E-judging" on the Tariff sheets on screen.

The judges don't have to use shorthand notation on paper, which means they can look at the floor almost without interruption. They can't go back and adjust their score/deductions, and therefore the scores are so much more objective and correct.

In addition and important for TV and live stream:

⇒ 1 second after the exercise is finished, the E-scores are in.

3. **A-judging** electronically.

In addition to all the advantages concerning the competitions' judging, scoring, and speed, it was also a very sustainable paper-free competition, because of this electronic judging system: in addition of all schedules and results that were delivered by email and WhatsApp, No tariff sheets and no judging papers were used.



MEASUREMENTS

The following number of height deductions were applied during the WAGC:

12 – 18: There were 10 size deductions

13 – 19: There were 7 size deductions

Measurements by schedules were completed following the rules.

INQUIRIES

There was only one inquiry during the whole event, which was rejected.



ACRO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 19 - 22 September 2024



PARTICIPATION

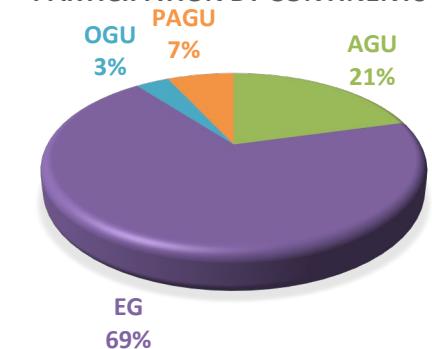
The program consisted of Qualifications and Finals in all five categories - Combined finals, Balance finals, and Dynamic finals as well the Team Ranking.

At the 29th ACRO World Championships were 218 participants from 29 federations.

The participation can be summarised as follows:

Continents Union	NF	Number of Gymnasts		
		Men	Women	Total
AGU	6	21	16	37
EG	20	62	93	155
OGU	1	2	10	12
PAGU	2	4	10	14
TOTAL:	29↑(17)	89	129	218↑(127)

PARTICIPATION BY CONTINENTS



The number of countries participating in this World Championship has significantly increased compared to the previous World Championship, and the number of athletes has also risen considerably.

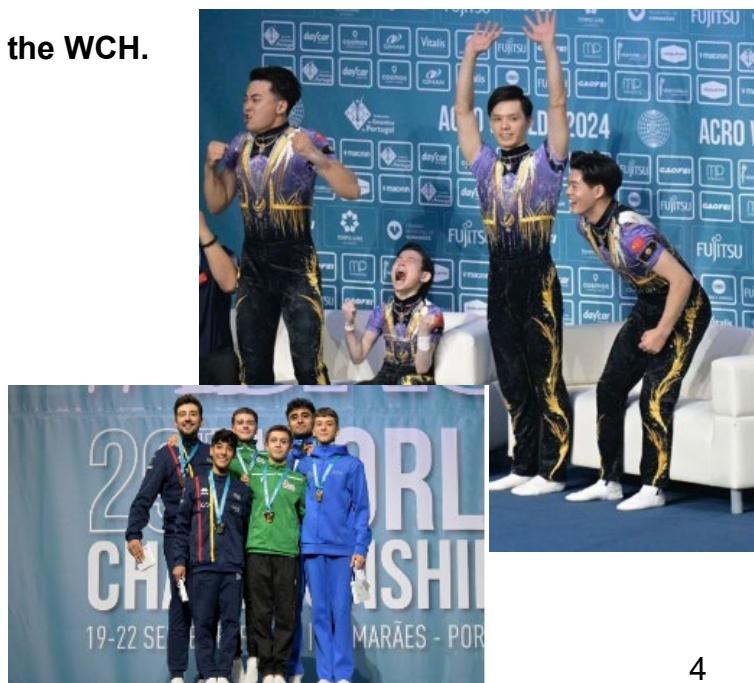
(Arrow↑ shows the numbers compared to the previous WCH in Baku 2022)

Number of partnerships / units per event

Discipline	Women's Pair	Men's Pair	Mixed Pair	Women's Group	Men's Group	Total Units
	15↑ (8)	18↑ (13)	21↑ (17)	26↑ (17)	8↓ (9)	90↑ (64)

Medal Distribution by Federations across the WCH.

	NF	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	BEL	5	1		6
2	AZE	4		3	7
3	CHN	4		1	5
4	UKR	1	2	2	5
5	POR	1	2		3
6	ISR		8	2	10
7	USA		1	2	3
8	ESP		1		1
9	KAZ			2	2
9	PRK			2	2
11	GBR			1	1





Team results:

RANK	NF	POINTS
1 st	CHN	82
2 nd	AZE	82
3 rd	ISR	81
4 th	UKR	80
5 th	USA	69
6 th	POR	65
7 th	GER	62
8 th	GBR	62
9 th	FRA	60
10 th	GEO	43
11 th	AUS	39



Level of performance

With the increase in the number of participating countries, the level of performance has also improved. During this World Championship, we witnessed outstanding performances. The athletes were exceptionally well-prepared, both in terms of Execution and Artistry. We enjoyed the routines with great Artistry and the ones with very high difficulty value, particularly in group performances.

Here are some statistics:

Qualifications:

Highest score – 58.95 Discipline: M4
 Lowest score – 45.90 Discipline: MX2

Final Balance:

Highest score – 29.57 Discipline: W3
 Lowest score – 24.48 Discipline: W3

Final Dynamic:

Highest score – 29.32 Discipline: M4
 Lowest score – 24.82 Discipline: M4

Final Combined:

Highest score – 30.37 Discipline: M4
 Lowest score – 22.51 Discipline: M4





MEASUREMENTS

There was only one size deduction of a 1.0 at the WCH and this was in the Mixed Pair event. Measurements by schedules were completed following the rules.

JUDGING ACTIVITIES

The invited CJP's and DJs were representatives from six (6) different NF's.

Judges' Review Session (Instruction)

For the judge's instruction, the Acro TC used well-prepared power points for E and A judging. These included short video clips of elements and deductions from the COP that were identified. The judges could also still use the STS material to practice and prepare themselves for the competition.

Judges' Draw

The judge's draw before the qualifications were conducted in the TC's room in the presence of Mr Suat SELEN – FIG Vice-President and Maria FUMEA -FIG EC Member, both served as a Jury of Appeal, and the two invited CJP's of the competition. They were conducted professionally and efficiently.

For the finals, we conducted the draw only from neutral judges. This draw took place immediately after the Qualifications. Following persons were invited to attend this draw: the Jury of Appeal, CJP's and ACRO Sports Manager - Rui Vinagre.

Categories of the Judges

Category of Judge	Number of Judges	By %
Cat. 1	4	11 %
Cat. 2	17	46 %
Cat. 3	16	43 %





IRCOS VIDEO SYSTEMS / SWISS TIMING / ACRO COMPANION

At the WCH the official scoring system was Swiss Timing providing the results. They worked together with Acro Companion which provided Difficulty and Execution Real time judging. They worked together very well and smoothly.

The IRCOS system was in place and provided a user-friendly access to the video feeds for review and an excellent quality of the picture resolution. The investment to fund this system is well worth it.

For the first time there was a Worldwide streaming of the event by the FIG TV Channel. This will help the promotion of our discipline. On behalf of the Acro TC, I extend my sincere and deepest thanks to the IRCOS, Swiss Timing, and Acro Companion teams for their friendly and flexible attitude and professional collaboration.

As usual, it was a pleasure to work with them.



ACROBATIC ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE FIG ATHLETES COMMISSION



Former Acrobatic gymnast Lore Vanden Berghe (BEL) was elected to the FIG Athletes Commission as its representative for Acrobatic Gymnastics at the World Championships in Guimaraes (POR).

As athletes' representative, Vanden Berghe will sit on the FIG Athletes' Commission and participate in the Acrobatic Gymnastics Technical Committee meetings to ensure that the athletes' opinions are considered and that their voices are heard.

She went on to graduate cum laude with a Master in Law from the University of Ghent and currently works as an attorney in Belgium specializing in Sports Law.

Her mandate begins on 1 January 2025 and will run until 31 December 2028.

In our next Newsletter we will ask all gymnasts who would like to express their views, concerns, or questions about acrobatic gymnastics to contact Lore so she can bring any issues, raised by gymnasts, to the attention of the Technical Committee and the FIG.



CONCLUSION AND THANKS

The Portuguese Gymnastics Federation did an incredible job stepping in to host the 2024 World Acrobatic Gymnastics Championships and the World Age Group Competitions in Guimarães, Portugal, after the original plan to hold the event in Holon, Israel, was cancelled due to the current situation there.

Organizing an international-scale event in just six months is an impressive achievement. The Acrobatic Community was warmly welcomed, and the event was a success.

Portugal's ability to step in under such tight deadlines and still create a celebration of acrobatic gymnastics reflects the dedication and passion of the organizers.

The Portuguese Gymnastics Federation deserves a huge thank you from all of us for making this challenge a positive and memorable experience for everyone involved.

ACRO TC congratulates all gymnasts and coaches for their successful participation on the 13th ACRO WAGC, the 1st FIG Junior World Championships and the 29th ACRO World Championship 2024 in Guimarães (POR).

On behalf of the ACRO TC, I extend my sincere appreciation to the LOC, all local staff and volunteers for their hospitality and their dedication to a very successful event.

The Acro TC would also like to convey their gratitude to FIG President Morinari Watanabe, the FIG Office, especially Mr. Rui Vinagre and Ms. Eunice Lebre for their professional support. Also grate thanks to Suat SELEN-FIG Vice President, Maria FUMEA – EC Member as well to AL-TABBAA Mouhammed Youssef for acting as members of the jury of appeal.

Finally, I would like to thank all Technical Committee members for their commitment and professional work in our team during the entire World Championships and World Age Group Competition.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ms Nikolina Hristova
Vice-President FIG Acrobatics Technical Committee
and

Ms Rosy Taeymans
President FIG Acrobatics Technical Committee

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